

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

4th Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026

10:00 a.m.

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?"

-- Ezekiel 37:1-3

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 #437 (Green)

"It's Me, It's Me, It's Me O Lord"

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We come from scattered lives to this sanctuary,

Many: seeking unity in the Spirit, seeking the grace of Christ, seeking the peace of God.

One: From classroom and kitchen and carpool, from workplace and workshop,

Many: we are called into God's presence.

One: We come, not because we have all the answers, not because we are perfect people, not because we are better than anyone else.

Many: We come, because we are standing in the need of prayer.

One: Come, let us worship together, in humility, and in hope.

PRELUDE

"Mary's Lament, The Butterfly"

Irish tunes

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

One: Jesus taught us not to be anxious about our lives today or about tomorrow. Are there anxieties that cause us to feel separated from the peace which Christ promises? Let us turn to God in prayer.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: There are times, O Lord, when we have felt weary, when we have felt like we could not go on.

All: We struggle, we grow weary, we grow tired.

We are exhausted, we are distressed, we despair.

We give up, we fall down, we let go.

We cry. We are empty, we grow calm, we are ready.

We wait quietly.

Choir: Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand.

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;

Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light;

Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

One: A small, sly truth arrives.

Arrives from without and within.

Arrives and is born.

Simple, steady, clear.

Like a mirror, like a bell, like a flame.

Like rain in the summer.

A precious truth arrives and is born within us.

Within our emptiness.

All: We accept it, we observe it, we absorb it.

We surrender to our bare truth.

We are nourished, we are changed.

We are blessed.

We rise up.

For this, we give thanks. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends, we are reminded that there is never a time nor situation in life, however trying and despairing, when God's loving kindness is beyond our reach or experience. God is for us, now and always.

Many: Thanks be to God! Amen.

ANTHEM

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

D. Cherwein

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 37:1-14 (The Message)

SOLO

"Hope"

J. R. Brown

SERMON

"Breath of Hope"

Pastor Reed

THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS

*HYMN # 444 (Green)

"Lord of All Hopefulness"

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

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.

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

“Adagio”

G. Merkel

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

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

One: Stirred, encouraged, and called out by the Spirit of Life, go into this new week attuned to new possibilities for the making of love and justice and peace within the world.

Many: We go in the peace of God, the love of Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

POSTLUDE

“Celtic Melody”

M. Andrews

(It is our custom to remain seated in silence during the Postlude)

* 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:*

Christopher Allen (Carol & David Allen's grandson)
Karolina Atsalis (friend of Rich and Lauren Abraham)
Matt Burch (son-in-law of Suzanne McMillan)
Betsy Eidem (friend of Carol Allen)
Emy and Yessica (friends of Christie Burns)
Rudy Giannetti (friend of Paula King)
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)
Jason Miller (Robin and Jim Miller's son)
Greg Opp (family member of Bobbie Jordan)
Randy Parker
Carol Polidoro
Gary Toyne (Bobbie Jordan's brother)
Marvin Toyne (Bobbie Jordan's brother)
Roy Urbach (friend of Karen Datlowe)
Joanna Wallace

Please notify the church office of any additions, deletions, or changes you wish to make.
Call 508-362-4445, email office@westparish.org, leave a note, or stop on by.

The Week of March 15, 2026

Sunday	3/15/26	10:00 am	Worship
		11:15 am	Irish Box Lunch at Coffee Hour
		5:00 pm	AA (J)
Monday	3/16/26	2:30 pm	1717 MHF (G)
		5:00 pm	AA (J)
		7:00 pm	AA (J)
Tuesday	3/17/26	11:00 am	Choir Rehearsal (M)
		4:30 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal (M)
		5:00 pm	AA (J)
Wednesday	3/18/26	9:00 am	FS Science(J)
		1:00 pm	Bible Study (G & Z)
		5:00 pm	AA (J)
Thursday	3/19/26		Rooster Crows Articles Due
		5:00 pm	AA (J)
Friday	3/20/26	9:00 am	FS Science (J)
		10:00 am	Knitting Group (G)
		5:00 pm	AA (J)
Saturday	3/21/26	1:00 pm	P.E.O. Reciprocity (J)
		4:30 pm	Worship
Sunday	3/22/26	10:00 am	Worship
		5:00 pm	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 an Irish Box Lunch.**
- ◆ **The flowers gracing the Meetinghouse today** were given and arranged by Susan Jekhelian in celebration of her family.
- ◆ **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.

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, scan the QR code with your phone's camera or search "@WestParish" in the Venmo app.

Be sure to select "West Parish of Barnstable" under the charity profiles.

If you would like your donation to go toward something specific such as "Deacons Fund", please 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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