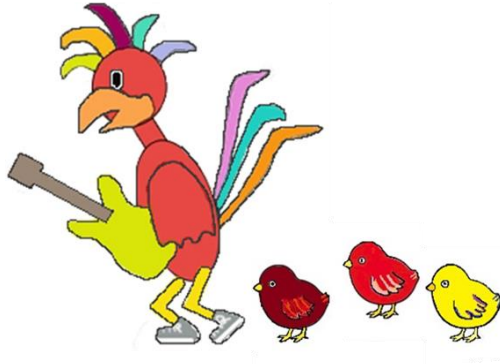


It's Saturday,



Let's Do Church!

**WEST PARISH OF BARNSTABLE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

A BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

June 1, 2024

4:30 p.m.

*“What are human beings that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?
Yet you have made them a little lower than,
God and crowned them with glory and honor.
You have given them dominion over the works of your hands.”*

Psalm 8:4-6

OUR STATEMENT OF WELCOME

We are:

PROGRESSIVELY UNTRADITIONAL: 21st century minds in a 1717 Meetinghouse!

JOYOUSLY INCLUSIVE: Radically open and affirming, all ages, races, gender and sexual orientation, everyone is welcome exactly as you are.

EXPRESSLY “ON THE WAY”: Faith is a journey. Journey with us!

COMMITTEDLY IN THE COMMUNITY: In helping others, we become our true selves.

GOD GATHERS US



*OPENING SONG

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

Refrain

**All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.**

**Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings.**

Refrain

**The purple headed mountain, the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning sun that brightens up the sky.**

Refrain

**The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one.**

Refrain

WELCOME

Pastor Christine Burns

One: Hello, I'm Pastor Christie, here is Pastor Reed, and our musicians today are Steve Gregory and Bob Moscato and together we are

All: ONE diverse community

Growing up in faith

Reaching out in love

One: it is good when God's people and animals are here together, and so we can rejoice, because,

All: It's Saturday, Let's do church!

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God has blessed us with a wonderful creation

All: Behold, God is good, and has given us animals as part of that creation.

One: Animals who keep us company when we are lonely,

All: who become part of our families,

One: who help to comfort us when we are sad,

All: who remind us about what is important in life.

One: Some animals help us to see or hear,

All: And some break down the barriers between people.

One: We are animals, too--

All: Let us celebrate all of God's creatures.

UNISON PRAYER

Hear our humble prayer, O God, for our friends, the animals, your creatures. We pray especially for all that are suffering in any way: for the overworked and underfed, the hunted, lost, or hungry; for all in captivity or ill-treated, and for those near death. For all of those who deal with them, we ask a gentle heart of compassion, gentle hands, and kindly words. Make us all true friends to animals and worthy followers of our merciful Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.



THE LORD'S PRAYER (we will sing this in echo fashion)

Our Father... who art in Heaven... hallowed be thy name...

Thy kingdom come... thy will be done... on Earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day... our daily bread... and forgive us all our sins...

And lead us not... into temptation... but deliver us from evil.

Unison:

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory

Echo:

Forever... and ever....

Our Father... who art in Heaven... hallowed be thy name.

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED



SACRED WORDS FOR SACRED SPACE

Psalm 8

SPECIAL SONG

Move It On Over

Hank Williams

REFLECTION

Pastor Christie Burns

A POEM

The Sweetness of Dogs

Mary Oliver



A TIME OF PRAYER

O God who created animals and who has given our pets into our care, we give you thanks for veterinarians, for animal rescue organizations, animal shelters and pet adoption programs, for pet owners and all who care for animals. We honor their work and pray for their continued service to pets and other animals.

Blessing the Memory of Pets who have Died

One: It is the way of this world that the life span of our animals is short, and we lose them to death, yet we remember them with joy. We give heartfelt thanks for those of our animals who have gone on before us. In this time of silence, I invite you to name all of the animals who have shaped and taught you how to be a better human. If you would like a special blessing for your departed pet as well at the animal blessing time, simply tell me or Pastor Reed their names and we will offer a special blessing for the pets who have gone on before us. Amen.

INVITATION TO SHARING OUR GIFTS

Our gifts support the ministries of this congregation here and,
through its outreach, the wider community.

*If you are a guest here today, this service is our gift to you,
please do not feel obligated in any way.*

Venmo QR code and instructions are on page 8.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Dear God, bless all the creatures that you have made and help us to delight in them. May we be loving and responsible owners, trainers, and caretakers. We give thanks for all the animals with us today, and remember with fondness those who have died. We are grateful for animal companions who bring joy into our lives now and those who have enriched us in the past. Help us always to love and respect your creation. Amen.

