

**The Church of the Pilgrimage
United Church of Christ**

Sunday, November 11, 2018

10:00am

Chest of Joash/Pledge Dedication



Rev. Dr. Helen Nablo, PASTOR
Jennifer Bingham-Maas, WORSHIP LEADER
Kelley DePasqua, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
Michael Eaton, ORGANIST
Jenny Healy, DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN ED

Order of Worship

Wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

Prelude

Chorale and Variations on 'Sei gegrusset'
-Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Introit

Call to Worship (*responsively*)

We come to this sanctuary entangled with the worries of the world and our community...

The cost to repair our car, the images of violence embedded in our mind's eye, whether or not the acolyte will light the candles properly, or whether or not the microphone will be turned up enough, whether we will like the chosen hymns.

We need *one* more cup of coffee...

One more hour of sleep, one more obedient child, one more deposit in the bank, one more week of vacation, one more hour in each day, one more day in each week.

We take a deep breath. We lift our eyes to what is holy. We let go of all we carry and we open our hearts to God.

**With intention! We shake off our worldly cares,
turn our eyes to You with glad praise
and trust your Spirit to revive us again!**

Good people, let us worship God together!

*Hymn No. 80

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

*Prayer of the Day (*responsively*)

May our worship be what nothing else is – a softening of the edges of doubt, a tickling of God's great mystery upon our innermost being, a wordless answer to the great questions of life, a tender blowing of the Spirit, an assurance that there is a better way to live together on this planet, and that you, O God, are that way.

May God's presence be palpable today. May our voices in song fill the very air with grace. May our prayers be authentic, heartfelt and healing. We are here with you, God. We are together, and we are glad. Amen.

***The Lord's Prayer** (*unison*)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

***Gloria Patri** No. 36 (*unison*)

Glorify be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Anthem Awake, Awake to Love and Work
 Arr. D. Oglesby

Awake, awake to love and work!
The lark is in the sky;
The fields are wet with diamond dew;
The worlds awake to cry
Their blessings on the Lord of life,
As He goes meekly by.

Come, let thy voice be one with theirs,
Shout with their shout of praise;
See how the giant sun soars up,
Great lord of years and days!
So let the love of Jesus come
And set thy soul ablaze.

To give and give, and give again,
What God hath given thee;
To spend thyself nor count the cost;
To serve right gloriously
The God who gave all worlds that are,
And all that are to be.

The Sacrament of Baptism (*see insert*)

Alden Maverick Sylvia,
Son of Brett and Kezia Sylvia
Born June 29, 2017

-----*Children and Youth depart for Sunday School*-----

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and Choral Response

Scripture Lesson Exodus 23: 9-16 OT66 or 61

Sermon *An Intentional Life* Rev. Helen Nablo

Pledge Dedication/The Chest of Joash Service

The choir will first sing the offertory, then make their way to the Chest of Joash. When they have returned to the choir loft, the congregation will be invited to come forward to present their pledges and offerings as we sing our stewardship hymns.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Anthem My Good Lord's Done Been Here
Traditional Spiritual, Arr. Andre Thomas

My Good Lord's done been here!

Blessed my soul and gone away,

My Good Lord's done been here,

Blessed my soul and gone.

When I get to Heaven

And my work is done,

Going to sit down with Sister Mary,

And chatter with the darling son. (Refrain)

Going down to the river of Jordan one of these days

Going to sit at the welcome table and I will see my savior's face.

Hold up the Baptist finger,

Hold up the Baptist hand,

When I get in the Heavens,

Going a-join the Baptist Band. (Refrain)

*Hymn (*see insert*) Draw The Circle Wide

*Hymn No. 456 God of the Fertile Fields

*Doxology No. 44

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Prayer of Dedication (*responsively*)

God we thank you for your great mercy and love. We thank you for the way you gather us, for the way you call us. It is grace to experience the joy of giving, and it is grace to participate in the ministry of this community of faith. We also lift before you the gifts of presence – gifts of time, prayer, skill, energy and participation—that we offer here. Bless this all we pray – the gifts and the givers.

As we give, we are not diminished, but blessed.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Hymn No. 336 Go With Us, Lord

Benediction and Choral Response

Postlude Presto from First Concerto
-Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750

During the postlude you may remain seated
or rise to greet the pastor and proceed to coffee hour.

For Today's Service

Our Deacon in Charge is Sandy Bartlett.

Our Ushers are Jim & Nancy Sweeney and Bill & Laurie McCoy.

Our Greeters are Nancy Medeiros and Judy Mitchell.

The flowers are in memory of Danielle McNeely. Love Mom, D. Holly and Kevin.

This Week

Nov 12: Monday Meals of Hospitality, 11 am, Allerton Hall.

Church office closed for Veterans Day.

