

# WILLING

*to be changed*

Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend: John 2:1-11  
**1/16 @ 10am, LIVE! In-Person & Zoom**  
Connect at [www.NeedhamUCC.org](http://www.NeedhamUCC.org)



## **The Congregational Church of Needham (MA), *United Church of Christ***

1154 Great Plain Ave, Needham MA 02492

Tel 781.444.2510 - [www.NeedhamUCC.org](http://www.NeedhamUCC.org) - Instagram @NeedhamUCC

Rev. John Gage, *senior minister*

Rev. Maddie Foster, *minister for Christian education & youth*

Valerie Becker, *director of music*

Diane Dana, *operations manager*

Cindy Sullivan, *financial administrator*

[revjohn@needhamucc.org](mailto:revjohn@needhamucc.org)

[revmaddie@needhamucc.org](mailto:revmaddie@needhamucc.org)

[musicdirector@needhamucc.org](mailto:musicdirector@needhamucc.org)

[office@needhamucc.org](mailto:office@needhamucc.org)

[office2@needhamucc.org](mailto:office2@needhamucc.org)

## January 16, 2022: Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend

### PRELUDE

*Chorale, for Steve* by Judith Weir

David Roohy, *piano*

### WELCOME

Rev. John MacIver Gage & Rev. Maddie Foster

### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God of our ancestors and God of our dreams, we gather today to remember that you have created us all in your image and in your likeness,

**Many: And so, we still have the courage to dream the impossible.**

One: We remember how you spoke into the darkness and created light,

**Many: And so, we still have the courage to dream the impossible.**

One: We remember the ways you have delivered your people through trials and tribulations since the beginning of time, right up to this present moment.

**Many: And so, we still have the courage to dream the impossible.**

One: You have comforted your children through the Middle Passage, racism, segregation, stripped identities, and unjust laws,

**Many: And so, we still have the courage to dream the impossible.**

One: God, you have been the guiding light along the paths of Hope and Love leading toward a beloved community where all are equally seen and radically loved,

**Many: And so, we still have the courage to dream the impossible.**

One: We gather today to remember your presence among us and the call to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you and with our neighbors.

**All: We gather today to worship God in spirit and in truth, in word and in deed.**

### HYMN

*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love* (see below)

### TIME WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Maddie Foster

### SCRIPTURE

*from the Gospels*, John 2:1-11

### SERMON

**"Willing to Be Changed"**

Rev. John MacIver Gage

### ANTHEM

*Imagine the People of God* by M. Miller

Foundry Virtual Choir

### LITANY FOR CHANGE

One: O God, we as broken creatures have fallen short. . . .but despite all that,

**Many: Deep in my heart, I do believe that we shall overcome some day.**

One: We have ignored the cries of others. . . .and yet,

**Many: Deep in my heart, I do believe that the truth shall make us free some day.**

One: But today is a new day. . . .and so,\*

**Many: Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe, we shall live in peace some day.**

### SHARING OUR PRAYERS ("O 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 kin-dom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

## HYMN

*Take My Heart and Let It Be (see below)*

## OPPORTUNITIES TO BE PART OF THE GOOD NEWS

### GRACEFUL DEDICATION

One: God, we have acknowledged our weaknesses and our failed attempts at creating a just world for all, even with the best of intentions. We are ever aware of our limitations but continue to dream the impossible because of our faith in your, and your amazing grace. And so we dedicate our lives to changing the "normalcy" that continues to plague our communities and society even now.

**Many: The only normalcy we will settle for is the normalcy that recognizes the dignity and worth of all God's children. The only normalcy we will settle for is the normalcy that allows judgment to run down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream. The only normalcy we will settle for is the normalcy of interdependence, the normalcy of true peace, the normalcy of justice.\***

One: Despite everything, O God, we see you at work still creating a just world for all. We leave empowered by the fresh winds of change and the dream that is before us, to be your hands, your feet, your heart in this world today, tomorrow, and forever and ever. Amen.

