



*Hingham Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Hingham, Massachusetts*

Sacrament of Communion

"The love of one's country is a splendid thing; but why should love stop at the border?" Pablo Casals.

July 5, 2015

Welcoming Covenant

In the name of God and Jesus Christ, the Hingham Congregational Church welcomes all who seek to know and worship God, and invites everyone to join in our mission through participation and leadership of the congregation.

As a community of faith, we take seriously the biblical call to love God and our neighbors as ourselves, and recognize that, although we are many members, we are one.

- ❖ We celebrate the uniqueness of everyone.
- ❖ We rejoice in our diversity of views and understandings of our shared faith.
- ❖ We affirm relationships based on love, commitment, and mutual respect.
- ❖ As is stated in our by-laws, we strive for righteousness, justice and peace.

It is with this spirit and the love of God that we openly welcome all persons, inclusive of every race, ethnicity, class, age, gender, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, and inclusive of any others, to journey with us as we move forward with the work of this church in the world.

*(Nursery care is available for children under age 3.
Rest Rooms are located down the backstairs and to your left.)*

Order of Worship

*Those who are able may stand

Prelude

We encourage you to take this opportunity to be in quiet prayer and reflection.

Ringling of the Sabbath Bell

Welcome and Announcements

Children and youth may be dismissed to church school. Children may leave food offerings in the baskets on the way out of the sanctuary.

Moment of Silence and Lighting of Candles

Call to Worship

Leader: Gathering here, we are seeking God.

All: On our journey, we may partake in holy sacrament.

Leader: In community, we acknowledge the joys and struggles of journeys.

All: Now is our hour to see our journey connect with Divinity.

***Hymn** *Forward through the Ages* NCH (black) #377

***UCC Statement of Faith** NCH (black) #885

*Opening Prayer (in unison)

Spirit of love, You greet us in this space here today; while we sometimes struggle to acknowledge You, we come intentionally now. We pray that our hearts remain open not only for the hour, but that this community and Your word give us sustenance for the week. We come seeking hope knowing the world is broken; we aim to serve this broken world on behalf of You, our God. Hear our prayer ...

(Silence)

*Lord's Prayer

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.

***We acknowledge God to be among people of all gender identities and expressions; we also acknowledge the importance of tradition.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

Thank you, God, for an open table; it is at this table where we may encounter your love. Your sacrament may move us towards divine connection. We pray for the gifts of this Holy meal: oneness of heart, love for neighbors, forgiveness, the will to serve every day, and life that never ends. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Prayers of the People of God

(Prayer concerns may be written in the book at the back of the church or voiced at this time.)

Joys & Concerns – Pastoral Prayer – Silent Prayer

***Hymn** *How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies* NCH (black) #594

***Congregational Commissioning** (in unison)

Family and friends, may we leave this place of worship with Christ's spirit in our hearts. May we encourage the fainthearted: help the weak; practice patience with all; seek to do good; rejoice always; pray without ceasing and give thanks in all circumstances. For this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for us. Praise be to God!

***Benediction**

Postlude

We invite you to please be seated in quiet reflection for the postlude.



Deacons of the Day: Kit Schlosky and Chris Larsen