

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NATICK

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

TRINITY SUNDAY

JUNE 7, 2020

*“We have always thought that disorder was the absence of the true state of order.
Yet there is a way to see this ballet of chaos and order, of change and stability,
as two complementary aspects in the process of growth.”*

~ Margaret Wheatley

Welcome to our digital worship! In this church we focus on the things that matter. It doesn't matter to us if you grew up in a church or never set foot in one before. You matter to us. We welcome you as you are, because we believe that we are all embraced by God's inclusive and extravagant love.

We invite you to “check in” on the social media of your choice, let them know that you are doing church, even in these uncertain times, ask your networks for prayer requests, or otherwise bring your online self into God’s presence today.

PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Before the time of the service you will want to prepare some bread, a slice or a small loaf of any kind of bread. In some parts of the world tortilla, rice cake, or cassava are used as this element which is defined not as a wheat product but as the most common food of the people. Let it be something you alone or you with others in your house may break and share. Prepare a cup or cups of juice – perhaps grape or cranberry – or wine, with or without alcohol.

Set these elements in the living room or kitchen where you experience worship electronically with our faith community. Perhaps you want to put them on a lovely cloth or fabric that reminds you of a special time or a person deeply connected with you in the communion of saints. We encourage you to have a candle to light at the time of the Lighting of the Christ Candle which follows the Welcome and Announcements. Perhaps you will place a flower or plant or the photograph of someone you wish to bring into the circle of faith beside the bread and the cup.

Thank you for your preparation.

SHARING YOUR PRAYER REQUESTS

Because of a few minutes broadcast delay, prayer concerns and celebrations to be shared during worship can be emailed to prayers@firstchurchnatick.org at any time before or during the worship service up to the Reflection.

PRELUDE

Le onde (The Waves)
Thomas Foster, piano

Ludovico Einaudi

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Jonathan New

(Following the Announcements, we invite you to have a candle available to light as your worship leaders light the Christ Candle)

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO CELEBRATION

Sue Mascioli

Ever-present, Creator God, forever seeking us:

Open our minds to the truth of your care.

Open our hearts to the gentle power of your love.

Open our lips to share stories of faith.

Open our hands to create beauty, to do justice, and to show kindness.

Open our souls to the breath of your Spirit.

Open our mouths to sing loudly your praises!

HYMN No. 217

Wind Who Makes All Winds That Blow

Aberystwyth

*Wind who makes all winds that blow – gusts that bend the saplings low,
Gales that heave the sea in waves, stirrings in the mind's deep caves –
Aim your breath with steady power on your church this day, this hour.
Raise, renew the life we've lost, Spirit God of Pentecost.*

*Fire who fuels all fires that burn – suns around which planets turn,
Beacons marking reefs and shoals, shining truth to guide our souls –
Come to us as once you came: burst in tongues of sacred flame!
Light and Power, Might and Strength, fill your church, its breadth and length.*

*Holy Spirit, Wind and Flame, move within our mortal frame.
Make our hearts an altar pyre, kindle them with your own fire.
Breathe and blow upon that blaze till our lives, our deeds and ways,
Speak that tongue which every land by your grace shall understand.*

OPENING PRAYER (TOGETHER)

Creative God, from whom new possibility springs, we call your name.

Make a way for us where there has been none.

Quench the drought of our spirits with living water,

that we may sing your praise.

Free us to welcome your newness of life.

Give us courage to hope that you will be present in this worship and always,

pouring out your new wine even as we savor the old.

Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

(Reach your hands out in a gesture of blessing or place your hands together over your heart and bow in a sign of Namaste. Once worship is concluded, consider being in touch with someone you know to share Christ's peace.)

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY

L'Aurore
Guillermo Martinez, violin

Eugène Ysaÿe

SONG OF PRAISE *(Please feel free to use either traditional or inclusive language.)*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, all heavenly hosts, Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

REFLECTION

"God's Change & God's Constancy"

Rev. Dr. Jonathan New

GATHERING OUR COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

THE MORNING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (TOGETHER)

*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.*

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

*We are one bread, one body, one cup of blessing.
Though we are many throughout the earth
and this church community is scattered, we are one in Christ.
In your many kitchens, and living rooms,
rest your hands lightly upon these elements
which we set aside today to be a sacrament.
Let us ask God's blessing upon them.*

***Gentle Redeemer, there is no lockdown on your blessing
and no quarantine on grace.***

*Send your Spirit of life and love, power and blessing
upon every table where your child shelters in place,
that this Bread may be broken and gathered in love
and this Cup poured out to give hope to all.
Risen Christ, live in us, that we may live in you.
Breathe in us, that we may breathe in you.*

WORDS OF REMEMBERING

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

Let us in our many places receive the gift of God, the Bread of Heaven.

We are one in Christ in the bread we share.

Let us in our many places receive the gift of God, the Cup of Blessing.