### SINGING OUR THANKS & 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!**

### POSTLUDE

\*This service quotes from *Our God is Marching On*, and *Letter from Birmingham Jail*, by Martin Luther King, Jr.  
*Lines in italics* quote from "We Shall Overcome," #570 in *The New Century Hymnal*.

The original service from which portions of our liturgy today are drawn, *I Still have a Dream: Service Prayers for Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend 2020*, was written by the Rev. Trayce Potter, Minister for Youth and Young Adult Engagement, Faith Education, Innovation and Formation Team (Faith INFO) United Church of Christ.



### Warrant for 2022 Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of The Congregational Church of Needham, UCC, will be held in a hybrid manner both in the Sanctuary and via Zoom immediately following the 10:00am worship service on **Sunday, January 30, at 11:11am**. Members can connect to Zoom via desktop, laptop, tablet, smart phone, or landline. (See Zoom Connection Info below).

As is customary in preparation for the Annual Meeting, we will hold an **informational hearing Sunday, January 23, at 11:11am**, also in a hybrid manner, both in the Sanctuary and via Zoom. Please attend the hearing to learn more about the Annual Report and to ask questions about articles to be addressed at the Annual Meeting.

**Copies of the Annual Report** will be emailed to members by Friday, January 21st. Hard copies will be available in the sanctuary before both the hearing on the 23rd and the Annual Meeting on the 30th. They also can be picked up outside the back parking lot door to the church office (door #11) starting Friday, January

21st. If you are unable to access a copy via email or travel to pick one up, please phone the church office at (781) 444-2510, and we'll arrange delivery. The warrant of articles for the Annual Meeting is as follows:

### **Warrant**

Article I - To receive and act on reports of the Standing Committees, Special Committees and Officers of the Church.

Article II - To elect Officers and Committees for the Church Year 2022.

Article III - To adopt a budget for Fiscal Year 2022.

### **ZOOM CONNECTION INFO:**

To connect via Zoom on your computer, laptop, tablet, or smart phone, go to <https://zoom.us/j/907548568>. (If you don't already have Zoom downloaded on your device, you will need to do so before the meeting.) You also can join via your landline telephone by calling (253) 215-8782 or (301) 715-8592. You then will be asked to enter this Meeting ID: 907 548 568.

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**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED 1/17** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

"Much of the power of our Freedom Movement in the United States has come from this music. It has strengthened us with its sweet rhythms when courage began to fail. It has calmed us with its rich harmonies when spirits were down."

Join us for  
Needham's Celebration and Observance of

## **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

**Monday, January 17, 2022**

On Zoom

**10:30 AM- 11:30 AM**

**Zoom Link will open at 10:15 AM**

**Free Registration: [Here](#)**

**For more information visit:**

**[www.NeedhamDiversity.org](http://www.NeedhamDiversity.org)**



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*Sponsored by the following Needham organizations:*

- Diversity Initiative
- Interfaith Clergy Association
- Human Rights Committee
- Public Schools and its METCO Program



## ***Leaning into Challenging Conversations: How to Listen, What to Say, How to Say It***

*Join us for an interfaith conversation on how we can bring ourselves closer to being more inclusive communities*

**We will practice basic tips and troubleshooting skills for managing discussion dynamics based on addressing inter-personal conflict.**



***Presenter:***

**Liora Norwich, PhD, MBA**  
**Executive Director**  
***Network for Social Justice***

Liora has 15 years of coalition building, community outreach, and teaching workshops for nonprofits.

She has worked in Israel and Palestine to advance social justice and civic engagement through integrated community development initiatives with local partners and international organizations.

**For registration:**

**[leanintochallengingconversations.eventbrite.com](https://leanintochallengingconversations.eventbrite.com)**

**Please share on social media!**

**For questions or zoom link support, please email:**  
**[atmyneighborstable@gmail.com](mailto:atmyneighborstable@gmail.com)**



## **At My Neighbor's Table Series**

**Sunday, January 23, 2022  
5:00-6:30 PM**

**Kindly register by Thursday  
January 20  
Event is Free**

### **Sponsors:**

*These groups have come together to support this event*

Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries,  
Needham Baha'i Community, Christ Episcopal Church,  
Congregational Church of Needham UCC,  
First Parish in Needham Unitarian Universalist,  
Temple Beth Shalom, Equal Justice Needham, Inclusive  
Westwood, League of Women Voters Needham,  
Needham Diversity Initiative, Needham Human Rights  
Committee, Neighbors In Action,  
Progressive Needham,  
World of Wellesley

