

*Therefore...
since we have
Been justified by*

FAITH

we have

PEACE WITH GOD

*through our Lord Jesus Christ
Romans 5:1*

Sudbury United Methodist Church

Third Sunday in Lent
March 19, 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: Improvisation

***Opening Sentences:** (*The United Methodist Book of Worship, USA, 1992*)

Liturgist: Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior,
put your whole trust in his grace,
and promise to serve him as Lord,
in union with the church that Christ opens
to people of all ages, nations, and races?

People: We do.

Liturgist: And by the grace given to you
will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy church?

People: We will.

***Opening Hymn:** UMH # 479 – “Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

***Prayer of Confession:** (*Taylor Burton-Edwards, USA, 21st cent., alt.*)

**Confessing your Son Jesus Christ as our Savior, LORD God,
we release all false hopes of salvation in any other name,
we renounce all false saviors,
and we pray for your saving love and power to be revealed.**

**Putting our whole trust in your grace, O Christ,
we forgive those who have harmed us,
we bless those who have persecuted us,
and we seek mercy, peace, justice, and reconciliation
for all people and for your whole creation.**

**Serving Jesus as the one Lord who unites us
with people of all ages, nations, and races,
and who sends us forth as his representatives into the world,
we seek the Holy Spirit's healing and wholeness for all people.**

Receive the prayers of your people, Holy Trinity.

**In your compassion, forgive our sins,
and equip us for lives of faithful service
in and through the one and diverse community of your holy church. Amen.**

***A Reading from the Gospels:** John 4:5-42

This reading is found on pages 94-95 in the New Testament.

Children's Time: "Water That Lasts and Lasts"

Special Music: "People Get Ready/Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" arr. R. G. Hammerton

A Reading from the Scriptures: Romans 5:1-11

This reading is found on page 155 in the New Testament.

Sermon: "A Courtroom Confession"

Pastor Joel Guillemette

***Hymn of Response:** UMH # 372 – "How Can We Sinners Know"

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: Stewardship and Finance Committee

Offertory: "Turn Thy Face from My Sins"

Sir Arthur Sullivan

***Doxology:** FWS # 2251 – "We Were Baptized in Christ" (*verse 3*)

**Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son,
glory to the Holy Spirit, ever three and ever one:
as it was in the beginning, glory now resounds again
in a song that has no ending. Amen.**

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

***Hymn of Commitment:** UMH # 359 – "Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed"

***Dismissal with Blessing**

***Postlude:** "Postlude"

William Mathias

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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Church Staff

Lead Pastor: *The Rev. Joel Guillemette*
Business Manager: *Michael Greb*
Christian Education Director: *Jackie Roder*
Communications Coordinator: *Alexandra Plotkin*
Interim Youth Director: *Anthony Harrison*
Music Director/Organist: *Kevin Murphy, AAGO*
Sanctuary Choir Director: *Rob Hammerton*
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We are a Stephen Ministry
Congregation



We are a Reconciling and Welcoming
Congregation

Sudbury United Methodist Church

March 19, 2017

Lent 3: Confess

Welcome, Guests!

Are you visiting today? Please accept our sincere welcome. If you can take a few moments after worship, please linger in the narthex to meet our pastor and some of our church's leaders. We also invite you, as time permits, for coffee and conversation in the fellowship hall on the south end of our facility. We hope you enjoy your visit and invite you to come again soon!

Welcome Back, Open Table! Community Meals Resume March 21

Weather permitting, Open Table will resume serving a weekly community dinner in Sudbury UMC's Hawes Hall at 6:00 p.m., this Tuesday, March 21st. Ten months have passed since we have been able to host these meals, and we are so very happy to open our doors again to the community. If you are interested in assisting, please reach out to Patty Helsingius to find out how you can help.

Let's Get Ready for "One Great Hour of Sharing"

On March 26, the Fourth Sunday in Lent, United Methodists around the world will receive a special offering to fund the administrative functions of The United Methodist Committee on Relief. The goal of "One Great Hour of Sharing" is covering UMCOR's "costs of doing business" so that 100% of donations given in response to emergencies can be invested in alleviating human suffering the wake of natural disasters and other crises. Please prepare generously for this special offering.

Have You Signed Up for the Interfaith Book Club?

Next Sunday, the Islamic Center of Boston, located at 126 Boston Post Road in Wayland, will host a discussion of *The Faith Club*, a book featuring three women, a Muslim, a Christian, and a Jew, and their search for interfaith understanding. The group will meet from 3:00 till 5:00 p.m. at the mosque. To sign-up as a member of Sudbury UMC's delegation, please contact Linda Lombardo, who chairs the Social Justice Commission.

Please Recycle Your Bulletin

Leaving your bulletin here? Use the blue bins near the sanctuary entrances to recycle it.

"Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace?"

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 kids age two and younger. Stairs in the northwest corner of the narthex lead up to a cozy room furnished with sofas, toys, and books.

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. There is another rest room just past the side door of the sanctuary closest to the pulpit and three steps up.

