

# Welcome to Worship

**W**e believe that all people are blessed and loved equally by God. Following the teachings of Jesus we heartily welcome everyone into God's covenantal community. Whatever your race, ethnicity, age, socioeconomic or marital status, variety of thoughts and beliefs, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression - whoever you are and wherever you come from you are welcome into the full life and ministry of our church.



## Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

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**Order of Morning Worship**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany**

**February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

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*We gather in worship this morning with joy and reverence in our hearts and a sincere welcome to all. Remember some will greet neighbors while others come quietly to prayerfully seek God.*



The service is being livestreamed to be watched online by those unable to join us in person.



*Please freely change the wording of any part of this service to more inclusive language.  
Our purpose is to worship God in wholeness.*



### WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE

Matthew Marion

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsively, please*)

Dale: We yearn to be in the presence of the Holy One,

**People: To linger in the house of prayer,**

Racquel: To walk beside still streams,

**People: To behold the radiance of creation,**

Dale: To sing as matches our joy,

**People: To offer our sacrifice of service,**

Racquel: To dwell all our days enfolded in the love of God,

**All: To praise God with our deeds and melodies.**

\*HYMN NCH # 1

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

**Oh God, how fear compels us. It drives so many of the decisions we make each day. It keeps us awake at night and full of worry by day. The world tells us to be afraid, but that is in such contrast to the command you have given us so many times in your Word. Do not be afraid. Do not be afraid. You've said it over and over, and yet we confess that we don't trust you. We believe that we know better than you. Lord, release us from fear. Drive out the lies that we hold onto so tightly. Let us trust fully in your promise that you are always with us. We surrender our concerns to you. Replace them with your peace.**

*(moment for silent prayer)*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

\*GLORIA

**Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three-in-One;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*(The cups contain grape juice. All of the bread is gluten-free).*

COMMUNION PRAYER

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts and give thanks to God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *debts/debtors (in unison)*

SHARING THE MEAL *(Please serve your neighbor each element. It is our custom to eat the bread individually, symbolizing our personal relationship with God and to drink the cup together, symbolizing the value of our faith community.)*

\*HYMN NCH # 556

*God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*

*(Children and teachers may depart for classes during the singing of the hymn)*

SCRIPTURE READING

*(Hebrew Scriptures p.582)*

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

REFLECTION

*Are you afraid?*

Rev. Dale Azevedo

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYERS

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MORNING PRAYER AND

CHORAL RESPONSE

OFFERTORY

CHORAL ANTHEM

*Amazing Grace*

arr. Schrader

\*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION

OUR COMMUNITY GOES OUT TO SERVE GOD

\*HYMN NCH # 598 verses 1-4

*On River Jordan's Banks I Stand*

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Last verse of hymn – verse 5*

**Filled with delight, my raptured soul can here no longer stay.  
Though Jordan's waves around me roll, fearless I'll sail away.  
I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land.  
Oh, who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land.**

POSTLUDE

*\*Those who are able, please stand.*

Today's hymns, designated "NCH", are from *The New Century Hymnal* (black).

Large Print Bulletins and Hearing Devices are available from the Ushers.



TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS:

Two arrangements have been given by the Voigt family  
in loving memory of Willard Voigt, Greg's father.

The other two arrangements have been given by Charles Seaberry and Curtis Lambert  
in loving memory of Charles' great grandmother, Mary Rogers  
who passed away last year at the age of 93.



Greeters: The Kiley family

Ushers: Tom Strolla, Liz Wiedenhofer, Barbara Lee, Frank Lee

Deacons: Fred Rocco, Nancy Arena, Carol Strakosch, Jane Tonn.

Worship Tech Support: Tom Colby

TO OUR VISITORS: We especially welcome those who are visiting with us today. We are pleased to have you among us and invite you to fill out a Visitor Response Card found in the pew rack. Welcome Folders are available for pick up from the racks in the stairwells. We hope that you will come back and worship with us again.

Ministers to the World: All the Congregation      Office Administrator: Christine Wallis  
Senior Minister: The Rev. Dr. Dale Azevedo      Music Director: Matthew Marion  
Associate Minister: The Rev. Racquel Ray      Financial Secretary: Patricia Stoddard  
Dir. Faith Formation: Andrea Terni Bullard      Custodians: Jay Buckley, Frank & Barbara Lee

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