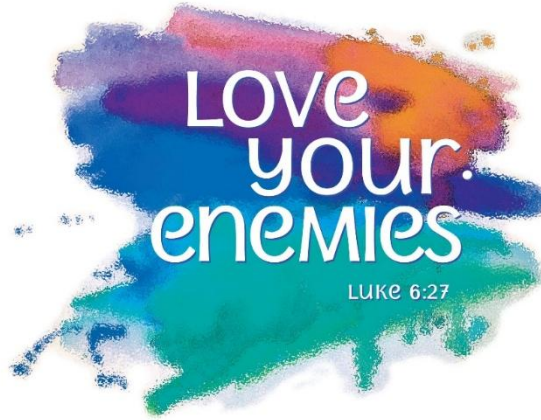


*It's Saturday*



# **Let's Do Church!**

WEST PARISH OF BARNSTABLE, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

February 22, 2025

4:30 p.m.

**Love Them:**

***When Following Jesus Means Learning to Love Our Enemies***

*“To you who are ready for the truth, I say this: Love your enemies. Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst. When someone gives you a hard time, respond with the supple moves of prayer for that person. If someone slaps you in the face, stand there and take it. If someone grabs your shirt, giftwrap your best coat and make a present of it. If someone takes unfair advantage of you, use the occasion to practice the servant life. No more payback. Live generously.” - Luke 6:27-30*

**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

Were You There?

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

**Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.**

**Were you there when they crucified my Lord?**

**Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?**

**Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?**

**Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.**

**Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?**

**Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?**

**Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?**

**Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.**

**Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?**

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 filling in 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

**Our salvation is from the Lord.**

God is our refuge in times of trouble.

**The Lord helps us and rescues us;**

God saves us because we take refuge in our Lord.

CALL TO CONFESSION

We have been called to love our God with all our heart, mind, strength and soul and to love our neighbors as ourselves, but our lives are constricted and self-consumed. We have failed to love God, our neighbor, and ourselves as we should. Let us make a good confession to God and others.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, you have commanded us to love you above all and to have no other gods. You have called us to love others as we love ourselves. But we are personally and socially deformed by the love of other “gods”—the false gods of prosperity and materialism, racial and ethnic privileging, gender exclusivity, and nationalistic imperialism. Forgive us our sins and transform us by the Spirit so that we might learn to love as you love and live as you live as people baptized as your children. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, here the good news of the Gospel-God's radical forgiving, transforming and justice-seeking love will not let us go and is ever bringing resurrection and new life. Let us remember our baptisms and trust in God's mercy to restore our right standing as God's own. Thanks be to God!

**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

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest,  
Stay with us for the day is ending,  
With friend, with stranger,  
With young and with old,  
Be among us tonight,  
Come close to us that we may forgive one another.  
Renew us so that, where we have failed,  
We may begin again. Amen.

#### CONFESSION OF SIN

**O God of mystery, we confess that more than deep questions, we love easy answers; explaining away miracles, disarming the Good News, we domesticate your wild ways. Teach us to love our questions, O God. Teach us to struggle with faith. Teach us to live with your holy mysteries. Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Anyone in Christ becomes a new person altogether; the past is finished and gone, everything has become fresh and new. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

#### THE STORY OF THE LAST SUPPER

Among friends, gathered around a table, Jesus took bread, and, having blessed it, he broke the bread and gave it to the disciples, saying, "This is my body which is given for you." In the same way he took wine, and, having given thanks for it, he poured it out and gave the cup to his disciples, saying, "This cup is the new relationship with God, sealed with my blood. Take it and share it. I shall drink wine with you next in the coming kingdom of God."

So now, following Jesus' example, we take this bread and this wine; the ordinary things of the world through which God will bless us. And as Jesus offered thanks for the gifts of the earth, let us also celebrate God's Goodness.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come for all are invited to partake of the table of Christ.

## UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED



SPECIAL SONG

Hand It Over

Keb' Mo'



SACRED WORDS FOR SACRED SPACE

Luke 6:27-38

MEDITATION

Love Them:

*When Following Jesus Means Learning to Love Our Enemies*

Rev. Christie Burns

## GOD SENDS US FORTH



CLOSING SONG

Pass It On

**It only takes a spark to get a fire going,  
and soon all those around can warm up in its glowing;  
that's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it:  
you spread God's love to everyone, you want to pass it on.**

**I wish for you, my friend, this happiness that I've found –  
on God you can depend, it matters not where you're bound;  
I'll shout it from the mountain top, I want my world to know:  
The Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.**

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  
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**The Week February 22, 2025**

<b>Saturday</b>	2/22/25	4:30 pm	Worship
<b>Sunday</b>	2/23/25	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship AA (J)
<b>Monday</b>	2/24/25	10:15 am 5:00 pm	FS Classes (J) AA (J)
<b>Tuesday</b>	2/18/25	9:15 am 10:00 am 11:00 am 4:30 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science (G) Christie's Coffee Hours at Nirvana Choir Rehearsal (J) Bell Choir (M) AA (J)
<b>Wednesday</b>	2/19/25	9:15 am 12:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) Bible Study (G & Z) AA (J)
<b>Thursday</b>	2/20/25	5:00 pm	AA (J)
<b>Friday</b>	2/21/25	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Knitting Group (G) AA (J)
<b>Saturday</b>	2/22/25	4:30 pm	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**