GOD SENDS US FORTH



*SONG

Joy to the World

Three Dog Night

Jeremiah was a bullfrog
Was a good friend of mine
I never understood a single word he said
But I helped him a-drink his wine
And he always had some mighty fine wine

Singin' joy to the world
All the boys and girls now
Joy to the fishes in the deep blue sea
Joy to you and me

And if I were the king of the world
Tell you what I'd do
I'd throw away the cars and the bars and the war
Make sweet love to you

Sing it now, joy to the world
All the boys and girls
Joy to the fishes in the deep blue sea
Joy to you and me

You know I love the ladies
Love to have my fun
I'm a high life flyer and a rainbow rider
A straight shootin' son-of-a-gun
I said a straight shootin' son-of-a-gun

Joy to the world
All the boys and girls
Joy to the fishes in the deep blue sea
Joy to you and me

Joy to the world
All the boys and girls
Joy to the world
Joy to you and me

Joy to the world
All the boys and girls
Joy to the fishes in the deep blue sea
Joy to you and me

Joy to the world
Joy to you and me
Joy to the world
All the boys and girls now
Joy to the fishes in the deep blue sea
Joy to you and me

Joy to the world
All the boys and girls
Joy to the fishes in the deep blue sea
Joy to you and me

Joy to the world
All the boys and girls

WORDS OF SENDING

PRESENTATION OF THE ANIMALS FOR BLESSING

In the Spirit of St. Francis, who taught us how God loves all creatures, great and small, we invite you to present your animals before God for a blessing. Please bring your animals in single file to be blessed.

* All who wish, please stand.

For everyone's comfort: please keep your animals under control.
Please clean up after your pet. Baggies and a trash bag are available on the table at the grass circle outside. Feel free to walk or water your pet as necessary.

WE ARE GLAD YOU WORSHIPPED WITH US TODAY!

All people, young and old and in-between, are lifted up wherever they are on the journey.
We look forward to worshipping with you again soon!
Pastors Christie Burns and Reed Baer

Christie holds coffee hours at Nirvana in Barnstable Village on Tuesdays from 10 am -noon.
Call, text, or email for an appointment: 508-494-6409 associatepastor@westparish.org.

“Saturday School” is underway, a special class for our youngsters, held over in Jenkins Hall, led by Pastor Reed and an adult lay teacher/volunteer, during the last 20 minutes of the service. Interested in joining in as a teacher or an extra pair of hands, speak to Reed after church.

Would you like to play in the Saturday Band? Contact Steve G.



by recycling this bulletin.

Need to get connected? Wi-Fi: Meetinghouse **Password:** 1717Rooster

Venmo @WestParish or scan the QR code.



venmo

To make a donation, simply scan the QR code with your phone's camera or search “@WestParish” on the Venmo app.

Be sure you select “West Parish of Barnstable” under the charity profiles.

If you would like your donation to go toward something specific like “Deacons”, note that in the description.

Church Staff

Reed Baer, Pastor and Teacher
Susan Moeller, Council Chair
Alycia Williams, Family School Director
Chris Haven, Sexton

Christine Burns, Associate Pastor
Bobbie Jordan, Deacons Chair
Susan McEwen, Office Administrator

Box 219, West Barnstable, MA 02668
508-362-4445 contact@westparish.org www.westparish.org

The week of June 1, 2024

Saturday	6/1/24	4:30 pm	Worship
Sunday	6/2/24	10:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship AA (J)
Monday	6/3/24	5:00 pm	AA (J)
Tuesday	6/4/24	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Christie's Coffee Hours at Nirvana AA (J)
Wednesday	6/5/24	9:15 am 4:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) FS Faculty (G) AA (J)
Thursday	6/6/24	9:15 am 4:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) 1 st Annual Mini Golf Tournament at Sandwich Mini-Golf on 6A AA (J)
Friday	6/7/24	9:15 am 10:30 am 12:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) Knitting Group (G) FS Lemon Drops Luncheon (J) AA (J)
Saturday	6/8/24	4:30 pm 5:30 pm	Worship All Church BBQ

Key: FS = Family School; G = Guild Room; J = Jenkins Hall; M = Meetinghouse; Z = Zoom

BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment.

Care for the poor.

Forgive often.

Reject racism.

Fight for the powerless.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

Embrace diversity.

Love God.

Enjoy this life.

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

