

# 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

March 22, 2026

10:00 a.m.

*“Sarah lived 127 years. Sarah died in Kiriath Arba,  
present-day Hebron, in the land of Canaan.  
Abraham mourned for Sarah and wept.”*

Genesis 23:1-2

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 #469 (Green)

*"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"*

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 23:1-20

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

*One: God, we gather in your house to worship you.*

**Many: With open hearts, we give you our thanks and praise.**

*One: Guide us in all we do as we come seeking you.*

**Many: With joyful hearts, we give you our thanks and praise.**

*One: Help us to grow as a community of faith who serves love in your name.*

**Many: With whole hearts, we give you our thanks and praise.**

*One: Come; let us worship the living God who makes all things possible.*

PRELUDE

"Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"

ST. AGNES

J. B. Dykes, arr. B. Logan

A RESPONSIVE PRAYER (Elizabeth, Countess of Craven 1750-1828)

Rev. Hansen

*One: I thank You, God, that we have lived*

*In this great world and known its many joys.*

*For all of life:*

**Many: we give you thanks.**

*One: Remembering the song of birds, the strong, sweet scent of hay*

*And cooling breezes in the secret dusk,*

*The flaming sunsets at the close of the day,*

*For all of life,*

**Many: we give you thanks.**

*One: Remembering lonely hills, music at night, and moonlight on the sea,*

*The beat of waves upon the rocky shore  
And wild, white spray, flung high in ecstasy:  
For all of life,*

**Many: we give you thanks.**

*One: Remembering the love of kin and support of friends,  
And all that makes life dear and beautiful; remembering that there has come a little sorrow,  
and sometimes defeat,  
A little heartache and the loneliness  
That comes with parting, and the word "Goodbye;"  
For all of life:*

**Many: we give you thanks.**

*One: Remembering the breaking dawn after dreary hours of pain,  
the discovery that night's gloom yields, and morning light breaks through again.  
For all of life,*

**Many: we give you thanks.**

*One: Because of these and other blessings poured  
Unasked upon our heads; because there waits an even richer and more glorious life;  
and most of all, because Your only Son once sacrificed life's loveliness for us -  
we thank You, God, that we have lived in this great world and known its many joys. For all of  
life,*

**Many: we give you thanks. Amen.**

#### 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.**

#### THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED

Perspectives on End of Life, Planning and Communication

Setting the Stage, with the help of Ben Franklin

Pastor Reed

Matt Tooker "We do have choices, but we must communicate them"

SOLO

"On Eagle's Wings"

M. Joncas

Rev. Mary Hansen-Joyce

"A View from the Chaplain's Side of the Bed"

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

"Turn, Turn, Turn"

Pastor Reed

“When the End is Not the End”

THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS

\*HYMN

*"I'll Fly Away"*

Some bright morning when this life is over

I'll fly away

To that home on Gods celestial shore

I'll fly away

*Refrain:* I'll fly away, oh glory

I'll fly away (in the morning)

When I die hallelujah by and by

I'll fly away

When the shadows of this life have gone

I'll fly away

Like a bird from these prison walls I'll fly

I'll fly away

*Refrain*

Oh how glad and happy when we meet

I'll fly away

No more cold iron shackles on my feet

I'll fly away

*Refrain*

Just a few more weary days and then

I'll fly away

To a land where joys will never end

I'll fly away

*Refrain*

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 DUET

“When I go to a Place”

Paula King

\*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 #327 (Green) “I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry”

WORDS OF SENDING

POSTLUDE

“Alle Menschen müssen sterben”

J. Pachelbel

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

\* All who wish, please stand.

Special thanks today to Rev. Mary Joyce Hansen, an ordained minister in the Lutheran Church, past Protestant Chaplain at Cape Cod Hospital and then at Falmouth Hospital, hospice chaplain and VNA Hospice Bereavement Coordinator.

Special thanks today to Matt Tooker. Matt, a long-time member at West Parish, works at Cape Cod Hospital as a nurse practitioner specialist, with over 40 years’ experience.

**Please join Mary, Matt and Reed at coffee hour for a chance to ask questions about their presentations and exchange thoughts on those issues.**

## 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

***Barbara Cameron***

***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 Toye*** (Bobbie Jordan's brother)  
***Marvin Toye*** (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](mailto:office@westparish.org), leave a note, or stop on by.*

### The Week of March 22, 2026

<b>Sunday</b>	3/22/26	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship AA (J)
<b>Monday</b>	3/23/26	5:00 pm 7:00 pm	AA (J) AA (J)
<b>Tuesday</b>	3/24/26	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>	3/25/26	9:00 am 1:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science(J) Bible Study (G & Z) AA (J)
<b>Thursday</b>	3/26/26	5:00 pm	AA (J)
<b>Friday</b>	3/27/26	9:00 am 10:00 am 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) Knitting Group (G) AA (J)
<b>Saturday</b>	3/28/26	4:30 pm	Worship
<b>Sunday</b>	3/29/26	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.** Our hosts today are Bob and Gretchen Naylor.
- ◆ **The flowers gracing the Meetinghouse today** were given by Peggie Bretz in memory of her mother, Betty. They were arranged by Kenyon Gregoire.
- ◆ **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.

# 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.



**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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