Nov 13: Council Meeting, 7pm, Marks Conference Room.

Nov 14: Bible Study, 10:30am, Amy Simpson's home. Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm in the sanctuary.

Nov 15: Nominating Committee Meeting, 8:30am, Steve Triffletti's office. Missions Meeting, 7pm Marks Conference Room.

November 16: Celebration of Life for Elsie Hurter, 10:30am sanctuary, collation to follow in Allerton Hall; Storytelling Event, Ol' Bess, 7pm. Sanctuary.

November 18: Worship – Thanksgiving focus. Ingathering with Food Pantry Donations received. Reverend Helen Nablo preaching.

Alternative Christmas Fair during coffee hour.

NOTES

Welcome to worship at The Church of the Pilgrimage. If you are a visitor, please sign your name one of the pew cards and we will send you a copy of the church newsletter. And join us for coffee hour if you are able!

Please silence your cell phones so we can be fully present to the spirit and to one another.

This morning we have nursery/crib room care with Kristin Moses, our childcare worker. Kristen is with us every Sunday.

Hearing devices and copies of the morning sermon are available on the marble table in the upper vestibule.

A word on sharing prayer concerns: If there is a concern you would like to have read out loud during the prayer time, please find a prayer slip at the back of the church and place it in the box located there.

Nametags: It is helpful to everyone if we make an effort to wear our nametags. Thank you!

The Good Samaritan Fund, which assists with such expenses as rent, utility, food and health bills, is received on the second Sunday of the

month. If you wish to contribute, there are specially marked envelopes located in the pews for that purpose.

FOOD DRIVE NEXT WEEK: Pick up a bag and fill it as you are able—one can of green beans or a bag full, whatever you can do! We will collect it and deliver it to the food warehouse for distribution locally. Please bring your bags to the upper vestibule and the kids will process in with it all. Thank you for your participation.

Advent Meditation Booklet: The Advent Meditation Booklet, *Joyful Anticipation* is being created by Rose Wagner. She needs volunteers to contribute a reflection on Scripture and a prayer afterward. (Several Scripture options will be provided to you.) Please contact me, Rose Wagner (rmwagner1976m@comcast.net) or 774-773-9361. I will give you your Scripture, guidelines and any assistance that you may need. Please return it to me by November 11 at the latest.

Storytelling event: Ol' Bess Speaks at a Gathering, Nov. 16 at 7 PM in the sanctuary. We will be hosting an African American storyteller for this interactive evening of story and song. Mark your calendars and spread the word! The event is free and open to the public; a freewill offering will be collected.

Thanksgiving Open House: Are you free in the morning that day? Would you like to help welcome visitors from all over the world? Help is needed with our annual Open House run by the Budge family. You can help make cookies, brownies, etc or help in being present the day of. Speak to Diana Budge at coffee hour today.

Nativity Sets Needed: We will be displaying a collection of loaned creches in the sanctuary on Friday, December 7th from 5:30 to 8 pm while the church has its Open House during the Annual town Christmas Tree Lighting on Town Square. This display was an amazing success last year. If you have a family creche, perhaps one with a story behind it, please consider lending it to the church for this event. Kid-friendly creches were much appreciated last year and we could use more of these. You may drop off as many as you'd like to the church office between Monday-Thursdays December 3-6th. Please include your name and your note of its history or importance to you on each one.

Safety & Security at TCOP: Once again, a fire drill has been scheduled for our church at the end of worship. On Sunday, November 25th, members not taking part (anyone adversely affected by loud and repetitive noise) will be given the opportunity to exit the sanctuary, while the rest of us will wait for an alarm to sound, courtesy of the Plymouth Fire Department. Our hope is for a safe and orderly evacuation of both the sanctuary and the John Robinson Center. Deacons and Sunday School personnel will guide the fire drill. Announcements prior to the drill will explain the procedure to be followed.

Free to the Public: “The Healing Power of Stillness” with speaker Lari Snorek-Yates. Sponsored by Christian Science churches in Plymouth, Duxbury, Quincy and Buzzards Bay. 3 pm Sunday, November 18th at Plymouth Public Library. For more information visit larisnorekyates.com.

Host Guests from Pakistan on Thanksgiving: We have an appeal from Sarah Sibley, who works for the non-profit World Boston, a local world affairs council based in Boston. “We host International Visitor Leadership Program (ILVP) delegations through the State Department and we have another one coming from Pakistan this Thanksgiving. This IVLP group is focused on “Promoting Peace and Tolerance Among Youth.” If you could host 2-3 visitors at your Thanksgiving meal, please contact Sarah at 508-564-8217 or ssibley@worldboston.org.



As an Open and Affirming Congregation we invite all into our faith, to fully share in all church life, including our work, worship, rites, and sacraments, with the assurance that we are all created in God's image, reconciled by Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

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