

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NATICK

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 14, 2020

“Spirit is the life of God within us.”

~ Teresa of Avila

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.

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

Tango

Isaac Albéniz

Thomas Foster, piano

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

Jeff Clausen

Mighty wind of God, blow through our lives, our minds, our souls.

Stir us to praise, lift us from despair.

Holy fire of God, enliven our spirits,

Heat up our compassion, burn away our fear.

Spirit of Life, mighty wind and holy fire, revive us again,

Setting loose joy and a chorus of praise!

HYMN No. 220
(VERSES 1-3)

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Trentham

*Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew
That I many love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
Until with thee I will one will to do and to endure.*

*Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
Until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.*

OPENING PRAYER (TOGETHER)

*Wondrous and unwearied God, breathe deeply into us
so that we may be eased into this holy time.*

*We come breathless to you from fretful times and blurred places —
our attention splintered, our energy drained, our love thin, our faith frayed.*

*Still, we have been drawn here, and we thank you for this insistent yearning to worship
and renew.*

O Breath of God, fill us with life anew.

*Cast out our fear, that you might fill us instead with your indwelling Spirit
that guides, heals, and transforms.*

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.)

TIME FOR CHILDREN

BLESSING OF PRAYER SHAWLS

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY

Gymnopédie No. 1

Erik Satie

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

HYMN No. 228

O Holy Dove of God Descending
Beth Canterbury, soloist

Lois

*O holy Dove of God descending, you are the love that knows no ending,
All of our shattered dreams you're mending: Spirit, now live in me.*

*O holy Wind of God now blowing, you are the seed that God is sowing,
You are the life that starts us growing: Spirit, now live in me.*

*O holy Rain of God now falling, you make the Word of God enthralling,
You are the inner voice now calling: Spirit, now live in me.*

*O holy Flame of God now burning, you are the power of Christ returning,
You are the answer to our yearning: Spirit, now live in me.*

SCRIPTURE READING

Samuel 17:1a, 4-11, 32-49

Robin Clausen

REFLECTION

*"Facing Fear –
The Spirit & Five Smooth Stones"*

Rev. Dr. Jonathan New

GATHERING OUR COMMUNITY IN PRAYER**CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CONGREGATION****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.*

**HYMN No. 221
(VERSES 1-3)**

Holy Spirit, Truth Divine

Mercy

*Holy Spirit, Truth divine, dawn upon this soul of mine;
Word of God, and inward light, wake my spirit, clear my sight.*

*Holy Spirit, Love divine, glow within this heart of mine;
Kindle every high desire; purify me in your fire.*

*Holy Spirit, Power divine, fill and nerve this will of mine;
By you may I strongly live, bravely bear, and nobly strive.*

BLESSING**POSTLUDE**

Air and Variations

Handel

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 14, 2020 - JUNE 21, 2020

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.
Wednesday, June 17	12:00 PM	Mid-week Connection via Zoom
Sunday, June 21	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.

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 Sticklely
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	The Rodriguez Cruz family	Carolyn Sarbello
Jennifer	Peter Sinesi & his family	Cheryl Gowdy
Jane Hall	Michelle, Catherine & Noah	Barbara Bidwell
Regan Lynch	Ellen, Jim & daughter	Jayne Hayes
Brian	Jen M. & family	Kim Palmer
Ronnie	Bryan & his unit	Grandma Pat
Kathy	Lily Dreher & her family	Peter McKinney
Allison	Shirley & her family	Miriam's Mom
Susan	Evelyn & her family	Tiffany Spigarolo
Patrick	Judge Shelley Joseph	Carolyn Aycock
Oliver	Jean, Kathy & Paul Joyce	Alice Bridinger
Alex	Chris Leigh Manuell	Mary Cerreto
Emmett	Audra, Nate & Rowan Mackey	Faye Bishop
Mitch	Sari, Andrew & Tyler	Pam Dotter
Polina	Jose & family	Paul Ladd
Amelia	Yandow family	John Sullivan
Jean-Paul	Marcy Bailey-Adams	Gerry Granfors
Randall D.	Sibyl Waterman Haley	Char Hannon
Karen	John & Kay Hartman	Mickey Nieman
Bonnie & George	Mary & Jim Howard	Don O'Meara
Hailey	The people of Santa Maria Tzeja	Elizabeth Godrick
John	All those struggling with substances	Mark & Patty
Don Peterson	All those waiting at the border	Christopher Gobron
Nicholas	Health Care Workers	Amanda Sinesi
Carole	Minimum Wage Workers	Mo Carriker
Kiara	People feeling Isolated and Separated	Eric Carriker
Amanda	People living at home in Difficult Situations	Keith Jennings
Aphrodite Hoge	People searching for a Place to Live	Juan Mercado
Canasta Solidaria	The families and loved ones who have passed	Donna Shermerhorn
Bill Ladd	due to the pandemic	

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NATICK UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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