

October-November 2023

Dear Friends,

In community, we stand together confronting the horrors of war between Israel and Hamas,
In community we stand together welcoming those who endured long struggles to reach a new
home on Cape Cod.

In community, we stand together serving our many neighbors who are in need.
In community, we pray.

I No Longer Pray for Peace

On the edge of war, one foot already in,

I no longer pray for peace:
I pray for miracles.

I pray that stone hearts will turn
to tenderheartedness,
and evil intentions will turn
to mercifulness,

and all the soldiers already deployed
will be snatched out of harm's way,
and the whole world will be
astounded onto its knees.

I pray that all the "God talk"
will take bones,
and stand up and shed
its cloak of faithlessness,
and walk again in its powerful truth.

I pray that the whole world might
sit down together and share
its bread and its wine.

Some say there is no hope,
but then I've always applauded the holy fools
who never seem to give up on
the scandalousness of our faith:
that we are loved by God.....
that we can truly love one another.

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WELCOME TO HARWICH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



October 15, 2023

Thought for the Week

"We've become so addicted to instant gratification that we're blind to the impact it has on our lives." Frank Sonnenberg

~~Gathering and Welcome~~

Sharing joys and concerns

Prelude

Call to Worship

L: People of God, come! Let's tell of God's mighty works.

P: We've come to give thanks to the Lord whose steadfast love endures forever!

L: We know everyone has sinned; we've turned away from God's Way.

P: We've forgotten God in the midst of busy lives, yet we still yearn for God to remember us and care for us.

L: So let us remember Moses, and lift up our love for Jesus,

P: remembering they have stood in the breach, and helped set us back on God's Way.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"We, Thy People, Praise Thee"

#67

***Opening Prayer**

Lord of diversity and union, we call upon you this day to open our hearts to your love, our ears to your words, our eyes to see the needs of those both near and far, and our spirits to do your will. Be with us and give us courage and inspiration for the future of your world, O Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

God of infinite forgiveness, we implore you this day to forgive those many times in which we have turned our backs on you by turning away from the needs of the voiceless, the hopeless, the helpless. We let ourselves get distracted by schedules and activities which drain us of energy and enthusiasm. Light a fire under us, O God, that we may again feel the exciting challenge of being your people. Heal our wounds of indifference and apathy; bring us together in harmony and joy to serve you and your creation with peace, justice, and hope. It is in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, that we offer this prayer. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Passing the Peace of Christ

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 106

#829

~~The Church Proclaims the Word~~

Scripture Readings

Exodus 32:1-14; Philippians 4:1-19

Anthem

"This is the Day"

T. Kirkland

Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:1-14

L: The word of God for the People of God

P: Thanks Be to God!

Message

"How Long Will We Wait?"

Pastor Dianne

***Hymn**

"I am Thine, O Lord"

#419

***The Apostles' Creed**

#881

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

*Doxology

#94

*Offering Prayer

God of truth, receive all we offer you this day. Make us worthy servants, strong to follow in the pattern of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

~~The Church Goes Forth~~

*Final Hymn

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

#664

*Benediction

*God Be With You

#673

*Postlude

Liturgist: Mary Dulemba

Ushers: Rose Higgins and Carl Johnson

Coffee Hour: John and Leslie Albee

You are welcome here. No matter who you are. No matter what.

Scripture Readings for October 22, 2023

Exodus 21:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Isaiah 25:1-9; Psalm 23;

Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

Calendar

Sunday, October 15: Ad Board meets after worship
4pm Potluck

November 18: Church Fair

November 26: Charge Conference to be held at Chatham UMC at 1pm

Announcement

It's not too early to search your belongings for things to donate to the November 18th Holiday Fair. We need not only "attic treasures" but also linens, jewelry, cookware and creative goodies.

Prayers

The innocent civilians in Israel and Gaza
An end to war as a solution

Grieving: Family and friends of Lisa Dunbar-Link, John Yacobian, Jack Duncan,
William Smith, Jr., Margot Karbel, Al Cristofori, and all who have lost
loved ones and been displaced by disasters

Hospice: David Thyng, Karen Shaper

Healing: Laurie Bonin, Jim Mulligan, Karl Young, Judy Thomas, Hilda Remer,
Elizabeth Chase, Linda Carberry, Don Gould, Sr., Ruth Zeller, Joan Felahi,
Bruce Gibbs, Kathleen Sullivan, Gloria Green, Chris Shaper, Jeannie

Continued Prayers: Dan Murphy, Don Howell, Al Thompson, Donald Turcotte,
Kenny Souza, Joan Stevens, Nancy McIntyre, Pauline Doliber, Michael Chatham,
Greg Legeyt and Karen Daffinee

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Ann Weems, Presbyterian elder and poet, written for Ash Wednesday 2003

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