



Sudbury United Methodist Church

Baptism of the Lord
January 8, 2017

Before worship, please feel free to greet those around you. Concerns or celebrations to be included in today's prayers may be recorded on cards in the pew pockets and passed to the ushers during the second hymn. During the prelude, let us prepare silently to worship God.

**indicates worshipers may stand, as they are able*

Welcome

Prelude

***Call to Worship:** UMH page 761 – Psalm 29 (*Response*)

***Opening Hymn:** UMH # 604 – “Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God”

***Opening Prayer:** (*Consultation on Common Texts, USA, 21st cent., alt.*)

**God of grace and glory,
your voice of flame calls us to be your people, faithful and courageous.
As your beloved Son embraced his mission in the waters of baptism,
inspire us by the fire of your Spirit to join in his transforming work.
We ask this in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever. Amen.**

A Reading from the Scriptures: Isaiah 42:1-9

This reading is found on pages 670-671 in the Old Testament.

Children's Time: “Flashcards”

Special Music: “A New Year Carol”

Benjamin Britten

***Acclamation:** FWS #2116 – “Christ the Lord Is Risen” (*vss. 1 and 7 before and after Gospel*)

**Christ the Lord is risen! Christ the Lord is risen! Yesu!
Christ the Lord is risen! Christ the Lord is risen! Yesu!
Come and worship him! Come and worship him! Yesu!
Come and worship him! Come and worship him! Yesu!**

***A Reading from the Gospels:** Matthew 3:13-17

This reading is found on page 3 in the New Testament.

Sermon: “To Fulfill All Righteousness”

Pastor Joel Guillemette

***Hymn of Response:** UMH # 252 – “When Jesus Came to Jordan”

A Celebration of the Baptismal Covenant: UMH pages 33-39

A Time of Fellowship

Greeting Our Guests

Concerns and Celebrations

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

**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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Stewardship Moment: Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Offertory: “Wade in the Water”

Afro-Amer. Spiritual

***Doxology:** UMH # 94 - “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

***Hymn of Commitment:** UMH # 500 – “Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart”

***Dismissal with Blessing**

Postlude

Reconciling & Welcoming Statement: The United Methodist Church is a community of believers and seekers, with differences in age, class, nationality, race, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, abilities, and limitations. We at SUMC recognize that there are attitudes, concerning these diverse characteristics, which violate the integrity of individuals and deny the richness of God's creation. Therefore we affirm our welcome to all people into our community of faith. We are committed to be a fellowship in which all persons feel a part of our family, enabling them to grow in their faith, to be fed by our fellowship, and to contribute their talents to the life of the church in its worship, programs, and outreach. We call the church and society to be sensitive to all persons and to advocate programs which attempt to ensure justice for all.

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We are a Stephen Ministry
Congregation



We are a Reconciling and Welcoming
Congregation

Sudbury United Methodist Church

January 8, 2017

Welcome, Guests!

Are visiting today? Please accept our sincere welcome. After worship, please linger in the narthex during the postlude to meet the pastor and some church leaders as well as to receive a small gift. We also invite you to join us, as time permits, for informal fellowship and coffee in Hawes Hall after this morning's service. We hope you enjoy your visit and invite you to join us again soon!

Kids Concert Today!

There's going to be a concert in the sanctuary today after worship. Admission is free and open to the public. Freewill offerings will be accepted to benefit Open Table and the important work Open Table does in our local area to feed those in need. Come and support our young musicians, admire their growing talents and contribute to this effort to fight hunger among our Metrowest neighbors.

Lenten Booklet Sign-up

Would you like to contribute to the 2017 Lenten Booklet? Sign up today after worship. You will find both a sign-up display and instruction sheet at a table in Hawes Hall and in the narthex. Nancy Sweeney and Ann Hamilton will answer your questions. This year's theme is "Making All Things New." We need 23 new devotions. The deadline for submission is February 15th. Please consider prayerfully contributing to this year's booklet.

Winter Bible Study with Pastor Joel

Pastor Joel will dig into author Rob Bell's *Love Wins* to ask, "Does everyone go to heaven? Is there a hell? Does love win?" Something new: We will be going "live" on Facebook with this class, which will allow you to participate at church, or from home, or to catch up later. Meetings will take place January 30, February 13 and 27. Books may be ordered from www.cokesbury.com or amazon.com.

