

West Parish of Barnstable

Gathered in London 1616 - Present Meetinghouse Erected in 1717

A Church in the Congregational Tradition

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

West Barnstable, Massachusetts



THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

5th Sunday in Lent

April 6, 2025

10:00 a.m.

“He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

Luke 13:8-9

All are invited to stay for the full service today.
Saturday School is offered for our children and youth at our 4:30 Saturday service.

OUR STATEMENT OF WELCOME

As a congregation which covenants to walk together in Christian love,
believes that all persons are created equal before God,
and affirms the inclusive love of Jesus Christ,
we welcome to our work and worship all people
regardless of race, gender, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation,
ability, or economic circumstance.

Adopted at Annual Meeting, June 26, 2005

GOD GATHERS US

WELCOME

Pastor Reed Baer

* HYMN #493 (Green)

"In the Bulb There Is A Flower"

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Associate Pastor Christie Burns

One: Our God has given us many gifts.

Many: The most precious of these gifts is our life.

One: Our life is to be lived serving others - that is our most wondrous call.

Many: In this way, we respond to our several callings.

One: At the dawn of every passing morning and at the rise of every day, God claims our lives wherever we are.

Many: We are a people of God.

One: In the midst of our daily struggles, God claims our lives for whatever we do.

Many: We are servants to our sisters and brothers.

One: At the end of every passing day, God claims our lives for whatever we have done.

Many: We have served, we have cared, we have shared, we have healed, and we have loved. These are our responses to God's claim.

PRELUDE

"Thy Word is Like a Garden, Lord" Irish melody, S. Wellman

UNISON PRAYER

Gracious God, as you set Adam and Eve in the garden with a purpose, to till it and to keep it, so too you have set us in this land.

Expectant God, as a farmer sets their crop with a purpose, they they be fruitful, so you have set us in this land.

Yet we confess that we are not always fruitful, and we are not always about the feeding and nurturing of others.

Grant us, we pray, another chance.

Nourish us, here, this day, that we might bear worthy fruit. Feed and refresh us, that we might be whole, and so nourish others, that all you creation might burst forth into abundance.

This we pray in the name of the one who came to feed us with his life, Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray together, as we will do this time by singing...

THE LORD'S PRAYER, HYMN #270 (Green)

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE Luke 13:6-9 (King James Version, N.R.S.V.)

SOLO "Lord of the Small" J. Anderson, arr. D. Forest

SERMON "Dunging the Fig Tree" Pastor Reed

THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS

ANTHEM "Lamb of God" T. Paris, arr. L. Larson

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO PRAYER

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO OFFERING OUR GIFTS

*In thanksgiving to God and giving witness to generous hearts,
our financial gifts support our ministries here and in the wider community.
We now accept Venmo, the qr code and instructions are on the back page.*

OFFERTORY "Dawn Reverie" D. Paxton

*SONG OF PRAISE

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow!
Praise God all creatures here below,**

**Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE BREAD AND CUP ARE SHARED

Our service of communion is open to all seeking Christ's presence.

We will celebrate communion by intinction; come forward, take a piece of the bread, dip it into the cup, and consume it on the way back to your seat. If you would prefer to be served where you sit, raise your hand and the deacons will come to you.

For those who prefer, please take the packaged communion-to-go.

(We offer a gluten-free, wheat-free alternative – in the plastic bags – for those whose diet so requires. We serve cranberry juice out of respect for those who cannot consume alcohol.)

*COMMUNION HYMN #316 (Green)

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

A RESPONSIVE AFFIRMATION

*One: 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.*

**Many: 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.**

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

**Many: 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.**

*One: 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.**

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

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.

GOD SENDS US FORTH

*HYMN #336 (Green) “Go With Us, Lord” (sing 3 times)

WORDS OF SENDING

POSTLUDE “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” W. Croft, arr. F. Swann
(It is our custom to remain seated in silence during the Postlude)

* All who wish, please stand.

All are invited to join together for fellowship and refreshments following the service.

