

THE FIRST CHURCH OF WEST BRIDGEWATER

United Church of Christ & Unitarian Universalist Association

November 19, 2017 Service of Word 10:00 A.M.

Gathering Songs Rosemary Valentine, Organist
Welcome

Centering Music “Sanctuary”
Choral Response “ H No. 555

Call to Worship

L: Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,

P: Who wondrous things hath done, in whom His world rejoices,

L: Who from our mothers’ arms, hath blessed us on our way,

P: With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

L: Let us worship God.

* Hymn “For the Beauty of the Earth” H No. 259

Chalice Lighting

Wisdom Maya Angelou

Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good.

Lighting

We light this candle to affirm and promote the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.

Prayer

Loving God, at harvest time we gaze in wonder at the splendor of your creation. We see a banquet spread before us, rich carpeted fields of yellowing grain and overflowing baskets of ripe fruit. We see a banquet prepared for all peoples of fine wine and rich food, a generous feast for all to share. Help us to learn from your generosity how to share our bread with the hungry and open our hearts to the poor to commit ourselves to preparing a banquet for all peoples, a generous feast for all to share. Amen.

Covenant Sunday School

Time of Reconciliation

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

Litany of Confession

L: We confess our sins, and the sins of our society, in the misuse of Creation. God our Maker, we are sorry for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly and acted ungratefully. Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:

P: Forgive us and help us.

L: We enjoy the fruits of the harvest, but sometimes forget that you have given them to us. In your mercy:

P: Forgive and help us.

L: We belong to a people who are full and satisfied, but ignore the cry of the hungry. In your mercy:

P: Forgive and help us.

L: We are thoughtless, and do not care enough for the world you have made. In your mercy:

P: Forgive and help us.

L: We store up goods for ourselves alone, as if there were no God and no heaven. In your mercy:

P: Forgive and help us.

All: God of everlasting love, who is eternally forgiving, pardon and restore us, and make us one with you in your new creation.

Amen.

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

Scripture

Psalms 123

H No. 706

(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.

L: We pray for all those who are in need of healing in mind, body, spirit, and soul. . .

P: Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

L: We pray for those who have died . . .

P: Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

L: We remember those who suffer from abuse, oppression, violence, injustice, and war . . . We pray for the peace of Christ to enter every heart that God’s goodwill be realized on earth.

P: Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

L: We rejoice with those who rejoice . . .

P: Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

L: We are mindful of those who are unable to gather in communities of faith on your Sabbath and of those in need of travel mercies . . .

P: Lord, in your mercy hear our prayer.

*Today's flowers are given by Martha Amara in memory of her parents,
"Who gave me so much to be thankful for."*

Silent prayer... Lord's Prayer... "Eagle's Wings" chorus, H No. 385

Scripture Luke 17:11-19 (Pew Bible pg. 1015)

Sermon **"Deep Healing"** Rev. Ashton

Hymn "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" H No. 46

Thank Offerings

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

* Hymn "All Are Welcome" H No. 550

* **Benediction** First Church President

L: Like a rock, God is under our feet.

P: Like a roof, God is over our heads.

L: Like the horizon, God is beyond us.

P: Like water in a pitcher, God is within us and in the pouring out of us.

L: Like a pebble in the sea, we are in God.

P: Let us go out and change our world as God has changed us.

* Congregational Response "Let There Be Peace" H No. 308

* **Postlude** Rosemary Valentine, Organist

On Sunday, November 12, we collected \$2,342.00 towards meeting our weekly budget need of \$1,451.00.

If you, or anyone you know, needs pastoral care while Rev. Ashton is away, please see any one of the Deacons 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."