Do You Need Hearing Assistance?

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

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.

Can You 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, cereals, canned pastas and tomato sauces, noodles, rice, and baby foods are always needed. Donations past the expiration date stamped on the package must be discarded.

Do You Need a Listening Ear?

Stephen Ministers offer a listening, supportive, and confidential presence. Each Sunday after worship concludes a Stephen Minister is available to listen and to pray with you in the O'Reilly Room. If you are facing a transition and would like to meet with a Stephen Minister weekly, please contact Pastor Joel. No concern is too big or too small.

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. Meetings begin at 10:00 a.m. at Panera Bread, 21 Andrew Avenue in Wayland's Town Center. Bring a Bible and a few dollars for something to sip.

"Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace?"

Join the Women's Fellowship Tuesday, March 28th

On March 28 at 10:30 a.m., the women of our church will gather in the sanctuary to clean the chandeliers. Each glass globe must be removed, washed, and returned to its place. And it all happens without ladders! Come and see! After the lights have been cleaned for another year, the crew will go out for lunch. All are invited to join in the fun. Please bring cleaning supplies.

Director of Christian Education and Youth Director – A New Search Begins

In the March 16 edition of The Chronicle, the Staff-Parish Relations Committee posted a pair of want ads for two positions: Director of Christian Education and Director of Youth Ministries (<http://sudbury-umc.org/documents/Chronicle/03162017Chronicle.pdf>). Do you know someone whose recent employment and skills might qualify her or him for one or both of these roles? Please encourage them to apply. Interviews will begin when qualified applicants are available. And please pray for search committee's members as they do their important work.

Praying Together during Lent

Please pick up a copy of Sudbury UMC's Lenten Devotional Booklet so that you can join our congregation in praying together throughout the season of Lent. With a passage from scripture, a one-page meditation, and a daily prayer for each day until Easter, the booklet helps us to pray as a community as we prepare to celebrate the resurrection. Booklets are available in the narthex, at the Sunny Hill desk, and in the church office.

Give the Gift of Music during Lent

Would you like to help with our church's musical programming in Lent? Preparations for the Tenebrae service on Wednesday, April 12, began on March 8. Rehearsals will continue after each Wednesday's Lenten Supper and programs at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to learn the music and to prepare the passages for our Tenebrae observance. Please contact Music Director Kevin Murphy at kevin@sudbury-umc.org or choral director Rob Hammerton at rob@sudbury-umc.org to offer your musical gifts.

GAME Time

Plan ahead! Sunday afternoon, April 2nd at 3:00 p.m., we'll have tables set up in Hawes Hall. All Ages Are Invited! All game-players and games are welcome, from "Candyland" to "The Settlers of Catan." The Church Growth Commission promises everyone a good time. It's going to be fun. More details to come.

"Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace?"

Won't You Help Decorate the Church For Easter?

This week's bulletin materials include an order form for plants to decorate the Sanctuary on Easter morning. You can choose from Easter Lilies, Tulips, Hydrangeas, Spring Bulbs or Boston Ferns; or you can let the Flower Committee choose for you. All details can be found in the order form.

Our Lenten Journey Continues

Are you yearning for a meaningful Easter? Participating in Sudbury UMC's Lenten Soup and Study Series will help. On Wednesdays in Lent at 6:00 p.m. – through April 5 – we will share a simple meal of assorted soups and breads in Hawes Hall. Helpers are always needed to make soup, set-up tables, and clean-up after supper. Look for Oscar Harrell after worship to sign-up for this fulfilling ministry! After supper, at 6:30 p.m., several opportunities to learn and worship are being offered for adults, teens and children. This year's focus is "Living Our Baptismal Calling." At the beginning of each Sunday's service of worship, a weekly theme from the UMC's baptismal vows will be introduced. Our programs on Wednesday evenings offer extra time to prepare for Easter Sunday's 9:30 a.m. service of Baptismal Reaffirmation.

- Adult Worship (chancel) – "Singing our Baptism" led by Heather Josselyn-Cranson, Kevin Murphy and Rob Hammerton
- Adult Study (choir room) – "By Water and the Spirit – Making Connections for Identity and Ministry" led by Pastor Joel and John McKinney
- Children's Study (undercroft) – "I Wonder about Baptism" led by Jackie Roder, Director of Christian Education
- Youth Study (undercroft) – "Baptism: God's Gift to Us All" led by Anthony Harrison, Director of Youth Ministries

Lenten Themes Posted on FaceBook

Notice the footer of this insert. Each Sunday in Lent, it will change to reflect the week's focus. And, every day we are posting the daily scripture reading from Sudbury UMC's Lenten Booklet on our FaceBook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SudburyUMC/>.

A Preview of Holy Week Worship Services

April 12, 7:00 p.m.: Wednesday Worship: The Psalms of Holy Week

April 13, 7:00 p.m.: Maundy Thursday Service: Foot Washing & Holy Communion

April 14, 7:00 p.m.: Good Friday Service: Scripture, Images, & Holy Week Hymns

"Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace?"