OUR PRAYER LIST

*May the presence of Jesus Christ be with those on our prayer list and with those who care for them.
The prayers of the congregation are asked for:*

New to the Prayer List
Keith Heard (friend of the Naylor's)
Bill and Dottie Brower

Karolina Atsalis (friend of the Abrahams)
Reed Baer
Bunny and Bart Chase (friends of Rik Clark)
Ginny Dolan (friend of the Haven Family)
Betsy Eidem (friend of Carol Allen)
Susan Emery (Jane Ketchen's sister)
Ned Flynn (Ted's father)
Jay Griffin (Peggie Bretz' brother)
Sharon Griffin (Peggie Bretz' sister-in-law)
Sally Haven (Brad Haven's mother)
Steve Howland
Deidre Hunt (daughter-in-law of Sharon and John Hunt)
Gina Jacinto (friend of Joanna Wallace)
David Kuehn (friend of Robin Miller and Kim Baker)
Gary Komosky (Chris Haven's brother)
Martha Lant (sister-in-law of Peggie Bretz)
Meredith Leonard (Debbie Barrette's mother)
Cheryl Lickteig (friend of Jeanne Douglass)
Adrienne Locklear (family of Kelly and Macayla Washburn)
Sue Maki (friend of Joanna Wallace)

Greg Miller
Mike Morris (Liz Knox-Lupfer & Dan Lupfer's daughter-in-law's father)
Brian Murphy
Peggy Nelson
Diane Ollerhead (friend of Robin Fryer)
Paul (friend of Ellen and Tom Davis)
Carol Polidoro
Savanna Ramotar (friend of Sharon Hunt)
Cyndi Rausch (Allison McNaughton's sister)
Sandie Siedsma
Joanne Stubbins
Nancy Sturgis (friend of Joanne Wallace)
Jim Sweeney (Randy Parker's brother-in-law)
Gary Toye (brother of Bobbie Jordan)
Mary-Ann Tu
Roy Urbach (friend of Karen Datlowe)
Linda Watson (friend of Barbara Rogers)
Bruce and Tom White
Nancy Woodman (friend of Marianne Williams)
Rev. Dr. Craig Yohn

Please notify the church office (508-362-4445) of any additions, deletions or changes you wish to make.

The Week April 6, 2025

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| Sunday | 4/6/25 | 10:00 am 11:30 am | Worship Getting to Know West Parish |
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| | | 4:30 pm | AA (J) |
| Monday | 4/7/25 | 10:15 am 5:00 pm | FS Classes (J) AA (J) |
| Tuesday | 4/8/25 | 9:15 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 4:30 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm | FS Science (J) Christie's Coffee Hours at Nirvana Choir Rehearsal (M) Bell Choir (M) AA (J) WITS @ Pastor Christie's W.B. Festival Committee (G) |
| Wednesday | 4/9/25 | 9:15 am 12:00 pm 4:00 pm 5:00 pm | FS Science (J) Bible Study (G & Z) FS Board (G) AA (J) |
| Thursday | 4/10/25 | 8:00 am 5:00 pm | Men's Breakfast @ Jack's Out Back AA (J) |
| Friday | 4/11/25 | 10:00 am 11:00 am 5:00 pm | Knitting Group (G) FS Program (J) AA (M) |
| Saturday | 4/12/25 | 4:30 pm | Worship |
| Sunday | 4/13/25 | 10:00 am 5:00 pm | Worship AA (J) |

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

- ◆ **Please join us for Coffee Hour in Jenkins Hall after worship.** Our host today is Allison McNaughton.
- ◆ **The flowers gracing the Meetinghouse today** were given by Allison McNaughton in memory of her mother. They were arranged by Kenyon Gregoire.

- ◆ **The 2025 Flower Calendar is up** on the kiosk. Please sign up for sponsoring the flowers along with a dedication. The cost is \$32 and can be paid by cash, check, or Venmo with “Flowers” in the memo. One of the members of the flower committee will contact you to about the arrangement.
- ◆ **The Coffee Hour sign up** is on the kiosk in Jenkins. If you can spare a little of your time to help at our Sunday *Coffee Hour* it would be greatly appreciated. It's a wonderful way to socialize with old friends and to make new ones. Thank you.



Easter Flowers

Interested in sponsoring a plant or two?
Please fill out the form below and drop it off or mail it to the church office
with \$12 per plant by April 14, 2025.

Given by _____

(*please circle one*) in memory / honor / celebration of:

The plants will be available to take after the 10 a.m. worship service.

We ask your cooperation in protecting the 1717 Meetinghouse by not parking your vehicle in or alongside the circle closest to the Meetinghouse. Although it is not marked, it is a FIRE LANE and preserves clear access to the Meetinghouse for Emergency Vehicles.

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



Venmo @WestParish or scan the QR code.

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", just note that in the description.

Church Staff

Reed Baer, Pastor and Teacher
Paula King, Music Director
Susan Moeller, Council Chair
Alycia Williams, Family School Director

Christine Burns, Associate Pastor
Susan McEwen, Office Administrator
Roberta Jordan, Deacons Chair
Chris Haven, Sexton

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