

## 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      7<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany      February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025**

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



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

#### WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE

Matthew Marion

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

**Dale:** We gather to worship God, the Creator and Redeemer.

**People:** **The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and Esther, Sarah and Ruth, our refuge and strength in times past, and the Lord of all history.**

**Racquel:** The Parent who is with us in all of life, our provider and prompter in the here and now, the Lord of today.

**People: The Maker of a new heaven and a new earth, our help and hope for what is to come today and tomorrow.**

**Dale:** Here now in our worship, fill us with strength and purpose.

**All: Renew our spirits as we move into the future, always confident and hopeful as people of faith.**

\*HYMN NCH # 597

*Shall We Gather at the River*

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\*GLORIA

**Glorify 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

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Racquel Ray

\*HYMN (See Insert – UMH 703)

*Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*

*Children and teachers may depart for classes during the singing of this hymn.*

PRAYERS

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MORNING PRAYER & CHORAL RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25:31-46

(New Testament p. 29)

REFLECTION

*What can I expect in Heaven?*

Rev. Dale Azevedo

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERTORY

CHORAL ANTHEM

*Thy Way, Not Mine, O Lord*

Courtney

\*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.**

\*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

**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.*

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

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



TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS:

One arrangement is given in memory of our mom, Patricia Gregory, with love: Erin Gregory, Lee Ann Cotta, Kristen Berry and Karen O'Maley.

The other arrangement is given by Phyllis and Jay Buckley "in loving memory of friends and family who have gone before us".



Greeters: Steve & Marion Fodor

Ushers: Liz Wiedenhofer & Lory McCoy

Worship Tech Support: Seth Forman

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 to 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

The Rev. Dr. Dale Azevedo

Associate Minister: The Rev. Racquel Ray

Dir. Faith Formation: Andrea Terni Bullard

Office Administrator: Sara Bagwell    Senior Minister:

Music Director: Matthew Marion

Financial Secretary: Patricia Stoddard

Custodians: Frank & Barbara Lee

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