We are one in Christ in the cup we share.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*Let us pray in thanksgiving for this meal of grace,
rejoicing that, by the very method of our worship,
we have embodied the truth that Christ's love
is not limited by buildings made with human hands,
nor contained in human ceremonies,
but blows as free as the Spirit in all places.*

*Spirit of Christ, you have blessed our tables and our lives.
May the eating of this Bread give us courage to speak faith and act love,
not only in church sanctuaries, but in your precious world,
and may the drinking of this Cup renew our hope
even in the midst of pandemic.*

*Wrap your hopeful presence around all
whose bodies, spirits and hearts need healing,
and let us become your compassion and safe refuge.*

*Blessed in our diversity, make us of one in mind, heart, and spirit,
that we might proclaim and embody well your love for all creatures
and all Creation.*

Amen.

HYMN No. 520

Restless Weaver

Beach Spring

*Restless Weaver, ever spinning threads of justice and shalom;
Dreaming patterns of creation where all creatures find a home;
Gathering up life's varied fibers – every texture, every hue:
Grant us your creative vision. With us weave your world anew.*

*Where earth's fragile web is raveling help us mend each broken strand.
Bless our urgent, bold endeavors cleansing water, air, and land.
Through the Spirit's inspiration – off'ring health where once was pain –
Strengthen us to be the stewards of your world knit whole again.*

*When our violent lust for power ends in lives abused and torn,
From compassion's sturdy fabric fashion hope and trust reborn.
Where injustice rules as tyrant, give us courage, God, to dare
Live our dreams of transformation. Make our lives incarnate prayer.*

*Restless Weaver, still conceiving new life – now and yet to be –
Binding all your vast creation in one living tapestry:
You have called us to be weavers. Let your love guide all we do.
With your reign of peace our pattern, we will weave your world anew.*

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Danse rustique
Guillermo Martinez, violin

Eugène Ysaÿe

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A Special Thank You to our Guest Violinist

Guillermo Martinez was born in Mexico City, he completed his Bachelor degree at the Royal College of Music in London and his Master degree at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. During his education years, he was a proud holder of the "Kyra and Douglas Downey" and "Linda Hill" awards. He is now a Postgraduate student at the Mozarteum and plays on a "J-B. Havelka" violin made in Linz in 1776, generously loaned by Madame Remy. He is a member of the string ensemble "Duo Passacaille", with which he often tours across Austria, Germany and France.

Livestreamed & Recorded Worship

In consideration of the safety of our worship leaders and to demonstrate that everyone should avoid going out into public unless absolutely necessary our worship leaders will continue leading worship from their homes for the foreseeable future. ***During this time, livestreamed and local access cable broadcasting of worship at the usual Sunday 10:30 a.m. worship time will continue as usual.***

Worship is at the very center of our life together as a congregation, as well as being at the heart of our call to proclaim and embody the good news of Jesus in the world. Church leaders remain committed to ensuring that we can do that well. Thanks in advance for your patience and understanding as we seek to do what is best for our worship leaders and right for our community while remaining a church that gives high priority to worship together as the Body of Christ. If you have feedback for our worship leaders please contact Jonathan at pastor@firstchurchnatick.org. We appreciate your input!

Post Worship Fellowship

11:30AM – 12:30 PM, on Zoom following livestream worship

Join us for an informal virtual gathering where we can greet one another, and – if the spirit strikes us – talk about the day’s worship experience.

Follow this link for the videocall: <https://zoom.us/j/314817921> or,

To join by phone: call in at (929) 205-6099, then enter 314817921# (and don’t forget the # at the end!).

NOTE: Please be patient for the arrival of your Zoom host since he may still be transitioning from recording the service at 11:30!

CALENDAR FOR JUNE 7, 2020 - JUNE 14, 2020

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|---------------------------|----------|--|
| Sunday, June 7 | 10:30 AM | Virtual Worship will be live streamed on Pegasus. |
| | 11:30 AM | Post Worship Fellowship Zoom Call |
| | 2:00 PM | Virtual Worship service will be available on the church website. |
| | 5:00 PM | Jr. Youth Group via Zoom |
| | 7:00 PM | Sr. Youth Group via Zoom |
| Tuesday, June 9 | 7:00 PM | Finance Team Meeting via Zoom |
| Wednesday, June 10 | 12:00 PM | Mid-week Connection via Zoom |
| | 7:00 PM | Coordinating Council Meeting via Zoom |
| Sunday, June 14 | 10:30 AM | Virtual Worship will be live streamed on Pegasus. |
| | 11:30 AM | Post Worship Fellowship via Zoom |
| | 2:00 PM | Virtual Worship service will be available on the church website. |

Together, We're Making A Difference!

