

ORDER OF WORSHIP

July 18, 2021 @ 10am

The Congregational Church of Needham (MA)
United Church of Christ
www.NeedhamUCC.org

PRELUDE

Fugue & Voluntary by W. Selby

Valerie Becker, *organ*

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. John MacIver Gage & The Rev. Maddie Foster

One: We bid you welcome, who come with a weary spirit seeking rest,

Many: who come with troubles that are too much with you, who come hurt and afraid.

One: We bid you welcome, who come with hope in your heart,

Many: who come with anticipation in your step, who come proud and joyous.

One: We bid you welcome, who are seekers of new faith, no matter your age or experience,

Many: who come to probe and explore, who come to learn and to lead.

One: We bid you welcome, who enter this sanctuary, yes, and this community as a homecoming,

Many: who have found here room for your spirit, who find in this people a family.

One: Whoever, however you are, no matter where you are on life's journey,

Many: you are invited here, and welcome.

All: Let us worship God together in spirit and in truth, in word and in deed.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN

Awake, Awake to Love and Work (see below)

Maggie Furtak, *cantor*

TIME WITH CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE

from the Gospels, Mark 6:30-34. 53-56

SERMON

Learn to Rest, Not to Quit

HYMN

How Lovely, Lord (see below)

Maggie Furtak, *cantor*

SHARING OUR PRAYERS (“Oh God, hear our prayer”)

THE LORD’S PRAYER (using these or whichever words are closest to your own heart)

Our Father in heaven, holy is your name. Your reign come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