**See our Eventbrite and Facebook pages  
for the full list of Sponsors**

*At My Neighbor's Table is  
supported by a grant  
from the Needham Cultural Council*



# Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

The first system of the musical score is written in 8/8 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It features a treble and bass staff. The melody in the treble staff begins with a half note G3, followed by a half note A3, then a half note B-flat3, and continues with eighth and quarter notes. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

*Fine*

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. It concludes with a final cadence marked 'Fine'. The treble staff ends with a half note G3, and the bass staff ends with a half note E-flat2.

1. Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their  
2. Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and  
3. These are the ones we would love, these are the ones we would  
4. Lov - ing puts us on our knees, thank-ful and hum-ble and

The third system contains four verses of lyrics. The melody in the treble staff is a simple, steady line, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords.

feet, Je - sus, our broth-er, a hum - ble man.  
race; neigh-bors are near and far a - way.  
serve; all these are neigh-bors, your child - ren, too.  
true; this is the way we would live with you.

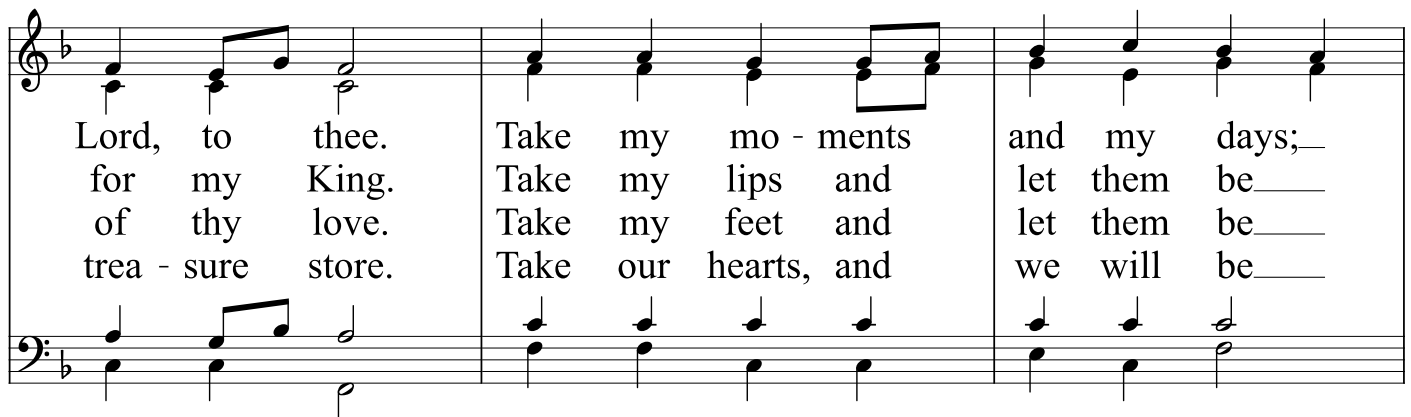
*D.C.*

The fourth system continues the four verses. It concludes with a double bar line and the instruction 'D.C.' (Da Capo). The melody in the treble staff ends with a half note G3, and the bass staff ends with a half note E-flat2.

