

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NATICK

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Summer Worship Bulletin



Communion Sundays

In an effort to conserve trees, we are using a generic bulletin this summer. Some aspects of worship may change from the provided outline, we trust the Spirit! You are welcome to take it with you, or leave it behind to be re-used next week.



Welcome To Worship at FCC Natick!

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.

As a congregation, we strive to practice radical inclusivity and extravagant hospitality. When we gather for worship, we want everyone to have access, to be comfortable, and feel welcomed.

If you are new here, we invite you to introduce yourself to the pastor, and fill out the card in the *Welcome Newcomers* brochure and place it in the offering plate so that we can extend a more personal welcome!

To help you worship with comfort and meaning:

- We invite you to change any portion of today's service to language in which you feel included. We welcome all into God's presence and worship God in wholeness.
- **Large Print Bibles and worship bulletins** are available from the ushers. The bulletin is also available in digital form using the weekly QR code.
- **Noise cancelling headphones** are available from the ushers.
- ***Listening Everywhere*** app is supported. (Download to a smartphone, bring headphones.)

Childcare for infants through age 3 is available. There is a video link to the sanctuary for parents who wish to stay with their child. There is a changing station in the nursery.

- **Verbal cues** are used along with the bulletin text to direct the congregation. For instance, "Please rise in body or in spirit."
- Our building is **handicap accessible**. This includes handicap parking spaces, a handicap entrance near the lot, an all-floors handicap elevator, and handicap restrooms on 2 floors.
- There is a **gender-neutral bathroom** on the second floor.
- There is an **Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)** on the wall on the ground floor elevator lobby. When turned on, it provides step-by-step instructions.
- **Narcan** doses are available via the ushers or the church office.

We realize that our best intentions and efforts may sometimes fall short. Please let us know if there is anything else we can do. Speak to an usher or drop a note in a collection plate.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lay Reader

One: Come, brothers and sisters and siblings -

All: Come as you are!

One: Bring your blessings and your burdens -

All: Come as you are!

One: God is here, all around us -

All: Come as you are!

One: Come, let's worship together -

All: Come as you are!

*** OPENING HYMN**

CENTERING PRAYER & PRAYER OF JESUS

Lay Reader

Our God, 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.

*** SHARING GOD'S PEACE**

One: God's peace be with you.

All: And also with you!

*** SONG OF CELEBRATION** *You Are A Light*

You are a light on the hill, O people: light for the City of God!

Shine so holy and bright, O people: shine for the City of God!

Bring forth the reign of mercy, bring forth the reign of peace;

Bring forth the reign of justice, bring forth the City of God!

SCRIPTURE READING

WORD FOR ALL AGES

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Children (age 3-grade 6) depart for Summer Godly Play & Connect (thru 7/28).

Parents may go with and return once they are settled. (No Sunday School in August.)

READING

REFLECTION

MUSICAL RESPONSE

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

JOYS AND CONCERNS

INVITATION TO THE FEAST

TELLING THE STORY

COMMUNION PRAYER

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

ALLELUIA

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR SUBSTANCE

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY

*** SONG OF PRAISE**

Old Hundredth

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

*** SENDING HYMN**

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Calendar for June 30 – September 15, 2024

Sunday, June 30	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Chris Hart. Moves to Vestry
Sunday, July 7	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Ed Bernald. Communion.
Sunday, July 14	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Cindy. Guatemalan music.
Sunday, July 21	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Cindy.
Sunday, July 28	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Cindy.
Sunday, Aug. 4	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Linda Michel. Communion.
Sunday, Aug. 11	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Ed Bernald .
Sunday, Aug. 18	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Cindy.
Sunday, Aug. 25	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Cindy in Vestry.
Sunday, Sept. 1	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Karen Dorshimer-Chaplin. Communion.
Sunday, Sept. 8	<u>10:30</u> AM <i>Worship</i> w/ Rev. Cindy. Moves back to Sanctuary.
Sunday, Sept. 15	10:30 AM <i>Worship</i> w/ Rev. Cindy in Sanctuary. Rally Day!

Sundays

Summer Sunday School (June-July only)

In June and July, *Godly Play* and *Connect* combine into one *Summer Godly Play* class. There is no Godly Play in August. Regular Sunday School resumes September 8.

Prayer List

Prayer List will be circulated in the LINK and at fccnatick.org. It will be posted in the Vestry.

No Summer Adult Faith Class

No Adult Faith from June 30 - Sept. 1. Resumes on September 8th at 9:00 am in the Parlor.

Summer Coffee Hour (after worship in the Vestry)

Coffee hour will continue, inside or outside depending on the weather.

Summer Tai Chi

Tom Foster will continue Tai Chi over the summer after coffee hour on Sundays he is here.

Ongoing

Pastoral Emergency Coverage

June 28 – July 4

Rev. Cindy will be on vacation June 24 - July 7. From June 28 - July 4, as it will be particularly hard to reach her, Rev. John Hudson from Sherborn will be covering for urgent pastoral care needs such as hospitalizations. The church office has Rev. Hudson's contact information.

