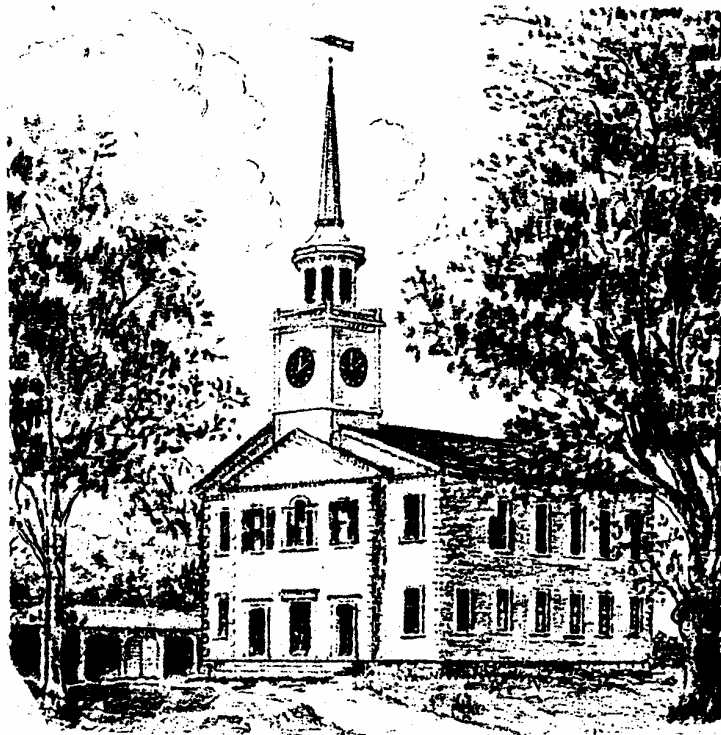


THE FIRST CHURCH
OF
WEST BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS

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.”

THE FIRST CHURCH OF WEST BRIDGEWATER

United Church of Christ and Unitarian Universalist Association

January 29, 2012 **Service of Word** **10:00 A.M.**
Gathering Songs “We Bid You Welcome”

Whoever you are, whatever you are,
Wherever you are on life’s journey,
You are welcome here.

Welcoming PEACE BE WITH YOU

Centering Music “Search Me, O God”
Choral Response “ H No. 415, vs. 1

Call to Worship Jenny Williams, Deacon

L: We come to hear God’s word of guidance,

P: From the mouths of the oppressed,

L: From the mouths of the needy,

P: From the mouths of the rejected,

L: Even from the mouths of our enemies.

P: We come to hear the transforming Word of the Lord,

L: That heals, liberates, and expands our capacity to love.

P: Let us worship God.

* Hymn “Amazing Grace” H No. 334

Lighting of the Christ Candle Jenny Williams

Scripture John 15:1

Jesus said: “I am the true vine and God is the vinedresser.”

Candle Lighting
We light this candle to deepen our trust in the teachings of Jesus.

Prayer
Liberating God, come, be known among us. Help us to perceive your Presence, as near as breath, yet hidden. Help us to seek You as You are seeking us. Speak your word of power. As disciples of Jesus, transform us through your fiery spirit. Amen.

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

Litany "Demons That Hold Us in Bondage" by Dianne Bergant
L: We are caught in dysfunction and sin, and try as we may, we do not seem to be able to rid ourselves of their shackles.

P: We live in the midst of the battle between good and evil, the struggle of human finitude and failure.

L: We may begin with good intentions, but we are often sidetracked or derailed along the way.

P: We are plunged into the throes of human suffering and pain, and there seems to be no escape from it . . .

L: The demonic seduces us in more ways that we can count;

P: And we are often caught in its web before we recognize what has happened."

L: Lord, forgive our belief that we can free ourselves from the web.

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

Scripture Psalm 111 H No. 692

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.

God of our praise, give us grace
To accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed,
Courage to change the things that should be changed,
And the wisdom to know the difference.

We pray for those in need of healing in mind, body, spirit and soul.

Richard Anderson, Maria, Joe Bulu, Brenda Carroll, Steve Gionetti
Joan Green, Kitty, Rev. Eugene Langerven, Liz, Donald Metcalf, Nicole,
Jenna Rose Pratt, Sam Read, Herb Snow, Laurel Swanson, Jenny Williams.
Virginia, Barbara, Hazel...

We are mindful of those who have died... Today's flowers are given by
Jenny Williams in loving memory of her Mother, Jocelyn Hanson

Silent Prayer . . The Lord's Prayer . . "Eagle's Wings" chorus, H No. 385
*God will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand.*

Scripture Mark 1:21-28 (Pew Bible Pg. 968)

Sermon "*Possessed*" Rev. Ashton

Response "Lead Me, Lord" H No. 402

Thank Offerings

Invitation Deacon

Remember the words of Jesus how he said that is more blessed to give than to receive. Let us receive our offering.

Anthem "Just a Closer Walk With Thee" Choir

* Doxology Verse 1: H No. 562

Verse 2: Tune of H No. 562

*God, may we who bear your name by gentle love your grace proclaim,
Christ's gift of peace on earth declare and your anointing Spirit share.*

Covenant

* Hymn "Silence, Frenzied, Unclean Spirit"
Tune, H No. 159 (words on back of insert)

* Benediction First Church President

L: May the God who shakes heaven and earth,

P: Whom death could not contain,

L: Who lives to disturb and heal us,

P: Bless you with power to go forth

L: And proclaim the gospel. Amen.

* Congregational Blessing "We Are Marching" H No. 153

* Postlude Rosemary Valentine

Last Sunday, January 22, we collected \$ 831.00 towards meeting our weekly budget need of \$1,451.00

The Parish President respectfully requests that all standing committees meet as soon as possible to elect a chairman, secretary, delegate to church council and delegate to nominating committee. These meetings could (and should) be held after church, but may be done by phone, text or Email as long as care is taken to inform all members of your committee.

Church Address: P.O. Box 361, W. Bridgewater, MA 02379
Church Email Address: firstchurchwb@juno.com
Church Website Address: www.firstchurchwb.org
Church Office Telephone: (508) 587-3118
Rev. Ashton's Home Telephone: (508) 857-5411