

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

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2026

10:00 a.m.

*“Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree
that is pleasant to the sight and good for food....”*

Genesis 2:9

All are invited to stay for the full service today.
Saturday School starts off this week, September 12.

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 #591 (Green)

“How Great Thou Art”

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Associate Pastor Christie Burns

One: Friends, in the rustling of leaves on the tree – the sound of wind.

Many: Spirit, breath, wind of God, rustle through our lives today; touch us with your mystery.

One: Bring us alive as we worship you this day.

PRELUDE

“Revive Us Again”

J. Husband, arr. M. Hayes

UNISON PRAYER

All around, O God, beauty and mystery stir our imagination. We are inspired by the incredible diversity of trees and forests.

We drive country lanes, we walk along wooded paths, we explore mountain forests, and are stunned by the beauty of the season.

We draw a deep breath and are filled with the fragrance of pine, ash and cedar.

We reach out a hand to touch bark, and are stirred by the differing qualities and attributes of different species.

Your strength, O God, like the mighty oak and black walnut, fills us with hope.

With healing and cleansing power, like the pine and eucalyptus, you renew us.

In the towering redwood, you raise our eyes to new horizons; in the graceful drooping of the willow, you refresh our spirits.

In awe and thanksgiving we pray as Jesus taught, saying...

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.

SOLO

“Safe within Your Arms”
sung by Kinsley Weider

M. Hayes

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED

POETRY

“I go among the trees and sit still...” Wendell Berry, 1979
From A Timbered Choir – The Sabbath Poems 1979 - 1997

BENEATH THE BODHI TREE

SOLO

“Let the Heavens Be Glad”
music by D. von Kampen, sung by John Murelle

text; Psalm 96

MESSAGE

“My Trees – First Memories”

Pastor Reed

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 2:4-9, 15

MESSAGE

“Consider the Trees”

THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS

*HYMN #54 (Green)

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

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.*

*SONG OF PRAISE

**Praise God for love we all may share
Praise God for beauty everywhere
Praise God for hope of good to be
Praise God for truth that makes us free. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE BREAD AND CUP ARE SHARED

Our service of communion is open to all seeking Christ's presence. We will celebrate communion by intinction; come forward, take a piece of the bread, dip it into the cup, and consume it on the way back to your seat. If you would prefer to be served where you sit, raise your hand and the deacons will come to you.

For those who prefer, please take the packaged communion-to-go. (We offer a gluten-free, wheat-free alternative – in the plastic bags – for those whose diet so requires. We serve cranberry juice out of respect for those who cannot consume alcohol.)

INVITATION

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Thank you gracious God, for life in the Spirit of Jesus: for the witness we cannot forget and the mission of justice you have made your own. Give us the gifts of the Holy Communion; oneness of heart, love for neighbors, forgiveness of enemies, the will to serve you every day, and life that never ends. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

GOD SENDS US FORTH

*HYMN #529 (Green)

“Let All Things Now Living”

WORDS OF SENDING

POSTLUDE

“Joy, Joyful Joy”

R. Thygerson

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

* All who wish, please stand.

All are invited to join together for fellowship and refreshments following the service.

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

Gracie Delgado (daughter of Sue McEwen's friend)

Jessica (Bobbie Jordan's niece)

Christopher Allen (Carol & David Allen's grandson)

The Atsalis Family (friends of Rich & Lauren Abraham)

Deb Willis Bry (Sue McEwen's friend)

Chuck Conway

Judy Crawford (Robin Fryer's friend)

Ella Curtis (Carol Allen's grandniece)

Tad DeMarco (Robin Fryer's brother)

Emy and Yessica (friends of Christie Burns)

Robin Fryer

Rudy Giannetti (friend of Paula King)

Bob Gimby

Donna Grohe

Tripp Grohe

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

Clyde Hunt (brother of John Hunt)

Gina Jacinto (Joanna Wallace's friend)

Karen & Judy (from Minuteman Press)

Dave & Barbara Kern (friends of Joanna Wallace)

Sue Maki (Joanna Wallace's friend)

Lily McCardle (granddaughter of Elaine & Stephen Bartlett)

Jason Miller (Robin & Jim Miller's son)

Peggy Nelson

Greg Opp (family member of Bobbie Jordan)

Randy Parker

Carol Polidoro

Betsy Sinnigen

Bart Stevens (friend of Carol Allen)

Annie Taber

Gary Toye (Bobbie Jordan's brother)

Marvin Toye (Bobbie Jordan's brother)

Roy Urbach (friend of Karen Datlowe)

Joanna Wallace

Nick Wallace (friend of the Allen family)

Chuck Wildman

*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 September 6, 2026

Sunday	9/6/26	10:00 am 2:30 pm 5:00 pm	Worship Johnson Reception (J) AA (J)
Monday	9/7/26	5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Office Closed AA (M) AA (J)
Tuesday	9/8/26	11:00 am 4:30 pm 5:00 pm 6:45 pm	Choir Rehearsal (M) Bell Choir Rehearsal (M) AA (M) W. B. Civic Association (G)
Wednesday	9/9/26	4:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Board (G) AA (J)
Thursday	9/10/26	8:00 am 10:00 am 10:00 am 4:00 pm 5:00 pm	Men's Breakfast at Jack's Out Back Bible Study Prep (G) Creative Crafters (J) Rooster Crows Fair Planning (G) AA (J)
Friday	9/11/26	10:00 am 5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Knitting Group (G) AA (J) 9/11 Remembrance Gathering (M)
Saturday	9/12/26	4:30 pm	Worship
Sunday	9/13/26	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 Sue & Laura.
- ♦ **The flowers gracing the altar today** are given by Annie Taber and John Linhares. They were arranged by Susan Jeghelian.
- ♦ **The 2026 Flower Calendar is almost full!** There are two dates left open October 4th and November 29th. Thank you to everyone who has sponsored the flowers this year. 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 about the arrangement.
- ♦ **Coffee Hour Hosts needed.** If you can spare some of your time to help at Coffee Hour, it would be greatly appreciated. It's a wonderful way to socialize with old friends and to make new ones. The Coffee Hour Host signup sheet is on the board next to the kitchen pass thru window in Jenkins Hall. Please put your full name on the sign up. Don't make Susan guess. Thank you. *ps Ted Gould will have the room set up and the coffee brewing.*
- ♦ **Signing Up** A gentle reminder to please use your full name when signing up for Flower sponsorship or Coffee Hour. There are quite a few folks with the same first name and Susan in the office does not know everyone's handwriting.

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 like "Deacons", 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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