

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 welcome card in the pew 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.
- **Noise cancelling headphones** are available from the ushers.
- ***ListenWiFi app*** provides hearing assistance. Just download the app to your smartphone and use your own 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 Leader

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 AND THE PRAYER OF JESUS

Lay Leader

Creator 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 #375**

Weave

Weave

Weave, weave, weave us together.

Weave us together in unity and love.

Weave, weave, weave us together.

Weave us together, together in love.

SCRIPTURE READING

WORD FOR ALL AGES

MUSICAL RESPONSE

On June 29, and July 13, 20, and 27, children (age 3-grade 6) are invited to depart for Summer Godly Play. Parents may bring them and return once they are settled. No Sunday School in August.

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

ANTHEM

*** SONG OF PRAISE**

Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done.
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*** SENDING HYMN**

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Calendar for June 29 – September 14, 2025

Sunday, June 29	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Cindy in the Vestry
Sunday, July 6	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Cindy in the Vestry. Communion
Sunday, July 13	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. John Weagraff in the Vestry.
Sunday, July 20	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ David Coulter in the Vestry.
Sunday, July 27	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Cindy in the Vestry.
Sunday, August 3	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Cindy in the Vestry. Communion
Sunday, August 10	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ the Carriker family in the Vestry.
Sunday, August 17	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Linda Michel in the Vestry.
Sunday, August 24	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Cindy in the Vestry.
Sunday, August 31	9:30 AM <i>Summer Worship</i> w/ Rev. Linda Michel in the Sanctuary.
Sunday, Sept. 7	10:30 AM <i>Worship</i> w/ Rev. Cindy in the Sanctuary. Communion
Sunday, Sept. 14	10:30 AM <i>Worship</i> w/ Rev. Cindy in the Sanctuary. Backpack blessing!

Summer Sunday School and Nursery

Summer Godly Play and Connect 9:45 am June 29, July 13, 20, & 27

Children and youth are always welcome in our worship services. The *Prayground* down front has a great view and quiet activities. On June 29, July 13, 20, and 27, *Godly Play* and *Connect* are combined into one *Summer Godly Play* class. Children are invited to leave worship for class after the Word for All Ages. Nursery care is also available through the end of July. No Sunday School during the month of August; there will be Intergenerational worship instead. No Nursery care during August, but the Nursery is available for families, with the service livestreamed into the room.

No Summer Adult Faith Class

No Adult Faith meetings from June 29 through August 31. Meetings resume at 9:30 am on September 7th in the Parlor.

Summer Coffee Hour

After worship (10:30 am) in the Vestry

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

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, 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, regular attendees will be notified by email.

Choir

The choir is on hiatus June 22nd – August 31st.

Summer Events

Look to The LINK and/or Website for event updates and details

For info about summer activities, including new or changed events, subscribe to The Link (ucc.fccnatick.org/subscribe) or consult the website (fccnatick.org).

Church Office Summer Hours

The office will operate on reduced hours over the summer. In July: church office closed every Monday & Tuesday. In August: church office closed every Monday and Tuesday. Exceptions: Tues., 8/12 (open) & Wed., 8/6 (closed)

Sarallyn on Sabbatical

Director of Spiritual Vitality and Congregational Care, Sarallyn Keller, will be on sabbatical and vacation June 23 - Aug. 3. Please contact the church office or Rev. Cindy with any questions.

Rev. Cindy Away and Emergency Coverage

Rev. Cindy will be away on vacation and study leave the weeks of July 7 and 14, and Aug. 4 and 11. She will be available for pastoral emergencies, except for Aug. 4 – 11. During that time, Rev. John Weagraff will provide coverage.

Frequency of The Link

In July and August, The Link (e-newsletter) will be published only once a week (instead of Tuesday and Fridays). Friday 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 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 in the elevator lobby 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: 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.

Land Acknowledgement

We gather, acknowledging the land we are on, the rocks and waters of this land, the plants and animals of this land, the air we share.

We also acknowledge the original people of this land, including the Nipmuc, Pawtucket, and Massa-adchu-es-et People(s), as well as the legacy of the Natick Praying Indians, and all those who have walked on this land before us, as well as our own ancestors.

We remember ourselves as part of a web extending back in time, forward in time, and in every direction in time.

First Congregational Church of Natick (FCCN) Staff

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Sunday Nursery Staff

Grace Seiche

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Rev. Dr. John Weagraff

Financial Assistant

Cynthia Hamwey

FCCnatick.org