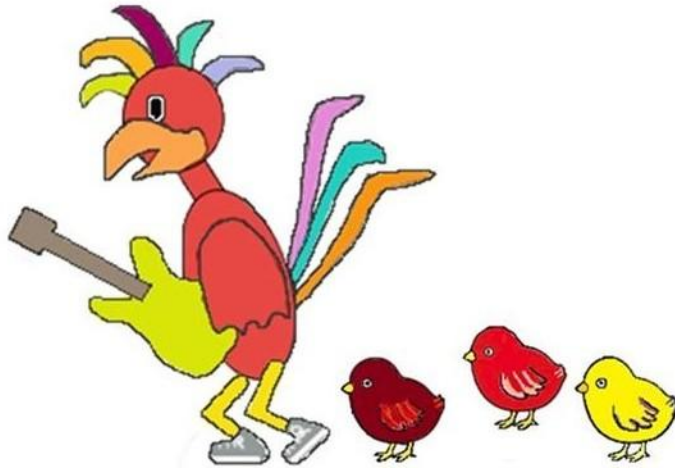


**It's Saturday**



**Let's Do Church!**

**WEST PARISH OF BARNSTABLE  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

May 16, 2026

4:30 p.m.

**Jesus Prays for Us**

*“And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”- John 17:11*

**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

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

**What a friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry  
Everything to God in prayer.**

**Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged,  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness,  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
Cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Saviour, still our refuge,  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer,  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,  
Thou wilt find a solace there.**

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 John Williams as our music director 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

Come, quench your thirst in the love of God.

**We come, hungering for a place in which we can be gently nourished.**

Be like trees planted by the streams of living water, ready to receive God's nourishment.

**Strengthen us, O God, to receive your blessed peace.**

Hallelujah!

**Hallelujah! AMEN.**

OPENING PRAYER

**Loving, Uniting, and Still-Speaking God, as we gather together today, we thank you for the gift of eternal life - that we might know you, God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. Just as Jesus prayed for his disciples long ago, we know that Jesus is praying for us right here in West Barnstable.**

**Holy One, you have entrusted us with your word, and your love binds us together across all our beautiful differences and distinctiveness. We pray that you would make us one—a united, vibrant, and welcoming community that reflects the divine harmony of the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sustainer.**

Protect us in this world, and give us the courage to finish the work you have given us to do. Empower us to be your hands and feet, living out your inclusive, radically welcoming love in our local community and beyond.  
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

Iona Community

This table does not belong to any denomination,  
church or community.

It belongs to Jesus.

It was at table that he met people,  
heard their stories and shared his.

It was at table that he deepened his friendship  
with poor folk and those on the margins,  
the business class and puzzled bystanders.

It was at table that he shared profound insights  
into who God is and what God wants.

And it was at table, with bread and wine,  
that he initiated the sacrament we now celebrate.

So come to this table.

Leave behind any baggage of arrogance or unworthiness.

Do not think, 'This is not for me.'

Think rather of Jesus saying, 'I am for you,'  
and accept his invitation to be the friend  
he cherishes and longs to feed.

#### 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

**Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and juice. Let them be for us the body and blood of Christ so that we may be for the world the body of Christ, liberated by his witness, passion and life. Be with us, Holy Spirit, fill us so you can move through us. Amen.**

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

“Hand it Over”

Keb Mo



SACRED WORDS FOR SACRED SPACE

John 17:1-11

MEDITATION

Jesus Prays for Us

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

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 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](mailto:contact@westparish.org) [www.westparish.org](http://www.westparish.org)

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

**The Week of May 16, 2026**

<b>Saturday</b>	5/16/26	4:30 pm	Worship
<b>Sunday</b>	5/17/26	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship AA (J)
<b>Monday</b>	5/18/26	8:30 am-2:00 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Pre-K Parent Conferences (G) AA (J) AA (J)
<b>Tuesday</b>	5/19/26	8:30 am-2:00 pm 11:00 am 3:30 pm 4:30 pm 5:00 pm	Pre-K Parent Conferences (G) Choir Rehearsal (J) Finance (G) Bell Choir Rehearsal (M) AA (J)
<b>Wednesday</b>	5/20/26	8:30 am-2:00 pm 9:00 am 1:00 pm 5:00 pm	Pre-K Parent Conferences (G) FS Science (J) Bible Study (G & Z) AA (J)
<b>Thursday</b>	5/21/26	8:30 am-2:00 pm 5:00 pm	Rooster Crows Articles Due Pre-K Parent Conferences (G) AA (J)
<b>Friday</b>	5/22/26	8:30 am-2:00 pm 9:00 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 5:00 pm	Pre-K Parent Conferences (G) FS Science (J) Stewardship (G) Knitting Group (M) AA (J)
<b>Saturday</b>	5/23/26	10:00 am 4:30 pm	FS CPR Training (J) 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**

