



***Worship the Lord!***

***Sudbury United Methodist Church***

**Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost  
Laity Sunday  
October 23, 2016**

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*

*"Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they find rest in thee."  
Augustine of Hippo, North Africa, 4th century*

**Welcome**

**Prelude:** "Jesus, My Joy"

J. S. Bach

**\*Opening Worship**

**Praise Song:** FWS # 2013 – "Bless the Lord" (*please sing twice*)

**A Reading from the Scriptures:** Psalm 100 – "Make a Joyful Noise"

**Praise Song:** FWS # 2013 – "Bless the Lord" (*please sing twice*)"

**\*Opening Hymn:** UMH # 66 – "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

**\*Opening Prayer:** (The United Methodist Book of Worship, USA, 20<sup>th</sup> cent.)

**O Lord our God, you are always more ready  
to bestow your good gifts on us than we are to seek them,  
and are willing to give more than we desire or deserve.  
Help us so to seek that we may truly find,  
so to ask that we may joyfully receive,  
so to knock that the door of your mercy may be opened to us.  
May we worship you today, and every day,  
with heart and mind and soul and strength;  
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**Children's Time**

Rachel Freedman Jacobus

**Special Music:** "You Who Are Thirsty"

Barbara Ross

**\*A Reading from the Gospels: John 4:5-24**

Vikki Jacobson

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

**Thoughts: “Worshiping God”**

Janet Johnson

John Condon

**\*Hymn of Response: UMH # 347 – “Spirit Song”**

## **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**

**The Offertory: “In Paths of Beauty”**

Gordon Young

**\*Doxology: “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”** (*Tune: When the Saints*)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise God, all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly host.**

**Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**\*Hymn of Commitment: UMH # 670 – “Go Forth for God”**

**\*Dismissal with Blessing**

**Postlude**

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**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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**Interim Youth Director:** *Anthony Harrison*

**Music Director/Organist:** *Kevin Murphy, AAGO*

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We are a Stephen Ministry  
Congregation



We are a Reconciling and Welcoming  
Congregation

## **Sudbury United Methodist Church**

**October 23, 2016**

### **Welcome, Guests!**

If you are worshipping with us for the first time, we welcome you with Christian love. Please help us get to know you by signing the attendance pad, remembering to include the name of each person attending from your household. Also, if you feel comfortable, please introduce yourself midway through worship when our pastor greets our guests. And, if you have the time, join us after worship for fellowship and a tour of our building. Grab a cup of coffee and make a new friend!

### **Today Is Laity Sunday**

On Laity Sunday 2016, United Methodists are celebrating the gift of true worship that happens when we live it – clergy and laity – together. Without the vital ministry of the laity, what would be left of a typical worship service? Without laity, we would not be The United Methodist Church! We *are* disciples called to active, living, vital worship!

### **Science & Faith Speaker Series Continues Today after Worship**

The first session of this fall's science and faith speaker series was a success last Sunday! Facilitated by Jill Gaudet, science experts and novices discussed the complex relationship that science and faith often share. We heard a number of fascinating voices and perspectives on October 16, with still many more to come. Whether or not you participated in the first session, the Christian Education Commission invites you to be part of the second and third segments of this stimulating series. Jim Empfield will lead today's discussion at 11:00 a.m. Karen and Steve Lubic will co-lead the concluding session on October 30<sup>th</sup>. See you in the O'Reilly Room!

### **Youth Group Kick-Off Today!**

Sudbury UMC's Youth Group kicks off today at 6:30 p.m. Come and meet Anthony Harrison, our new youth ministries director, enjoy snacks, and get ready for games! Parents are urged to arrive at 7:40 p.m. to meet Anthony, to receive information and a tentative calendar of events, and to turn in or fill in Basic Contact Forms and Permission Slips. Hope to see you this evening!

### **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 and younger. Look for the stairs in the north-west corner of the narthex leading up to a cozy room furnished with sofas and toys.

### **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 southwest corner of the narthex. Another rest room can be found just past the side door of the sanctuary near the pulpit 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 nonperishable donations. Canned vegetables and soups, canned tuna and meat, crackers, jams and jellies, canned pastas and tomato sauces, noodles, rice, cereals, and baby foods are staples. Remember: Donations past the expiration date stamped on the package or can 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 or at home.

### **Thursday Bible Study Welcomes Newcomers**

Sudbury UMC's Thursday Bible study group welcomes new participants. Meetings take place at 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays at the Panera Bread located at 21 Andrew Avenue in Wayland's Town Center, just two miles from Sudbury UMC! Each week's focus text is next Sunday's preaching passage. Remember to bring your Bible and a few bucks for something warm to sip.

