

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

**Sunday, September 30, 2018
10:00am**



Recovery Sunday

**Rev. Dr. Helen Nablo, PASTOR
Rev. Bill McCoy, 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!

MEDITATION: “Perhaps one of the greatest rewards of meditation and prayer is the sense of belonging that comes to us. We no longer live in a completely hostile world. We are no longer lost and frightened and purposeless. The moment we catch even a glimpse of God’s will, the moment we begin to see truth, justice, and love as the real and eternal things in life, we are no longer quite so deeply disturbed by all the seeming evidence to the contrary that surrounds us in purely human affairs. We know that God lovingly watches over us. We know that when we turn to God, all will be well with us, here and hereafter.”

Prelude

Rhonde Française

-Léon Boëllmann 1862-1897

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Introit

Call to Worship (*responsively*)

O, Come to the water all you who are thirsty. Though you have no money, come! Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? (*Isaiah 55:1-2*)

Work out your salvation in fear and trembling. It is God, for God’s own loving purposes, who puts both the will and the action into you. (*Philippians 2:12-13*)

Ask, and it will be given to you, search and you will find; knock and the door will be open to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will have the door opened. (*Matthew 7:7-8*)

*Hymn No. 58

Lavish Love, Abundant Beauty

*Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

God, grant us today a deeper awareness of our need for you. When we

struggle and when we do not, save us from thinking we are self-sufficient, that we do not need the brother or sister who walks beside us, or that we ourselves do not need to ask for help. Open our eyes to the needs of others and to the blessings of kindness and encouragement that are all around us, offered to us like an abundant banquet.

We pray as Jesus taught us, saying....

***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*)

Glory 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.

Minute for Mission

Recovery Sunday

Bill McCoy

Anthem

Bright Morning Stars

Kentucky Folk Hymn Arr. Jay Althouse

David Tyler, Jim DePasqua & Mike Dunfee - Trio

Bright morning stars are rising,
Bright morning stars are rising,
Bright morning stars are rising,
Day is breaking in my soul.
Oh where are our dear fathers?
Oh where are our dear fathers?
They are in the valley praying.
Day is breaking in my soul
Oh where are our dear mothers?
Oh where are our dear mothers?
They are gone to heaven a' shouting.
Day is breaking in my soul

Bright morning stars are rising,
Bright morning stars are rising,
Bright morning stars are rising,
Day is breaking in my soul.

The Children's Message

Pastor Helen

-----*Children depart for Sunday School*-----

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer and Choral Response

Scripture Lesson

One of the dinner guests, on hearing this, said to him, "Blessed is anyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!" Then Jesus said to him, "Someone gave a great dinner and invited many. At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for everything is ready now.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of land, and I must go out and see it; please accept my regrets.' Another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please accept my regrets.' Another said, 'I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come.' So the slave returned and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, 'Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.' And the slave said, 'Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room.' Then the master said to the slave, 'Go out into the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those who were invited will taste my dinner.'"

Sermon

A Major Shift

Pastor Helen Nablo

*Hymn No. 451

Lord, You Have Searched and Known My Ways

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music

I Sing the Dawning of This Day
Psalm 195 Words: Charles Harper
Music: Arr. W Croft; Tune: St. Anne
Descant: J. Scott, Compiled by Michael Eaton
Allie Abate, Soloist

I sing the dawning of this day, the promise that it holds.
I cannot know what it will bring. The story will unfold.
Whatever comes of good or ill is not mine to control.
I will embrace the light and dark alike to shape my soul.

This soul is mine alone to build from what life brings to me.
Yet, I need counsel of good friends for wisdom's clarity.
Companions of the day and night to sing the journey's song,
a fellowship of pilgrim souls to keep each other strong.

I sing the building of my soul in company with you.
True comrades on this pilgrimage, we'll see this journey through.
My soul, the home of centered rest, though harsh the winds that blow,
a quiet place of sacred peace amidst life's ebb and flow.

***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

*Hymn No. 436 I Am Weak, but Thou Art Strong (Just a Closer Walk)

Benediction and Choral Response**Postlude**

Finale for Pedals Alone
-Denis Bédard b. 1950

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

Sources used for this service include the Presbyterian Church's Guide "Celebrating the Miracle: Worship Resources for Addiction Awareness Services" and also Richard Rohr's book, Breathing Underwater: Spirituality and the Twelve Steps.

Our thanks to Peter Lenk for this morning (and last week's) bulletin cover photograph.

For Today's Service

Our Deacon in Charge is Dawn Durmis.

Our Greeters are Jeannette Jamieson and Linda Baier

Our Ushers are Joanna & Dennis Albers.

The flowers are in loving memory of Hermann Schimpf. Given by Hildegard.

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.

There is a bracelet in our lost and found. If it is yours, please see Pastor Helen.

Today after worship there will be a brief preliminary Budget Meeting. Please plan to stay in the sanctuary following the service to learn more. Coffee hour to follow.

Apple Picking at Crow Farm Today -- If you are planning to join the group, pizza will be ordered after worship and a quick lunch in Allerton Hall will then happen before departing for the apple orchard. Interested in taking part? Speak with Jeanne Shaunnessy after worship.

Copies of Chuck Harper's new poetry collection, *Psalms 151-300*, are available through our church office for 15 dollars. There are also several copies of *Gratitude* which are available for 12 dollars.

Pictorial Directory: Those who signed up will have photos taken today at coffee hour. Please sign up today so you can have a date for your photo!

A Newcomers Gathering is scheduled for Sunday, October 21st after worship. This will be a time to meet others new to the church and also receive a packet of materials about the church and its ministries. A part two will be held on Tuesday October 30th if that works for those who interested in exploring church membership. Questions? Speak to Pastor Helen or Lindsey Emberley (774-404-7997) chair of Membership.

The Wednesday morning Bible study meets Wednesday at 10:30 am at the home of Amy Simpson, 5 Sunrise Ave. We reflect on the scripture to be preached the following Sunday. All are welcome!

Confirmation class meets next Sunday after worship for a trip to the mosque in Quincy. Please remember to bring permission slips and medical slips.

New Group Forming Offering Support to Caregivers: Is there someone for whom you are a primary emotional (and/or physical) support? *The Caregiver's Support Group* will meet on October 21st right after worship in the Marks Room of the John Robinson Center. Please call the office (508-76-3026) to let us know you will be coming. Thank you.

The Deacons have initiated a new Prayer Chain account. If you have a prayer request please email pilgrimageprayers@gmail.com or let Pastor Helen (508-746-3026 x 11), Susan Cotta (508-746-9186) or Jim Hammond (774-283-5008) know. If you would like to be part of this "mini-ministry" please send your request to the same email address. This email account is password protected and only those persons authorized to generate emails have access to the account. The participants list is only known by your Board of Deacons and Pastor Helen.

This Week

Oct 1: Monday Meals of Hospitality, 11am, Allerton Hall.

Oct 2: Stewardship Committee Meeting, 2pm, Marks Room. Pastor Parish Relations Committee, 7pm, Pastor's office JRC. Men's Bible Study, 7pm, Cotta Residence.

Oct 3: Bible Study, 10:30am, Amy Simpson's home. Music Committee Meeting, 6:30pm, Allerton Hall. Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm, Sanctuary.

Oct 7: Worship, 10am, Worldwide Communion Sunday, Pastor Helen preaching. Pictorial Directory Photos taken during coffee hour. Confirmation class trip to Islamic Center of New England in Quincy following worship.



OPEN & AFFIRMING *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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