Intermezzo by R. Glière

Phil Gotwals, *French horn*

OFFERING OUR THANKS & OUR LIVES

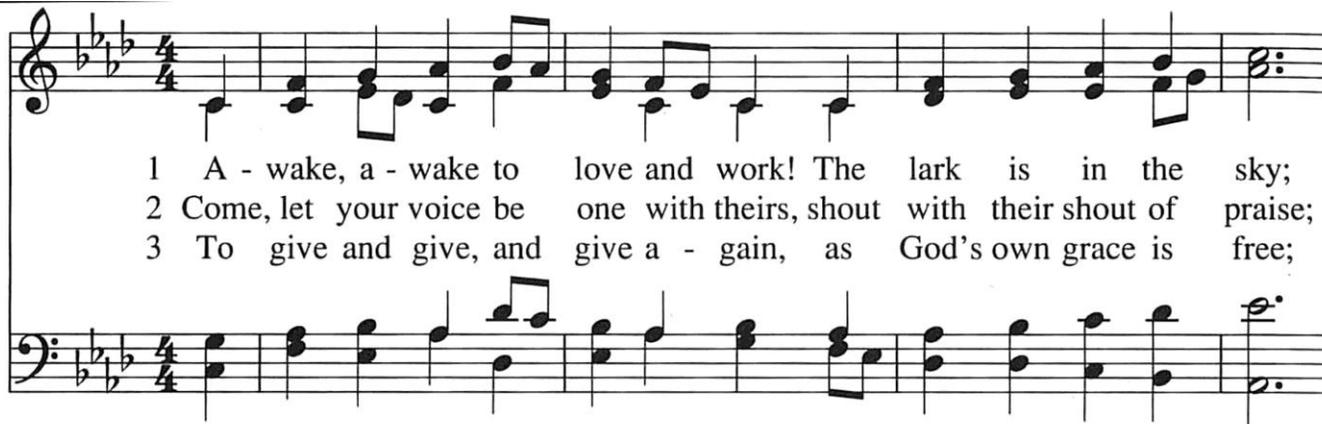
SINGING OUR PRAISE

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

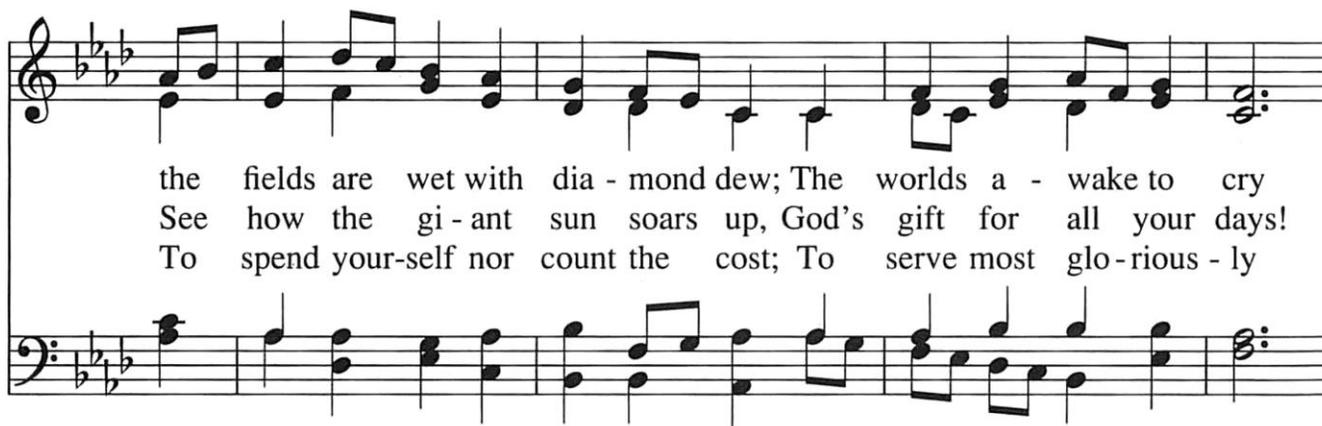
BLESSING & COMMISSION

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in respectful, loving memory of George and Martha Hopkins, long-time church members who supported our church activities and extended much kindness to our church family.

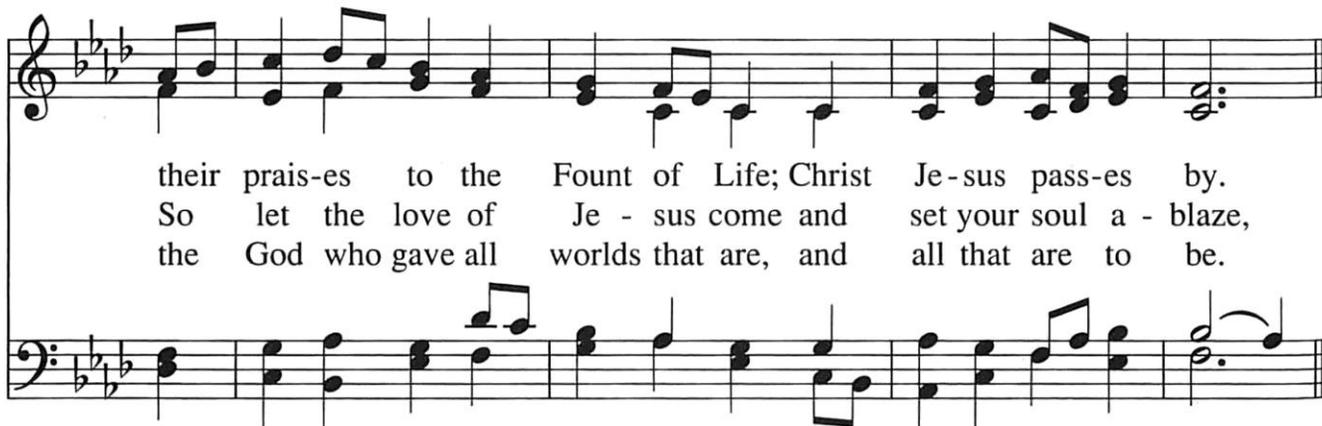
Awake, Awake to Love and Work



1 A - wake, a - wake to love and work! The lark is in the sky;
2 Come, let your voice be one with theirs, shout with their shout of praise;
3 To give and give, and give a - gain, as God's own grace is free;



the fields are wet with dia - mond dew; The worlds a - wake to cry
See how the gi - ant sun soars up, God's gift for all your days!
To spend your-self nor count the cost; To serve most glo - rious - ly



their prais-es to the Fount of Life; Christ Je - sus pass-es by.
So let the love of Je - sus come and set your soul a - blaze,
the God who gave all worlds that are, and all that are to be.