## **A Reminder from the Social Justice Commission**

Since 2010, twenty one states have instituted new voting restrictions. In many cases, discrimination has begun anew through the rulings of these states and the United States Supreme Court. Changes in the Voting Rights Act have allowed states to implement new restrictions, including the elimination of same day voter registration, stricter voter ID's, shorter registration times, and fewer polling sites. Voter protection is a moral issue for our democracy and when it calls for the protection of our most vulnerable voters it also becomes an issue of faith. Please vote on November 8<sup>th</sup> and please act to eliminate voting restrictions.

## **Justice for Our Neighbors**

Are you interested in doing something constructive to help immigrants and refugees who bring their hopes and dreams to this country? On Saturday, November 5, from 5:00 till 7:00 p.m., St. John's UMC in Lexington, MA, will host its annual "Justice for Our Neighbors" Dinner. Enjoy a tasty meal featuring international foods, a silent auction, and special music while raising funds for JFON's legal clinic in Woburn. The cost is \$25 per person. Questions? Please email the Rev. Ruth Odour at [revruth14@verizon.net](mailto:revruth14@verizon.net).

## **Church School Notes and Special Dates**

For the month of October, all of our Sunday School classes are learning and singing about Moses. Today, after the children's moment, the 3-5 year olds' class will meet in preschool room 4 in the Sunny Hill wing. 1st-2nd grade, 3rd-5th grade, and 6th-8th grade will meet in their classrooms below the sanctuary. After worship, please pick up your children in their classrooms to ensure that everyone makes it back to their families safely. And, mark your calendars! During worship on November 6<sup>th</sup> the children will share the songs they have been learning. Another special Church School event that we are anticipating: On November 13<sup>th</sup>, all 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade students will receive their Bibles. We hope the whole congregation will be in worship to witness and celebrate this milestone.

## **Women's Fellowship Resumes on Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>**

Change of plans! There has been a change of plans for our October meeting. Kimball Farm Grill and Seafood Shack in Westford is closed for the season. We will be meeting at Brenda Manning's home at 15 Sauta Farm Way in Hudson at 12:30 p.m. for a Salad and Dessert luncheon and an afternoon of reconnecting and playing games. Please call Nancy Stone (978-301-7008) to let her know if you are going to be able to attend.

### **Connexions Concert This Afternoon at 3:00 p.m.**

The first concert in the Connexions Series of program year 2016 will be presented-in the Sanctuary here at Sudbury UMC at 3:00 p.m. this afternoon. Church musicians and guest artists who share a “connexion” with our congregation will offer an assortment of various musical styles including classical, pop, gospel and folk. Today, we will hear Kevin Murphy, organ and piano; Melissa Glaister, soprano; Cecelia Murphy, violin; Kristin Murphy, soprano; Russ Doughty, guitar; Rob Hammerton, tenor and bass guitar; Donna Hamcke, soprano; Timothy Sanford, violin, and others. The event will feature works by J. S. Bach, Little Eva, Patsy Kline, Kevin Francis Murphy, Randy Newman, Tom Lehrer, Taj Mahal, Ollabelle, Franz Josef Haydn and others. Admission is free and open to all. A freewill donation will be gratefully accepted to benefit the Organ Fund at Sudbury UMC.

### **Workshop on Practical Positive Psychology, Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>**

Health Ministries and Stephen Ministries invite you to participate in a one-hour workshop to learn a few exercises from Positive Psychology that can help build up muscles of happiness and well-being on Monday, October 24, 7:30 p.m. While alleviating suffering by treating disorders such as depression and anxiety, psychology has not paid as much attention to promoting psychological health. Positive Psychology, founded by Dr. Martin Seligman, builds strengths that enable people to achieve the best things in life.

### **Faith Formation for High Schoolers Continues Next Sunday**

The second faith formation class for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders will meet on Sunday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Kerry Healy and Jackie Roder lead this monthly discussion based class, giving our high schooler students an opportunity to go deep, learn from one another, and adult congregation members, and to further develop their faith.

### **Share the Excitement of Halloween with a Bunch of Kids!**

The Outreach Commission invites you to help throw a Halloween party for the families of The Home Suites Inn, a residence for neighbors between homes. Participants will help the kids make masks and cards, pass out goodie bags, decorate cookies, and apply tattoos! The party is all set for Saturday, October 29, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at 455 Totten Pond Road in Waltham. Questions? Call Jeannette D'Alessandro at 617-462-4343. Looking for a fun afternoon? This is it!