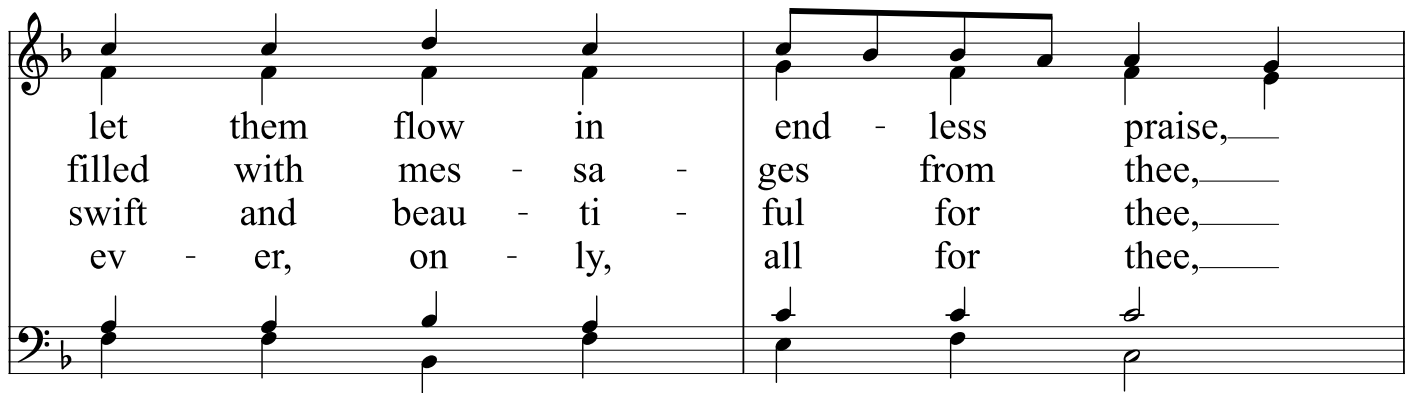
# Take My Life and Let It Be



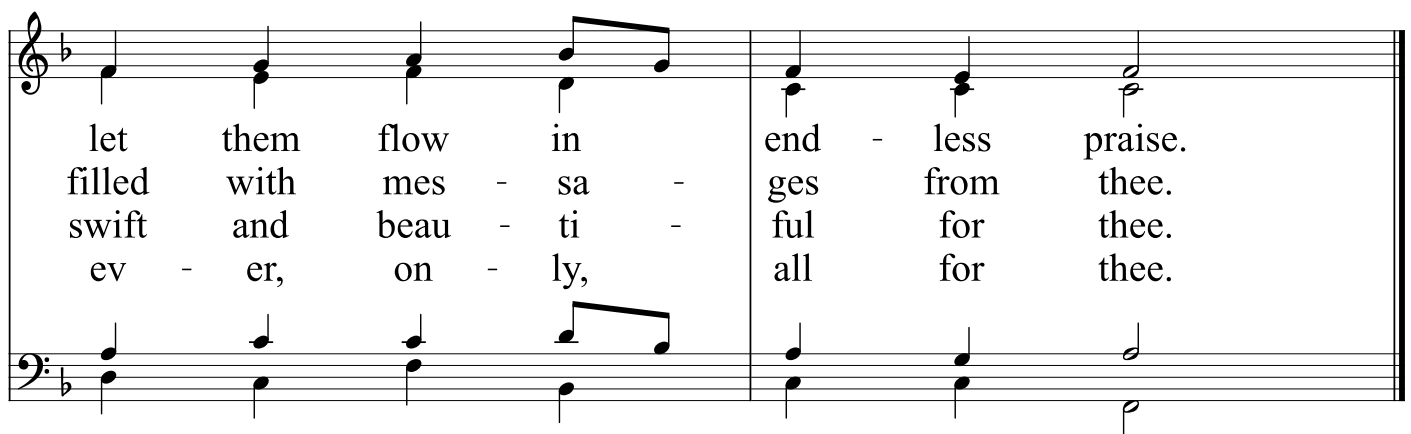
Take my life and let it be con - se - cra - ted,  
 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly,  
 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse  
 Take our love, dear Lord, we pour at thy feet our



Lord, to thee. Take my mo - ments and my days;—  
 for my King. Take my lips and let them be\_\_\_\_  
 of thy love. Take my feet and let them be\_\_\_\_  
 trea - sure store. Take our hearts, and we will be\_\_\_\_



let them flow in end - less praise,\_\_\_\_  
 filled with mes - sa - ges from thee,\_\_\_\_  
 swift and beau - ti - ful for thee,\_\_\_\_  
 ev - er, on - ly, all for thee,\_\_\_\_



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 filled with mes - sa - ges from thee.  
 swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
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