Midweek Connection

Wednesdays at noon

The Midweek Connection (zoom chat: ucc.fccnatick.org/midweek) will meet at its regular time. If it needs to be cancelled on a particular week, regular attendees will be notified by email.

Prayer Circle

Thursdays at 7 pm

The Prayer Circle (zoom chat: ucc.fccnatick.org/PrayerCircle) will meet at its regular time. If it needs to be cancelled on a particular week, regular attendees will be notified by email.

Senior Choir

The choir is on hiatus June 30th – Sept. 1.

Tom Foster will be in touch when rehearsals resume. Contact church office to be added to the list.

Church Office Summer Hours

Church office closed Wednesday. M, T, Th, F hours are 9 am – noon.

The office will operate on reduced hours over the summer as staff takes vacation. We anticipate there will be a week in August when the office is closed. See The LINK and signs on the door.

Summer Events Calendar

See The LINK and our new Website (coming soon) for upcoming events

For info on new or changed events, subscribe to The Link (ucc.fccnatick.org/subscribe) or consult the Event calendar at the new website (fccnatick.org).

Frequency of The Link

In July and August, The Link (e-newsletter) will be published only once a week (instead of Tuesday and Fridays). Thursday will be the usual publication day, but this may be altered for holidays and vacation schedules.

Welcome To Worship at FCC Natick!

Offering. Every week we practice the spiritual discipline of generosity by sharing our financial resources. We call this the Offering. We offer multiple ways to give. In person we pass the plate through the congregation, where donations by cash and check are welcome. By mail, checks may be sent to the church office. Online (get there using the *QR code* or by visiting ucc.fccnatick.org/give), you may give using a credit card. But if this is your first time with us, please consider yourself our guest and just pass the plate along. If you'd like to learn more about money at FCCN, please see the pastor.



Communion. We usually celebrate communion on the first Sunday of the month. Folks online are invited to have a bit of food and drink handy. In person, we serve communion in several different ways, so the worship leader will instruct you. Our communion table is open to all who find meaning there, regardless of age, membership, or belief.

Photography/Videography Policy. Sunday worship is livestreamed via local cable access. In addition, we occasionally take video or photography during worship and elsewhere on the church property. By your presence, you grant FCCN unrestricted rights to use and publish, transmit, or telecast images that may be taken of you for use in communication related to the church. Please contact the church office (508-653-0971 or admin@fccnatick.org) with questions or concerns.

Name Tags. Please consider wearing a **name tag** – and a pronoun pin! Nametags are on the board in the elevator lobby (ground floor) and upper vestibule of the Sanctuary. If you don't yet have a nametag or are missing yours, make a note on the sheet and one will be on the lobby board next week. We want our church to be a place where everyone knows your name!

The LINK e-Newsletter. The LINK is emailed to subscribers every Tuesday and Friday. Please subscribe to the LINK, to stay in the loop. The Community LINK goes out Tuesdays (with happenings in Natick beyond the church). The Worship LINK goes out Fridays (and is more focused on the goings on in the congregation and that Sunday's service). It's free to subscribe: use the QR code or go to ucc.fccnatick.org/subscribe.



Hybrid Worship. Many folks worship from home, at least from time to time. Join us live online (ucc.fccnatick.org/livestream). Natick residents can join us through local access cable (Comcast Xfinity 22, Verizon Fios 29, RCN 03). You can also find worship recordings on our website: (ucc.fccnatick.org/worship-video).

Welcome To Worship at FCC Natick!

Open and Affirming. FCCN is an Open and Affirming (ONA) congregation, affirming the dignity and worth of every person. We welcome everyone into full participation, including people of every ability, race, culture, gender, economic circumstance, gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation.

Denominational Affiliation: FCCN is a member of the **United Church of Christ**, a liberal Protestant denomination within the Christian tradition. It offers for reflection a traditional Statement of Faith, yet values the individual's right and ability to prayerfully and thoughtfully determine what to believe regarding the Bible, God, creation, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, etc. The UCC values outreach and justice work. It seeks to be inclusive. Authority is held by members of the local congregation, not the church's pastor or national staff.

Children and youth. Children and youth are always welcome in our worship services. The *Playground* down front has a great view and quiet activities. Midway through worship, children ages 3 through grade six are invited to join in for Sunday School: preschoolers through kids in grade 3 explore sacred story through the *Godly Play* curriculum, and youth in grades 4 through 6 participate in our *Connect* program. If they wish, parents may accompany their child to the classroom, then return to the Sanctuary. Parents are encouraged to attend coffee hour after worship, then pick up their child from their classroom at 11:45 am. (Staffed *nursery care* is also available near the sanctuary throughout the service: ask an usher for directions or information.)

First Congregational Church of Natick (FCCN) Staff

Pastor

Rev. Cindy Worthington-Berry
revcindyfccn@gmail.com
508-653-0971

Director of Spiritual Vitality and Congregational Care

Sarallyn Keller
sarallyn@fccnatick.org
508-740-3134

Church Office

Randal Divinski, Office Administrator
admin@fccnatick.org
508-653-0971

Minister of Music

Thomas Foster

Sunday Nursery Staff

Grace Seiche

Outreach Minister

Rev. Dr. John Weagraff

Financial Assistant

Cynthia Hamwey