

# *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**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026

10:00 a.m.

*“People brought babies to Jesus, hoping he might touch them.*

*When the disciples saw it, they shooed them off.*

*Jesus called them back. ‘Let these children alone. Don’t get between them and me.*

*These children are the kingdom’s pride and joy.*

*Mark this: Unless you accept God’s kingdom in the simplicity of a child, you’ll never get in.”*

Luke 8:15-17

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 #10 (Green)      “Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty”

### RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

*One: We are here not because we have found God, but because God our Creator has called us here.*

**Many: God challenges us to accept the costs and joys of discipleship, and to be servants in the service of the whole human family.**

*One: The call of God is filled with promise.*

**Many: A promise of forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace.**

*One: A promise of courage in the struggle for justice and peace, and eternal life in that realm which has no end.*

**Many: Blessing and honor and glory and power be unto you, O God.**

PRELUDE

“Hymn of Promise”

N. Sleeth

### UNISON PRAYER

**Tender and compassionate God, whose strength is made perfect in our weakness, help us to believe that you receive us as we are. More than that, help us, imperfect though we are, to be carriers of the message of your love, like earthen vessels that carry treasures; and may we worship you in spirit and in truth, through the grace of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray...**

### THE LORD’S PRAYER

**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 our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

ANTHEM

“Ain't that Good News”

M. Hogan

**THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED**

SCRIPTURE

Luke 18:16-17

SOLO

"Tis Me, O Lord" (Standin' in the Need of Pray'r)

H. T. Burleigh

SERMON

“Seeds, Not Fruit”

Pastor Reed

**THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS**

\*HYMN #596 (Green)

“Stewards of a Living Church”

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

BELL CHOIR

“Everytime I Feel the Spirit”  
(chimes and boomwackers)

African Amer. Spiritual

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

“Lenten Meditation”

G. F. Handel

\*SONG OF PRAISE

**Were the whole realm of nature mine  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine  
Demands my soul, my life, my all. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**GOD SENDS US FORTH**

\*HYMN #528 (Green)      “We Plow the Fields and Scatter”

A LENTEN STATEMENT

*One: In the turning of shadow into light, of chaos into cosmos in that first creation, and every day's new creation,*

**Many: we travel within God's promise.**

*One: In the voice of prophets, calling us to turn about, from God's hurt towards God's healing, and move from wilderness to pasture,*

**Many: we travel within God's promise.**

*One: In the long forgiveness of God, ever remolding us, calling us anew to be renewed, from a lost generation to a saved generation,*

**Many: we travel within God's promise.**

*One: In the traveling through on the pilgrims way, letting go and letting God, in the cleansing of Lent,*

**Many: we travel within God's promise.**

*One: In the deep longing for rebirth, journeying towards dawn's light, from wilderness to tombs, from crosses to resurrection,*

**All: we travel, always within God's promise.**

WORDS OF SENDING

POSTLUDE

“Recessional in C”

J. Dixon

\* All who wish, please stand.

## **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**

***Karolina Atsalis*** (friend of Rich and Lauren Abraham)

***Christopher Allen*** (Carol & David Allen's grandson)

***Betsy Eidem*** (friend of Carol Allen)

***Emy and Yessica*** (friends of Christie Burns)

***Sarah and Cody Hudspeth*** (Sharon Hunt's niece and her husband)

***Clyde Hunt*** (brother of John Hunt)

***Gina Jacinto*** (Joanna Wallace's friend)

***Nelson Jenkins*** (Tripp Grohe's friend)

***Dave & Barbara Kern*** (friends of Joanna Wallace)

***Sue Maki*** (Joanna Wallace's friend)

***Bill McEwen*** (Susan McEwen's husband)

***David Mendelow*** (Sandy Clark's friend)

***Jason Miller*** (Robin and Jim Miller's son)

***Greg Opp*** (family member of Bobbie Jordan)

***Randy Parker***

***Carol Polidoro***

***Gary Toye*** (Bobbie Jordan's brother)

***Marvin Toye*** (Bobbie Jordan's brother)

***Roy Urbach*** (friend of Karen Datlowe)

***Rev. Dr. Craig Yohn***

**The Week of February 22, 2026**

<b>Sunday</b>	2/22/26	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship AA (J)
<b>Monday</b>	2/23/26	5:00 pm 7:00 pm	AA (J) AA (J)
<b>Tuesday</b>	2/24/26	11:00 am 11:00 am 4:30 pm 5:00 pm	Christie's Coffee Hours at Nirvana Choir Rehearsal (M) Bell Choir Rehearsal (M) AA (J)
<b>Wednesday</b>	2/25/26	9:00 am 1:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science(J) Bible Study (G & Z) AA (J)
<b>Thursday</b>	2/26/26	5:00 pm 5:30 pm	AA (J) Compassion Collective (G)
<b>Friday</b>	2/27/26	9:00 am 10:00 am 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) Knitting Group (G) AA (J)
<b>Saturday</b>	2/28/26	4:30 pm	Worship
<b>Sunday</b>	3/1/26	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship AA (J)

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

- ◆ **Please join us in Jenkins Hall after worship for Coffee Hour.** We are celebrating those with birthdays in November, December, and January. Lynn Parker and Shirley Stolte are our hosts.
- ◆ **The flowers gracing the Meetinghouse today** were given and arranged by Carol Allen in memory of David Allen.
- ◆ **Thank you to everyone** who has sponsored the flowers for the Meetinghouse last year. The **2026 Flower Calendar** is now up on the sign-up board in Jenkins Hall. Please sign up for sponsoring the flowers along with a dedication. The cost is \$32 and can be paid by cash, check, Vanco, 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 Host sign up** is on the board next to the kitchen pass thru window in Jenkins Hall. 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.
- ◆ **Prayer List** – please notify the church office of any additions, deletions, or changes you wish to make. Call 508-362-4445, email [office@westparish.org](mailto:office@westparish.org), leave a note, or stop on by.

**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.



**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 such as "Deacons Fund", 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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