

*It's Saturday*



# **Let's Do Church!**

WEST PARISH OF BARNSTABLE, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 30, 2025

4:30 p.m.

**Trans Day of Visibility Service!**

*“Suppose one of you had a hundred sheep and lost one. Wouldn't you leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one lost one until you found it? When found, you can be sure you would put it across your shoulders, rejoicing, and when you got home call in your friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Celebrate with me! I've found my lost sheep! Count on it—there's more joy in heaven over sinner's rescued life than over ninety-nine good people in no need of rescue.’” Luke 15:2-3*

**BE THE CHURCH**

**Fight for the powerless.**

## OUR STATEMENT OF WELCOME

We are:

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

**Embrace diversity.**

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

I Won't Back Down by Tom Petty

**Well, I won't back down**

**No I won't back down**

**You could stand me up at the gates of Hell**

**But I won't back down**

**No I'll stand my ground**

**Won't be turned around**

**And I'll keep this world from draggin' me down**

**Gonna stand my ground**

**And I won't back down**

**Hey baby**

**There ain't no easy way out (I won't back down)**

**Hey I will stand my ground**

**And I won't back down**

**Well, I know what's right**

**I got just one life**

**In a world that keeps on pushin' me around**

**But I'll stand my ground**

**And I won't back down**

**Hey baby  
There ain't no easy way out (I won't back down)  
Hey I will stand my ground (I won't back down)  
And I won't back down**

**No I won't back down**

WELCOME

Pastor Christie

One: Welcome home, whether this is your first visit, or you have been here for years. Here at West Parish, no matter who you are, and no matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. We are glad you are here with us today whether you are joining us online or in person. Hello, I'm Pastor Christie, and here is Pastor Reed, and we have Steve Gregory as our director of music with the band, AND TOGETHER WE ARE

**All: ONE diverse community**

**Growing up in faith**

**Reaching out in love.**

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

**All: It's Saturday, Let's Do Church!**



CALL TO WORSHIP (from the UCC Worship Ways)

Spirit of Love, draw us into your presence,  
breathing in the truth of our belovedness.

You are beloved by God.

We are beloved by God.

Trans folx are beloved by God.

Nonbinary people are beloved by God.

Queer people are beloved by God.

You are beloved by God.

We are beloved by God.

Spirit of Liberation, be our shield and defender,  
holding us in the truth of our belovedness. Amen.

## UNISON PRAYER

The God of Transforming Love gathers us for worship, calling us to take pride in who we are as beloved ones of the Holy One

**We praise God, for we are queer-fully and wonderfully made!**

If Pride is celebration,

**then let us celebrate the dignity and worth of trans lives and honor the flourishing of all lives.**

If Pride is resistance,

**then let us resist anti-trans political forces and work to transform all death-dealing policies and practices.**

If Pride is liberation,

**then let us create spaces where trans youth and adults can be free because here can be no pride for some of us without liberation for all of us.**

If Pride is sacred,

**then let us declare trans folx are beloved by God, as are each and every one of us.**

With dancing hearts, resilient spirits, and open minds, let us worship God.

**We praise God, for we are queer-fully and wonderfully made!**

## Prayer of Confession

**Rainbow-Raising God, who flew all the colors across the sky as an emblem of the promise to sustain life for all creation, we confess that our openness and affirmation has often had limits. For too long we have allowed PRIDE to be whitewashed, erasing the important dreams, visions and resistance of black trans femmes that forged a way forward for us all. Forgive our forgetfulness. For too long we have celebrated PRIDE for some of us, but not all of us. Forgive us when we use the rainbow flag to cover over the work, we have yet to do to demonstrate your fierce love for trans folx. Convict us with your grace, Transforming God, so that not one more anti-trans word will be spoken without our opposition. Until trans justice comes, we pray as we would live. Amen.**

**Forgive often.**

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.

