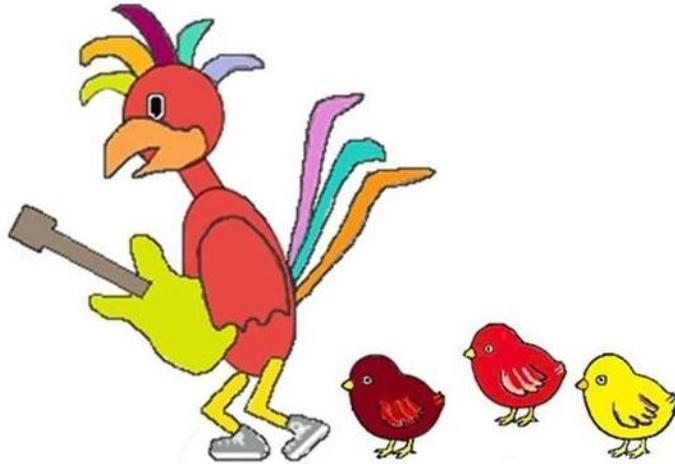


*It's Saturday*



# **Let's Do Church!**

WEST PARISH OF BARNSTABLE, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 6, 2025

4:30 p.m.

*"Out of my distress I called on the Lord: The Lord answered me and set me in a broad place. With the Lord by my side, I do not fear. What can mortals do to me?"*

Psalm 118: 5-6

**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

Welcome Back

John Sebastian

**Welcome back  
Your dreams were your ticket out  
Welcome back to that same old place  
That you laughed about**

**Well, the names have all changed  
Since you hung around  
But those dreams have remained  
And they've turned around**

**Who'd have thought they'd lead you  
(Who'd have thought they'd lead you)  
Back here where we need you  
(Back here where we need you)  
Yeah, we tease him a lot  
Cause we got him on the spot  
Welcome back**

**Welcome back Welcome back Welcome back  
Welcome back Welcome back Welcome back**

**Welcome back**

We always could spot a friend  
Welcome back  
And I smile when I think  
How you must have been  
And I know what a scene  
You were learning in  
Was there something that  
Made you come back again

And what could ever lead you  
(What could ever lead you)  
Back here where we need you  
(Back here where we need you)  
Yeah, we tease him a lot  
Cause we got him on the spot  
Welcome back

Welcome back Welcome back Welcome back  
Welcome back Welcome back Welcome back

And I know what a scene  
You were learning in  
Was there something that  
Made you come back again

And what could ever lead you  
(What could ever lead you)  
Back here where we need you  
(Back here where we need you)  
Yeah, we tease him a lot  
Cause we got him on the spot  
Welcome back

Welcome back Welcome back Welcome back  
Welcome back Welcome back Welcome back

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 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

**I arise this day**

**In the strength of the Creator**

**In the strength of the rising Redeemer**

**In the strength of the life-giving Spirit**

**In the strength of the mighty Three**

**Whose love is One**

**I arise today**

**In the strength of the angels & archangels**

**In the strength of the prophets and apostles**

**In the strength of the saints and ancestors**

**I arise today**

**In the strength of heaven and earth**

**In the strength of sun and moon**

**In the strength of fire and wind**

**In the strength of sea and sky**

**I arise today in the peace of Creation.**

...Adapted from "Celtic Blessings"

OPENING PRAYER

**We feel your welcome, gracious God, in this time of worship. You welcome young and old, all seeking peace, all brimming over with energy. You welcome newcomers and long-time members; all seeking a familiar expression of praise and prayer, and all seeking a startling new celebration of faith. You welcome us all, welcoming God. 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

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest,  
Stay with us for the day is ending,  
With friend, with stranger,  
With young and with old,  
Be among us tonight,  
Come close to us that we may forgive one another.  
Renew us so that, where we have failed,  
We may begin again. Amen.