Celebrate Martin Luther King Day

The Social Justice Commission encourages you to remember the life and legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We invite you to consider attending one of two celebratory breakfasts on January 16: At the Boston Convention Center, the city's 47th annual observance will take place at 8:00 a.m. Tickets are available online for \$50 each at <http://www.bostonmlkbreakfast.org/>. In Natick, the Verve Crowne Plaza Hotel will host a Metrowest observance with tickets for adults at \$30, teens 13-18 at \$10, and children 5-12 at \$5. Admission is available at the door or online at https://www.gfccnet.org/store/index.php?manufacturers_id=11&page=1&sort=3d. You may also sign up after worship today at the Social Justice Commission's table in Hawes Hall.

A Note from the Stewardship and Finance Committee

When making a gift of stock, please notify the church office in advance, listing your name, the name of the stock donated, the approximate number of shares, the dollar amount, and where to direct your donation. Thank you to everyone who has contributed. This allows us to ensure that all contributions are used as donors intend and that all donors receive correct year-end statements.

Is There Child Care During Worship?

Infants and toddlers are welcome in worship. Parents with young children may also visit our Family Room with visual and aural access to the sanctuary. Each Sunday, a pair of CORI-ed volunteers cares for children two years old and younger. Look for the stairs in the northwest corner of the narthex leading up to a cozy room furnished with sofas and toys and books.

Hearing Assistance Available

Individual hearing assistance units are available. An usher will help you to borrow one.

Large Print Worship Books

Do you prefer large print materials? Special copies of *The United Methodist Hymnal* and *The Faith We Sing* are available in the narthex. Please speak to an usher for assistance.

Where Is the Rest Room?

A unisex rest room is located in the southeast corner of the narthex, behind the back row of pews on the pulpit side of the sanctuary. Another rest room can be found just past the side door of the sanctuary closest to the pulpit and three steps up.

Help Refill the Food Cart

The contents of the shopping cart near the O'Reilly Room entrance are delivered to food banks in Sudbury, Stow, Marlborough, Maynard, Wayland, and Hudson. The Outreach Commission is grateful for your donations. Canned vegetables and soups, canned tuna and meat, crackers, jams, jellies, canned pastas and tomato sauces, noodles, rice, cereals, and baby foods are always needed. Donations past the expiration date stamped on the package must be discarded.

Please Recycle This Bulletin

The Worship and Music Commission has placed blue recycle bins near the sanctuary's entrances. Please recycle the materials distributed on Sundays either here at the church or at home.

Someone to Talk To

Stephen Ministers can provide a listening, supportive and confidential presence. Each Sunday after worship a Stephen Minister is available to listen and to pray with you. If you would like to have a Stephen Minister "walk" with you on a regular basis, please contact Pastor Joel. Today's Stephen Minister is Lori Granger. You can find her in the O'Reilly Room, after Worship. Remember, no concern is too small to share with a Stephen Minister.

"Eating Well – Aging Well"

Magic Years members and friends are invited to our first retirees' event of 2017! Our very own Donna Canfield will be presenting a fantastic program titled "Eating Well – Aging well." With New Year's resolutions on the brain, come and learn about healthy living from a registered dietician! We will be gathering in Hawes Hall for lunch our program on Thursday, January 12, from noon till 2:00 p.m. See you there!

Church Staff Members Say, Thank You!

For the many generous holiday gifts, hours of volunteer time, prayers, cards, baked goods, pickles, and kind words - Thank you so much! Pastor Joel, Jackie, Anthony, Shetal, Kevin, Rob, Alexandra, Mike, Joe and Phil. We wish you a Happy New Year and God's richest blessings each and every day!

Read for Spiritual Growth

Want to read for spiritual growth? Ten minutes each day with *The Upper Room* can lead to a growth spurt! Free booklets are available in the narthex. Help yourself! Or check out <http://devotional.upperroom.org> to visit *The Upper Room* each day online.

Fun & Done! Generosity 2017

Ring in the New Year with a party. We'll enjoy food, fun, and a snapshot of SUMC's generosity!

