

# THE FIRST CHURCH OF WEST BRIDGEWATER

United Church of Christ & Unitarian Universalist Association

**October 22, 2017 Unitarian Universalist Sunday 10:00 A.M.**

Gathering Songs Rosemary Valentine, Organist

Welcome Rev. Ashton

First Parish settled minister, Paul Sprecher

First Parish choir and choir director, Denise Haskins

First Parish members and friends

Centering Music "Sanctuary"

Choral Response " H No. 555

## Unison Opening Prayer

**Holy One, you have broken into our lives with the recreation of this new day. You have breathed new life into our sleeping souls and have put a new song in our hearts. So we come today to offer you our thanks and praise. Pour down the blessing of your Spirit upon each one here that we may perceive your nearness once more. Amen.**

\* Hymn "We Gather Together" H No. 552

## Time of Reconciliation

Invitation "Create in Me a Clean Heart" H No. 414

Scripture Hebrews 12:1-2 (Pew Bible pg. 1170)

Therefore, surrounded as we are by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus who is the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

## Unison Prayer of Confession

**Compassionate Lord, save us from our folly by your wisdom, from our arrogance by your forgiving love, from our greed by your infinite bounty, and from our insecurity by your healing power. Amen.**

Assurance "Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus" H No. 146

Scripture Psalm 133 H No. 716

(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.*

Intercessory prayers

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

Sermon "**Covenant**" Rev. Ashton

## Thank Offerings

Invitation Alta Pratt, Deacon

Anthem Combined choirs

\*Doxology H No. 563

\*Offering Prayer

\* Hymn "Hymn of Covenant" H No. 511

\* Benediction Rev. Sprecher and Rev. Ashton

L: Because of others who came before us,

**P: We are.**

L: In spite of their failings,

**P: We believe.**

L: Because of, and in spite of the horizons of their vision,

**P: We, too, dream.**

L: Let us go remembering to praise our Maker,

**P: To live faithfully in the moment,**

L: To love mightily,

**P: To bow to mystery,**

L: To act justly,

**P: To speak kindly,**

L: To crave peace for all the world,

**P: To be generous and charitable,**

L: To be compassionate,

**P: And to take responsible care of ourselves, others, and God's good earth.**

\* Blessing Rev. Sprecher

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

\* Postlude Rosemary Valentine, Organist

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On Sunday, October 15, we collected \$1,572.50 towards meeting our weekly budget need of \$1,451.00.

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The Mission and Outreach Committee has named the month of October as “Breakfast Foods” month. Please bring in your donations on any Sunday to help stock the shelves of the W.B. Food Pantry.

**Something New...** Jane Hatch and Cindy Kwan will be publishing our *Newsletter*. They ask that all committees submit their “news” or report to them no later than November 1st if they wish it to be included in the publication.

Announcing our Annual West Bridgewater 5K (3.1 miles) or Fun Run (1.0 mile) **Turkey Trot** to be held on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. (rain date Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m.) Registration will be held at 9 a.m. Entry fees are: 5K - Adults, (15 years and older) \$20.00, Fun Run, \$10.00. Registrations received after November 10<sup>th</sup> will be \$25.00. Checks should be made out to The First Church. This fundraiser benefits the W.B. Food Pantry. Please bring a non-perishable item for the pantry shelves.

Start and finish will be from The First Church, costumes are encouraged – prizes will be given for best costume, adult and child, and all participants will be eligible for a raffle! For more information, please call the church office at (508) 587-3118 or email [firstchurchwb@juno.com](mailto:firstchurchwb@juno.com). You may pick-up a registration form in Fellowship Hall, from the church office, or sign-up online at RaceWire.com.

THINK VACATION, THINK CHURCH FAIR!?!? YES! As you enjoy your vacation this Summer or Fall, please keep our church fair in mind. Donate a “fun” souvenir from your trip to our “Mystery Travels” table appearing at the fair in November. Keep it simple and make sure it has the name of your destination on it. For details, see Cindy Kwan or Jane Hatch.

The Fall/Winter edition of *The Center Post*, A Journal of UU Rowe Center, has been received into the church office. You will find copies on the bookcase in Fellowship Hall.

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Church Address:	29 Howard Street, West Bridgewater, Mass. 02379
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Church Email Address:	<a href="mailto:firstchurchwb@juno.com">firstchurchwb@juno.com</a>
Church Website Address:	<a href="http://www.firstchurchwb.org">www.firstchurchwb.org</a>
Church Office Telephone:	(508) 587-3118
Rev. Ashton's Home Telephone:	(508) 857-5411

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## THE FIRST CHURCH OF WEST BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS

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Est. 1651



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**“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.”**

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