

Summer Outdoor Worship



OUR VISION

We are called together
to embrace God's transformation
of our lives and our world
by becoming and serving as Christ's disciples.

July 11, 2010

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF STOUGHTON
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WELCOME TO WORSHIP THIS MORNING!

Please help foster an atmosphere of quiet, prayer and meditation. As a community striving to be inclusive of all, we encourage each of you to sing and pray using language which is most comfortable to you.

We invite you to take a moment of silence and pray:

Holy God, I come to honor you in worship today.
I ask that all the things of this week that can crowd you out of my heart
be set aside by the power of your Holy Spirit.
Open my heart and mind to meet you and receive you today. Amen.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Responsively

Leader: Great is our God, and greatly to be praised and worshipped

People: Beautiful is our God, the joy of every loving hearts.

Leader: We have contemplated your faithful love, O God, in the
midst of our lives. People: Your grace is sufficient oh God,
Christ's power is made perfect in our weakness. God's right
hand alone gives us the victory.

**All: Let us, the sons and daughters of God, heirs of the
promises of God be glad! Let our worship begin now
and be never ending!**

INTROIT

PRAYER OF INVOCATION/LORD'S PRAYER

(please use the wording with which you are most comfortable)

*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 trespasses, as we forgive those
who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory
forever. Amen.*

❖ **HYMN OF PRAISE** (*standing*) *Created by Russ Chamberlain*

“Welcome, Fellow Travelers of Faith

*Welcome travelers, faithful travelers,
Chosen followers of Jesus Christ
We are so glad that you are with us
In this most blessed place*

*We are members of God’s family, the family of grace
May the peace of God be with you
While you’re here in this sacred place*

*We say thanks for being with us and we are happy that you are here
May your journey bring you back again
To this place of mercy and grace*

*God is with us while we worship, God will go with us when we depart
So let us listen and ponder what God lays upon our hearts.* ”

ENCOUNTERING

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

In Unison

Gracious God, we confess to you that we grow weary in following Christ and doing your good will. We sometimes become lost in our own agendas and priorities; we often desire only glory and victory for ourselves and our families. We forget to make room for you in our lives. We can be discouraged easily by opposition and disappointments, fearing the criticism of others and, then, giving up quickly. Forgive our faint-hearted efforts and lukewarm devotion in our attempts to follow. Open our hearts and minds to the good news that Christ is with us in our suffering and struggle, and that he will never abandon us. Give us the faith to live for Christ and to trust in the gift of his presence with us and the promise of the kingdom for all eternity. Hear us now as we silently confess to you the things we have chosen to do that is not according to your will.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SUNG RESPONSE (*seated*)

"I Love to Tell the Story"

*I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story because I know 'tis true;
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.
I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

❖ **THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

A TIME FOR ALL

*Allelu, allelu, allelu alleluia Praise ye the Lord
Allelu, allelu, allelu alleluia Praise ye the Lord,
Praise ye the Lord Alleluia
Praise ye the lord Alleluia, Praise ye the Lord Alleluia,
Praise Ye the Lord.*

LISTENING

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 23:23-28

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint, dill, and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. It is these you ought to have practiced without neglecting the others. You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel! “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and of the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence. You blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup, so that the outside also may become clean. “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which on the outside look beautiful, but inside they are full of the bones of the dead and of all kinds of filth. So you also on the outside look righteous to others, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

❖ **THE GLORIA PATRI** (*standing*) #35
*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.*

SERMON “*Bullfrogs and Forgiveness*” Rev. Russ Chamberlain

SUNG RESPONSE (*seated*) “*Thy Word*”
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

CARING

LIFTING UP OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER (*We will spend one full minute in silence.*)

PASTORAL PRAYER

SUNG RESPONSE (*seated*) “*Sweet Hour of Prayer!*”
*Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer!
That calls me from a world of care,
And bids me at God's Sovereign throne
Make all my wants and wishes known.
In seasons of distress and grief,
My soul has often found relief,
And oft escaped the tempter's snare
By my return, sweet hour of prayer!*