**A TIME OF PRAYER**



A TIME FOR CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

A SONG OF PRAYER

INVITATION TO SHARING OUR GIFTS

*We now accept Venmo, the QR code and instructions are on page 10.*

Care for the poor.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

**THE BREAD OF LIFE  
AND THE CUP OF NEW BEGINNINGS  
ARE SHARED**



Our service of communion is open to all seeking Christ's presence.  
Whether children receive the elements we leave to their parents' discretion.  
We shall be receiving communion by the ancient practice of intinction.  
Come forward, take a piece of the bread, dip it in the cup,  
and consume it on the way back to your seat.  
We offer a communion cup and wafer system of cranberry juice and cracker.

INVITATION

Giver of all life, Source of love.

With your breath, you formed all that we are and all that is beyond us; the heavens tell your glory.

Through fear-filled days and aching nights when the powers of death have done their best to make us fear, you respond with love.

#### A RESPONSIVE AFFIRMATION

I believe that bread comes from grain  
that grows in the wind  
and the rain  
with the farmers' help  
far from the eyes of city folk.

**I believe that bread comes from love  
the love of God  
the love of the farmer  
the love of the baker's hands  
the love of those who bring it to me.**

I believe that bread can be  
and should be broken  
and shared  
and given to all persons  
until all have enough  
and then some.

**I believe that Jesus loved bread  
and took it  
and broke it  
and blessed it  
and fed his disciples  
and asked them to feed us forever.**

I believe enough in bread  
to want it from Jesus  
to want it to nurture me  
to want his life through it  
to want to give life through it.

**Many: I believe that his body as bread feeds me  
and as part of his body  
I want to be bread for others.**

**I believe the Spirit will help me  
as well Jesus' people. Amen.**

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Eternal God, we thank you that you have called your people from east and west, and north and south, to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. Keep us faithful to your will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure – that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

**THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED**



SPECIAL SONG

Ploughshare Prayer



TESTIMONIAL

Cheryl Quast

SACRED WORDS FOR SACRED SPACE

Luke 15:13

MEDITATION      The Lost Sheep and What They Have to Teach Us

Rev. Christie Burns

**GOD SENDS US FORTH**



CLOSING SONG

My Life Flows On in Endless Song

Green 427

**My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,  
I hear the sweet, though far off hymn that hails a new creation.**

***Refrain***

**No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?**

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.  
It finds and echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?

*Refrain*

What though my joys and comforts die! I know my Savior's living.  
What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he's giving.

*Refrain*

The peace of Christ makes my heart, a fountain ever springing!  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing?

*Refrain*

WORDS OF SENDING



SONG OF SENDING

Go In Peace

Sam Baker

Go in peace  
Go in kindness  
Go in love  
Go in faith  
Leave the day  
The day behind us  
Day is done  
Go in grace  
Let us go  
Into the dark  
Not afraid  
Not alone  
Let us hope  
By some good pleasure  
Safely to  
Arrive at home  
Let us hope  
By some good pleasure  
Safely to  
Arrive at home.

Opening Liturgy from: <https://www.ucc.org/what-we-do/wider-church-ministries/gsjm/lgbtqia/trans-centered-worship-resources/>





## WE ARE GLAD YOU WORSHIPPED WITH US TODAY!

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

“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  
Paula King, Music Director  
Susan Moeller, Council Chair  
Chris Haven, Sexton

Christine Burns, Associate Pastor  
Susan McEwen, Office Administrator  
Bobbie Jordan, Deacons Chair  
Alycia Williams, Family School Director

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**The Week March 29, 2025**

<b>Saturday</b>	3/29/25	4:30 pm	Worship
<b>Sunday</b>	3/30/25	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship AA (J)
<b>Monday</b>	3/31/25	10:15 am 5:00 pm	FS Classes (J) AA (J)
<b>Tuesday</b>	4/1/25	9:15 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 4:30 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science (G) Christie's Coffee Hours at Nirvana Choir Rehearsal (J) Bell Choir (M) AA (J)
<b>Wednesday</b>	4/2/25	9:15 am 12:00 pm 4:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) Bible Study (G & Z) FS Faculty (G) AA (J)
<b>Thursday</b>	4/3/25	5:00 pm	AA (J)
<b>Friday</b>	3/28/25	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Knitting Group (G) AA (J)
<b>Saturday</b>	4/4/25	4:30 pm	Worship

**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**