- January 11 at the home of Jen Benson – 249 Old Sudbury Road, Sudbury (next to SUMC)
- January 15 right after worship in Hawes Hall with nursery and toddler care, activities for the kids, and pizza for all through grade five
- January 18 at the home of Ernie and Sherry Stonebraker – 181 Randall Road, Stow

Making your pledge for 2017 is easy: there are pledge cards in the pews. After Christmas a mailing was sent to each home. And you can pledge online at sudbury-umc.org/give. Why not give it a try?

Connexions Concert II, January 15th

Next Sunday, January 15, at 3:00 p.m., musicians and friends will present the second concert in the Connexions Series. The program will feature works from a wide assortment of styles including classical, pop, music theater and cabaret. Once again, we will showcase the talents of church members and guest artists who share a *connexion* with Sudbury UMC. The snow date is January 22. Admission is free and open to all. Freewill donations of the Organ Fund will be gratefully accepted.

Are You Looking for a Mid-Week Bible Study?

Please join Sudbury UMC's Thursday Bible study group. Each week's focus text is next Sunday's preaching passage. Thursday meetings take place at 10:00 a.m. at Panera Bread, 21 Andrew Avenue in Wayland's Town Center. Bring your Bible and a few bucks for something warm to sip.

More Study Opportunities with the Social Justice Book Group

This winter, the Social Justice Commission will be reading and discussing fiction and non-fiction literature dealing with critical social justice issues. We'll be reading and discussing *America's Original Sin* by Jim Wallis January 23 and *The Underground Railroad* by Colin Whitehead on February 20. Walk-ins are welcome! We are also looking for future book recommendations.

Coming Soon: Training for Liturgists

Pastor Joel and Liturgist coordinator Leslie Bell will offer a training session for lay worship leaders and scripture readers at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, January 22. Would you like to serve on the chancel one or two Sundays each year? Are you interested in learning how every Scripture reading can become an interpretation of God's Word? Join us for this class in two weeks.

An Update on Construction in the Building

We have had the following communication from New England Builders and Contractors updating the current situation:

As you are aware, Eversource has not installed the new 3-phase primary service yet. Without the new electric service, the construction is significantly impacted.

Hawes Hall Basement - The construction is essentially complete and is currently being run on temporary power and panels. No additional work can be completed until the new service and panels are installed. Once the power is installed, the construction can be finalized in about three weeks.

Kitchen - The work in the kitchen is substantially complete pending the installation of the new power. The hood will be installed next week but will not be operational until the new power is connected. We have been holding off on cutting the hood exhaust through the roof pending the installation of the power for the damper control.

Heating - The work is substantially complete pending the installation of the new power. Currently, the thermostats and final pumps cannot be installed until the new power is installed. Without the new power, the heating cannot be controlled.

New Narthex - The walls in the new narthex cannot be enclosed until the new power is installed. Currently, the temporary power is running through the existing panels. Upon installation of the new power, we need about two weeks to complete the narthex.

Parking Lot Lighting - All the light pole bases and rough wiring have been completed. Again, until the new power service is installed, the parking lot lighting cannot be activated. We anticipate installing the actual light poles shortly after the power is finalized.

The status of the other work not impacted by the new power is as follows:

Chapel - We are in the process of building out the Chapel. The Chapel will be finished by 2/10/17.

Sanctuary Entrance - The mason continues to install the new granite, weather permitting. Some of the granite stones were delivered damaged and the replacement stones will not be shipped until 1/23/17 at the earliest. We will continue to complete as much of the work as possible and will use warming blankets to protect the new work as necessary.

Sidewalks - Once the granite steps are installed, we will continue with the concrete sidewalk installation. Again, if necessary, we will use warming blankets to protect the new concrete until it cures.

Parking Lot Striping - The lines will be painted on the next warm day when the temperatures is above 40 degrees.

Landscaping - The landscaping (lawns and trees) will not be installed until the spring (April or May 2017).

Like the Church, our company is anxious to complete the construction work as soon as possible. However, as noted above, the delay on the new power service has a significant impact on the construction. At this point, we are waiting for the power to complete the work.

Based on the latest email from Eversource, it appears that the new power will not be installed until the end of January.