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

**O God of mystery, we confess that more than deep questions, we love easy answers; explaining away miracles, disarming the Good News, we domesticate your wild ways. Teach us to love our questions, O God. Teach us to struggle with faith. Teach us to live with your holy mysteries. Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: Anyone in Christ becomes a new person altogether; the past is finished and gone, everything has become fresh and new. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

#### THE STORY OF THE LAST SUPPER

Among friends, gathered around a table, Jesus took bread, and, having blessed it, he broke the bread and gave it to the disciples, saying, "This is my body which is given for you." In the same way he took wine, and, having given thanks for it, he poured it out and gave the cup to his disciples, saying, "This cup is the new relationship with God, sealed with my blood. Take it and share it. I shall drink wine with you next in the coming kingdom of God."

So now, following Jesus' example, we take this bread and this wine; the ordinary things of the world through which God will bless us. And as Jesus offered thanks for the gifts of the earth, let us also celebrate God's Goodness.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come for all are invited to partake of the table of Christ.

## UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED



SPECIAL SONG

Space Oddity

David Bowie



SACRED WORDS FOR SACRED SPACE

Psalm 118

POEM

*Grief Astronomer*

Andrea Gibson

MEDITATION

Hard Truths and Clear Hopes

Rev. Christie Burns

## GOD SENDS US FORTH



CLOSING SONG

Down to the River to Pray

**As I went down in the river to pray  
Studying about that good ol' way  
And who shall wear the starry crown?  
Good Lord, show me the way**

**O, sisters, let's go down  
Let's go down, come on down**

O, sisters, let's go down  
Down in the river to pray

As I went down in the river to pray  
Studying about that good ol' way  
And who shall wear the robe and crown?  
Good Lord, show me the way

O, brothers, let's go down  
Let's go down, come on down  
Come on, brothers, let's go down  
Down in the river to pray

As I went down in the river to pray  
Studying about that good ol' way  
And who shall wear the starry crown?  
Good Lord, show me the way

O, fathers, let's go down  
Let's go down, come on down  
O fathers, let's go down  
Down in the river to pray

As I went down in the river to pray  
Studying about that good ol' way  
And who shall wear the robe and crown?  
Good Lord, show me the way

O, mothers, let's go down  
Come on down, don't you wanna go down?  
Come on, mothers, let's go down  
Down in the river to pray

As I went down in the river to pray  
Studying about that good ol' way  
And who shall wear the starry crown?  
Good Lord, show me the way

O, sinners, let's go down  
Let's go down, come on down  
O, sinners, let's go down

**Down in the river to pray**

**As I went down in the river to pray  
Studying about that good ol' way  
And who shall wear the robe and crown?  
Good Lord, show me the way**

WORDS OF SENDING



**Love God.**

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.**

## 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

“Saturday School” is underway, a special class for our youngsters, held over in Jenkins Hall, led by Pastor Reed and Cassie Estey, during the last 20 minutes of the service. We can always use an extra pair of hands. If you are 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

Box 219, West Barnstable, MA 02668  
508-362-4445 [contact@westparish.org](mailto:contact@westparish.org) [www.westparish.org](http://www.westparish.org)

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**The week of September 6, 2025**

<b>Saturday</b>	9/6/25	4:30 pm	Worship
<b>Sunday</b>	9/7/25	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship AA (J)
<b>Monday</b>	9/8/25	5:00 pm 7:00 pm	AA (J) AA (J)
<b>Tuesday</b>	9/9/25	9:00 am 11:00 am 11:00 am 4:30 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm 7:00 pm	FS Enrichment (J) Choir Rehearsal (M) Christie's Coffee Hours at Nirvana Bell Choir Rehearsal (M) AA (J) WITS at Pastor Christie's W. Barnstable Festival Committee (G)
<b>Wednesday</b>	9/10/25	1:00 pm 4:00 pm 5:00 pm	Bible Study (G & Z) FS Board (G) AA (J)
<b>Thursday</b>	9/11/25	8:00 am 10:00 am 5:00 pm	Men's Breakfast at Jack's Out Back Creative Crafters (J) AA (J)
<b>Friday</b>	9/12/25	10:30 am 5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Knitting Group (G) AA (J) Illana Zachs, violin concert (M)
<b>Saturday</b>	9/13/25	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**