Our church is responding to the current health crisis in innovative ways, by continuing to gather on Sundays in live-streamed worship, and being in fellowship and shared ministry through videoconferencing. Now we're also exploring how to further live into our identity as Natick's *Digital* Front Porch. Far from putting our mission on hold, this is the time when Spirit-led people can tend the spirits of others in our community feeling anxious and isolated. There's never been a more important time to proclaim and embody the Good News of God's abiding love given to us by Jesus!

We need your generous support of our shared ministry during this time when the offering plate isn't being passed during in-person worship. The average congregation receives only 16% of its household contributions from mailed, online, or auto-bill paid giving. Most comes through the offering plate. We're pleased that 63% of our giving is now coming in alternative ways. But, while this is a terrific shift, it still means that we're only seeing about two-thirds of our regular giving from church members and friends. If you haven't done so already, here's how you can shift your in-person offering plate giving to other giving means:

- Mailing in donations to: 2 East Central Street, Natick, MA, 01760.
- Making one-time or recurring gifts online through our church website and its secure giving platform: <http://firstchurchnatick.org/give-online>.
- Setting up auto-bill pay with your bank (usually be done online), just the same way you would for paying utility bills.
- Considering making at least some portion of your contribution earlier in the year if you are an annual or semi-annual giver.

The world needs what FCC Natick can be and do, particularly in this time that is challenging all of us in unprecedented ways. Thanks for doing your part to make sure we can keep our unique and vibrant ministry going at just the moment it's needed most!

PRAYER LIST

Liam Schmitt	Family & Friends of Mike Keedy	Grace Osgood
Isabella	Family & Friends of Bruce Wharton	Brad Stickley
Rick	Family & Friends of Bob McDonald	Chris Gobron
Stephen	Family & Friends of Jack Gobron	Richard Keller
David	Family & Friends of Fernando Morales	Heidi Burger
Irene	Gonzalez	Ed Kinley
Juan Mercado	Family & Friends of Jeff Holgate	Bob Steen
Gerry Carlson	Family & Friends of Charlotte Figi	Joan Hayes
Carolyn Kennan	Family & Friends of Robert Nason	Natalie Friend
Jack Gobron	Family & Friends of Dr. Jeff Bolton	Connie Sullivan
Jenna Hayes	Family & Friends of Betty Hollis	Chris Starks
Brad Jennings	Family & Friends of Juan Mercado	Barbara Dickson
Abby Robbins	Peter Sinesi & his family	Carolyn Sarbello
Jennifer	Michelle, Catherine & Noah	Cheryl Gowdy
Jane Hall	Ellen, Jim & daughter	Barbara Bidwell
Regan Lynch	Jen M. & family	Jayne Hayes
Brian	Bryan & his unit	Kim Palmer
Ronnie	Lily Dreher & her family	Grandma Pat
Kathy	Shirley & her family	Peter McKinney
Allison	Evelyn & her family	Miriam's Mom
Susan	Judge Shelley Joseph	Tiffany Spigarolo
Patrick	Jean, Kathy & Paul Joyce	Carolyn Aycock
Oliver	Chris Leigh Manuell	Alice Bridinger
Alex	Audra, Nate & Rowan Mackey	Mary Cerreto
Emmett	Sari, Andrew & Tyler	Faye Bishop
Mitch	Jose & family	Pam Dotter
Polina	Yandow family	Paul Ladd
Amelia	Marcy Bailey-Adams	John Sullivan
Jean-Paul	Sibyl Waterman Haley	Gerry Granfors
Randall D.	John & Kay Hartman	Char Hannon
Karen	Mary & Jim Howard	Mickey Nieman
Bonnie & George	The people of Santa Maria Tzeja	Don O'Meara
Hailey	All those struggling with substances	Stuart
John	All those waiting at the border	Elizabeth Godrick
Don Peterson	Health Care Workers	Mark & Patty
Nicholas	Minimum Wage Workers	Christopher Gobron
Carole	People feeling Isolated and Separated	Amanda Sinesi
Kiara	People living at home in Difficult Situations	Mo Carriker
Amanda	People searching for a Place to Live	Eric Carriker
Aphrodite Hoge	The families and loved ones who have passed	Keith Jennings
Canasta Solidaria	due to the pandemic	Juan Mercado
Bill Ladd		Donna Shermerhorn

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NATICK UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The Reverend Dr. Jonathan New

Interim Minister

802-498-4713

pastor@FirstChurchNatick.org

The Reverend Dr. John Weagraff

Outreach Minister

Sarallyn Keller

Director of Spiritual Vitality & Congregational Care

508-740-3134

sarallyn@FirstChurchNatick.org

Peg Waters

Office Administrator

admin@FirstChurchNatick.org

Thomas Foster

Minister of Music

Teresa Iodice

Preschool Director

508-655-2171

preschool@FirstChurchNatick.org

Michelle May

Financial Assistant

financefcc@FirstChurchNatick.org

Alex Villarejo

Custodian

alex@FirstChurchNatick.org

2 East Central Street, Natick, MA 01760

508-653-0971

admin@FirstChurchNatick.org