

THE FIRST CHURCH OF WEST BRIDGEWATER

United Church of Christ & Unitarian Universalist Association

February 25, 2018 Service of Word 10:00 A.M.

Gathering Songs Rosemary Valentine, Organist

Welcome Rev. Ashton

Centering Music “Father, I Adore You”

Choral Response “ H No. 244

Call to Worship

L: O give thanks to God, call on God’s name, make known God’s deeds among the peoples.

P: Sing to God, sing praises to God, tell of all God’s wonderful works.

L: Glory in God’s holy name.

P: Let us worship God.

* Hymn “Lord of the Dance” H No. 163

Lenten Candle

Wisdom St. John of the Cross

Our overall degree of wellness depends on our relationship with God.

Lighting

We light this candle to affirm and promote justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.

Prayer

Dear God, we glory in your holy name. We marvel at your wondrous works. You gathered a people around you and called them blessed. You spared not your own Son, but sent him in the midst of a people to redeem them from sin. We gather this day to bear witness to your majesty. Our hearts rejoice in the promise of your covenant of love; our souls are cleansed by your mercy. Our bodies rise to bless your name; our voices sing your praise. Amen.

Time of Reconciliation

Invitation “Create in Me a Clean Heart” H No. 414

Scripture Romans 1:16 (Pew Bible pg. 1090)

Reading “Asking for Help”

Prayer

Dear God, grant me the courage to ask for your help and the confidence to know that even before we ask, you have already said, “yes.” Amen.

Assurance “Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus” H No. 146

Scripture Psalm 22:22-31 H No. 603
(Choir sings choral response . . . Leader reads odd verses. . . congregation reads even verses)

Pastoral Prayers “Cares Chorus”

I cast all my cares upon you; I lay all my burdens down at your feet and anytime that I don’t know what to do; I cast all my cares upon you.

Today’s flowers are given by Jill and Tim Hay

R: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

Silent prayer . . . Lord’s Prayer . . . “Eagle’s Wings” chorus, H No. 385

Scripture Mark 8:38 (Pew Bible Pg. 978)

Sermon “*Standing Up With Jesus*” Rev. Ashton

Hymn “Take Up Your Cross,” The Savior Said

Thank Offerings

Invitation Mathew Pratt, Deacon
Anthem Choir
*Doxology H No. 563
*Offering Prayer

Covenant

* Hymn "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus" H No. 452

* Benediction First Church President

L: In our call to be a blessing,
P: May we be a blessing true,
L: May we live and die confessing Jesus,
P: As Lord of all we do.

* Congregational Response "Go Now in Peace"
**Go now in peace, never be afraid,
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true,
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe,
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above,
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

* Postlude Rosemary Valentine, Organist

On Sunday, February 18, we collected \$ 631.00 towards meeting our weekly budget need of \$1,451.00.

The Mission and Outreach Committee has named the month of February as "Soups and Stews" month. Please bring in your donation(s) on any Sunday to help stock the shelves of the W.B. Food Pantry.

Church Council Meetings will be held on the **third Monday** of each month. In the case of another event already planned on the third Monday, the meeting will take place on the **second Monday**. Please watch the "Looking Ahead" schedule in the bulletin.

A Children's Peace Choir Rehearsal will be held today after church, in the Sanctuary, and then every other Sunday until Easter.

If you would like to order a plant (s) for Easter, please see Jenny Williams or you may call the church office.

THE FIRST CHURCH OF WEST BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS

Est. 1651



"We the members of The First Church of West Bridgewater united by the love of one another and guided by the teachings of Jesus, hold it to be our purpose to maintain a welcoming house for the worship of God; to teach and study the lessons of our faith, to develop programs for those in need; and to sponsor fellowship opportunities. All this we support in order to build a mutually sustaining and caring community of faith."