RESPONDING

THE JOYFUL RETURNING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

❖ **DOXOLOGY** (*standing*) (Tune: *Old Hundredth*)
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit, evermore; One God, true, whom we adore.*

❖ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (*standing*)

DEPARTING

❖ **CLOSING HYMN** (*standing*) "Blessed Assurance"

*Blessèd assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.*

Refrain:

*This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior, all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior, all the day long.*

*Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.*

(Repeat Refrain)

*Perfect submission, all is at rest
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.*

(Repeat Refrain)

❖ **COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION** (*standing*)

❖ **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** (*standing*) #445

"Go in Peace"

*Go in peace and the peace of God be with you this day.
Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.
Celebrate and share the joy! Celebrate new life!
Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.*

POSTLUDE


❖ *Standing, as you are able.*

NOTES AND NOTICES
JULY 11, 2010

Ministers	All Members
Pastor	Rev. Jean Niven Lenk
Guest Preacher	Rev. Russ Chamberlain
Organist/Choir Director	Chris Nickelson

Thank you to those participating in this morning's worship:

Greeter	Kay Giroux
Ushers	Nicole Kerman and Nina Lindsay
Coffee Hour	Michelle Mattingly and Alaana DePina


<p>The Altar flowers are given:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">† In loving memory of David and Edith Benjamin, by their daughter, Meredith Hatch and family.</p>	
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In our prayers this coming week:

Tom Crawford Friend of Dana Barnes
 Elena Corbett
 Abigail Winders Daughter of Jean Winders

Week of July 11, 2010

(To confirm or schedule an event, please call the church office.)

Sunday, July 11
Russ Chamberlain,  **Guest Preacher**
Guest Preacher
 9:15 am Prayer Group
 10:00 am Worship (outdoors,
 weather permitting)
 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship


Monday, July 12
 7:00 pm Relationship Addiction
 Meeting

Tuesday, July 13
 6:30 pm **Caring**
 7:00 pm Trustees

Wednesday, July 14
 7:30 pm Al Anon

Thursday, July 15
 7:00 pm Compassionate Friends

Saturday, July 17
 10:00 am AA

Sunday, July 18
Phyllis Winslow,  **Guest Preacher**

9:15 am Prayer Group
 10:00 am Worship
 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship

<p>Please submit any Sunday worship bulletin notices or blue prayer sheet changes to the church office by 8:30 am on Wednesday.</p>

Please Welcome Our Guest Preacher:

Rev. Russ Chamberlain will be preaching today and on July 25. Russ is the former pastor of Lakeville United Church of Christ. He is an ordained minister in the UCC with over 20 years of experience serving churches in Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois. He grew up in Shrewsbury, and is glad to be back “home” in Massachusetts where people know what a “fluffernutter” sandwich is and that a rotary is something you drive around, not an international service club one belongs to. Russ has been “dad” to 35 young boys as a foster father and international host parent because he believes strongly in using God’s space for God’s grace. He is a member of Pilgrim UCC in New Bedford, where he sings, plays in their praise band, and is actively involved in their mission and outreach ministries.

Please extend to Russ a gracious welcome and hello.



PLEASE REVIEW YOUR CALENDARS



Updated drafts of our 2010-2011 church calendar are now available in each mailbox in the church office. We ask that each board, committee, and group review this calendar and submit any changes or additions to the church office by August 1. Thank you!

CALLING ALL BUDGETS!

Please submit all budget requests for 2010 by August 1. You can leave a copy in both the Trustee AND the Treasurer's mailboxes in the church office, or email them to Bob Kuver (rkuver@comcast.net).

If you would like to see your actual expenditures vs. the budget from this year to help you in your planning, be sure to contact Bob Kuver for that information.

If we do not receive a budget request from you, we will assume that you wish to remain level-funded for next year. Please feel free to contact any of the Trustees with questions.

