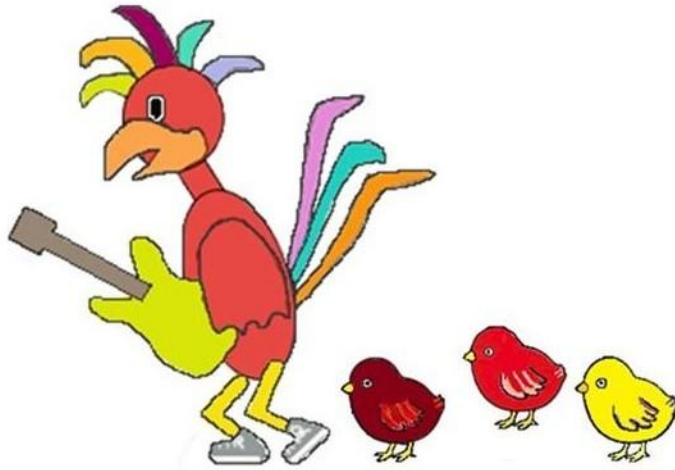


It's Saturday



Let's Do Church!

WEST PARISH OF BARNSTABLE, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 21, 2026

4:30 p.m.

Restore Our Souls

Walking down the street, Jesus saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked, "Rabbi, who sinned: this man or his parents, causing him to be born blind?" Jesus said, "You're asking the wrong question. You're looking for someone to blame.

There is no such cause-effect here. Look instead for what God can do.

We need to be energetically at work for the One who sent me here, working while the sun shines. When night falls, the workday is over.

For as long as I am in the world, there is plenty of light. I am the world's Light."

John 9:1-5

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

Here Comes the Sun

The Beatles

**Here comes the sun, doo-doo-doo
Here comes the sun
And I say, "It's all right"**

**Little darlin'
It's been a long, cold, lonely winter
Little darlin'
It feels like years since it's been here**

**Here comes the sun, doo-doo-do
Here comes the sun
And I say, "It's all right"**

**Little darlin'
The smile's returning to the faces
Little darlin'
It seems like years since it's been here**

**Here comes the sun
Here comes the sun
And I say, "It's all right"**

Sun, sun, sun, here it comes
Sun, sun, sun, here it comes
Sun, sun, sun, here it comes
Sun, sun, sun, here it comes
Sun, sun, sun, here it comes

Little darlin'
I feel that ice is slowly melting
Little darlin'
It seems like years since it's been clear

Here comes the sun, doo-doo-doo
Here comes the sun
And I say, "It's all right"

Here comes the sun, doo-doo-doo
Here comes the sun
It's all right
It's all right

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

One: When the world is dark and full of hate and fear,
when we cannot see God

All: we will turn on the light.

One: When we cannot find our way back to love and peace

All : we will turn on the light.

When our vision dims due to the darkness within

All: we will turn on the light.

One: Christ opens our eyes with the gift of sight.

All: The light of the world is Jesus Christ.

Come and worship the one
who brings sight to the blind.

All: Praise God, the light of the world!

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, who created us in God's own image,

we are grateful for all that you have done for us,

for all that you are doing in us,

and for all that you will do through us.

Open our eyes to see your presence among us,

moving in powerful ways at all times

and in all places.

Open our ears to hear familiar words in new ways—

ways that will change us and challenge us

to become the people you created us to be.

Grant us the power and the courage

to come out of the darkness

and into the light of Jesus Christ,

that we may serve you by serving others.

We love you with all our heart, soul, mind,

and strength. 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 9.

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

We are all "children of light," created by the One who is light, and in whom there is no darkness at all. Yet, we are also all blind and in need of healing so that we might be the

sight of God, clear and undistorted by our sin, our hurts, our agendas, and our prejudices. The light of the world shines, and the darkness that is in the world has not overcome it—not in our individual lives, not in our collective lives, not in the history of the world as a whole. The light will not be extinguished. We must let it shine through us!

We come to the table today, to receive all that Christ has to offer us. He freely forgives and offers us his body and blood. Just as he offered himself to his disciples prior to his death, he invites each and every one of us in the same way.

THE STORY BEHIND THE LAST SUPPER

We gather at this table to remember that on the night before he died, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it, he broke it, and gave it to those sitting around him, saying, *“Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”* In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying: *“This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.”*

Let us pray:

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

**Hear us, O Christ and breathe your Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and juice.**

**May they become for us your body,
vibrant with your life,
healing, renewing and making us whole.**

**And as the bread and juice which we now eat
and drink are changed into us,
may we be changed again into you,
bone of your bone, flesh of your flesh,
loving and caring in the world.**

THE COMMUNION

Look, the Body of Christ is broken for the life of the world.

Here is Christ coming to us in bread and juice.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Come for all things have been made ready.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Most gracious God, source of all blessing, we give you thanks for inviting us to
share this meal as your family. Strengthen us to be a blessing to one another and**

to all people, glorifying you in everything we do and say, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED



SPECIAL SONG

I Saw the Light

Hank Williams



SACRED WORDS FOR SACRED SPACE

John 9: 1-7

MEDITATION

Restore Our Vision

Rev. Christie Burns

GOD SENDS US FORTH



CLOSING SONG

Doctor My Eyes

Jackson Browne

**Doctor, my eyes have seen the years
And the slow parade of fears, without crying
Now I want to understand
I have done all that I could
To see the evil and the good without hidin'
You must help me if you can**

**Doctor, my eyes
Tell me what is wrong
Was I unwise
To leave them open for so long?**

**'Cause I have wandered through this world
And as each moment has unfurled
I've been waiting to awaken from these dreams**

People go just where they will
I never noticed them until I got this feeling
That it's later than it seems

Doctor, my eyes
Tell me what you see
I hear their cries
Just say if it's too late for me

Doctor, my eyes
But cannot see the sky
Is this the prize
For having learned how not to cry?

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.

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

Christie holds coffee hours at Nirvana in Barnstable Village on Tuesdays from 11 to noon.
Call, text, or email for an appointment: 508-494-6409 associatepastor@westparish.org.

“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

Box 219, West Barnstable, MA 02668
508-362-4445 contact@westparish.org www.westparish.org

Reprinted/streamed with permission under One License #A-624123

The Week of March 21, 2026

| | | | |
|------------------|---------|--|---|
| Saturday | 3/21/26 | 4:30 pm | Worship |
| Sunday | 3/22/26 | 10:00 am 5:00 pm | Worship AA (J) |
| Monday | 3/23/26 | 5:00 pm 7:00 pm | AA (J) AA (J) |
| Tuesday | 3/24/26 | 11:00 am 11:00 am 4:30 pm 5:00 pm | Christie's Coffee Hours at Nirvana Choir Rehearsal (J) Bell Choir Rehearsal (M) AA (J) |
| Wednesday | 3/25/26 | 9:00 am 1:00 pm 5:00 pm | FS Science (J) Bible Study (G & Z) AA (J) |
| Thursday | 3/26/26 | 5:00 pm | AA (J) |
| Friday | 3/27/26 | 9:00 am 10:00 am 5:00 pm | FS Science (J) Knitting Group (G) AA (J) |
| Saturday | 3/28/26 | 4:30 pm | Worship |

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

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 Tuesday, March 31, 2026.

Given by _____

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

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



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**