How Lovely, Lord

1 How love - ly, Lord, how love - ly is your a - bid - ing place; my
2 In your blest courts to wor - ship, O God, a sin - gle day is
3 A sun and shield for - ev - er are you, O Lord Most High; you

soul is long - ing, faint - ing, to feast up - on your grace. The
bet - ter than a thou - sand if I from you should stray. I'd
show - er us with bless - ings; no good will you de - ny. The

spar - row finds a shel - ter, a place to build her nest; and
rath - er keep the en - trance and claim you as my Lord than
saints, your grace re - ceiv - ing, from strength to strength shall go, and

so your tem - ple calls us with - in its walls to rest.
rev - el in the rich - es the ways of sin af - ford.
from their life shall riv - ers of bless - ing o - ver - flow.

Events, Fellowship and Mission

Did you see the July 11th presentation by Diego Low of the MetroWest Workers Center or read about their work and want to make a donation? It's easy!

- Donate online via Paypal at https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=FYQAPRBHZ5F5U&Z3JncnB0=.
- Send a check to the church by 8/2/2021 made out to the Congregational Church of Needham and write "Metrowest Worker Center" in the memo line.



Hybrid Worship – This summer we will be settling into our new normal of Hybrid Worship as we gather simultaneously in-person and remote for the very first time. We hope you will join us, either live in the Sanctuary or live via Zoom, as the Spirit leads you.

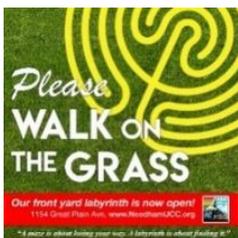
If you choose to participate via Zoom, nothing will change. You already know the drill. You can log in through Zoom and download your Order of Worship. If you choose to participate in the sanctuary, here is what you need to know:

- You do not need to sign up ahead of time.
- Print out and bring your Order of Worship if you like. All words you need to participate in worship will be projected.
- Enter from the parking lot through the door by the office. If you or a loved one need to use the ramp, please contact Rev. John at revjohn@needhamucc.org ahead of time and plan to park in front of the church along Great Plain Ave.
- Bring and wear your mask. Everyone over 2 years old will be required to wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status.
- Dress comfortably. It's summer, and the sanctuary is not air conditioned. The windows will be closed to keep the cool air in, with the shutters closed on the parking lot side (again, to keep things cool) and open on the street side (to let in the light.)
- Give your name to the ushers to help us with contact tracing.
- Maintain social distance. We've taken the guesswork out of seating and taped off pews accordingly. You can choose your own seat anywhere in the green. Families may sit together. We will not have coffee hour and we encourage any socializing to occur outdoors.
- We will not sing, not yet. (If you're participating via Zoom, sing out as loud as you like.) We will re-evaluate this as we move toward the fall. But Valerie will play the organ live.
- Bathroom facilities will be available on a one-at-a-time basis.
- There will be no childcare and no in-person Sunday school, since the youngest among us are still unvaccinated and vulnerable.

Rev. Maddie and I are delighted to welcome back those who choose to attend in person and to welcome again those who choose to remain online. That's what this is all about: creating equitable access to a vibrant shared worship experience so you can make the choices you need to for you and your family.

If you would like to be trained as a tech deacon please contact revjohn@needhamucc.org and let me know. I look forward to seeing you for our hybrid worship, one way or another, in person or remote, and to continuing to discern together where God is leading us and what we're called to become, not just in this pandemic moment, but as we move forward together into the future.

Peace, Rev. John



“A maze is about losing your way. A labyrinth is about finding it.”

A labyrinth is an ancient spiritual tool, a walking meditation for the heart, mind, soul, and body.. We hope walking this labyrinth gives you peace, clarity, and even just some nice time outdoors.

Remember: Unlike a maze, you cannot get lost in a labyrinth. Just keep walkin'...