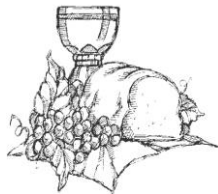


Welcome to Worship

We 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.

OPEN DOORS SUNDAY



YOUR CHURCH FAMILY
WELCOMES YOU



Barrington Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

Order of Morning Worship

13th Sunday after Pentecost

September 7th, 2025

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

WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

WELCOME

Joe: *God is Good!*
All: *All the Time!*

EXTENDING THE HAND OF PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you...

Response: And also with you...

Let us greet one another extending the hand of Christian Peace

(All are invited to greet one another by shaking hands or waving, offering the peace of Christ.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsively, please)*

Racquel: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

All: We will listen for the still speaking and creative Word of God.

Racquel: The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the Son of God in Jesus Christ.

All: We will look to Jesus Christ as our light and guide, as the Word of God revealed to us.

Racquel: For the Word of God was not written in a book, it was embodied and revealed in a person, the person of Jesus Christ, a living Savior. We are part of his body.

All: Jesus is still living, God is still Speaking, and we rejoice in the goodness of God's ongoing Creation.

*HYMN NCH # 8

Praise to the Living God

CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

God of Creation and God of New Beginnings, your grace always offers us an opportunity to repent and change. So help us see the ways in which we have wronged or hurt others, the ways in which we have participated in unjust systems, and how we have sinned by what we have done, and what we have left undone. Forgive us and transform us to be more like your Word, Jesus Christ. Listen now to the confessions we bring to you in silence...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*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.**

DEDICATION OF CHURCH SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

Racquel: This morning, as we begin a new program year for our church school, we call upon God's blessing for our volunteers and children, and for the ministry they are about to enter into. So we ask...

We ask our children to bring their parents to worship services, and for our children to engage in church school with open hearts, open ears, and wonder.

Andrea: We ask our volunteers to share their love with our children, to the best of their ability and with God as their helper. We ask them to share the wonder of God's love and the powerful model of Jesus' ministry so our children may grow in their faith.

Joe: We ask the members of our congregation to support the church school volunteers in their important ministry throughout this coming year with your love, prayers, and helping hands.

All: God of the young and the old, we pray that you grant to this church community the strength and courage to support our volunteers and our children, that together we will all be enriched in our faith and encouraged along the exciting journey of faith. Show our volunteers the joy of sharing, the blessings of giving, and the satisfaction of serving. Help us all to tap into the wonder of children so that we can all ask questions and search your scriptures for answers to the meaning of life itself. In the spirit of your son the teacher, Jesus. Amen.

3

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S PRESENCE IN OUR LIVES

*HYMN NCH # 330

Let Us Break Bread Together

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

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 BREAD AND CUP

All who would like to receive are invited forward to take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup and eat. The bread is gluten-free and the cup contains grape juice.

The plate also has individual packaged elements of gluten-free bread and juice for anyone who prefers that option. Please take back to your seat to consume.

If you find coming forward difficult, please raise your hand at the end of communion and the elements will be brought to you.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MORNING PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 1:1-5

(Old Testament p. 1)

SERMON

The Beginning

Rev. Joe Zarro

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERTORY

CHORAL ANTHEM

Welcome

Mark Miller

*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 # 391

In the Midst of New Dimensions

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Refrain of NCH # 391*

God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,

We your people, ours the journey now and ever,

Now and ever, now and ever more.

POSTLUDE

**Those who are able, please stand.*



Please freely change the wording of any part of this service to more inclusive language.

Our purpose is to worship God in wholeness.

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



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

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 in the racks on the stairwells. We hope you will come back and worship with us again.



TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS:

One arrangement has been given by Will Buckley
in loving memory of his dad, Bill Buckley

The other arrangement has been given by Betty Vohr and Thomas Gidley
in loving memory of their parents, Mary and Albert Rohloff,
and Dorothy and Edwin Gidley.



Ushers: Steve and Marion Fodor

Worship Tech Support: Tom Colby

Ministers to the World: All the Congregation
Associate Minister: Rev. Racquel Ray
Financial Secretary: Patricia Stoddard
Office Administrator: Sara Bagwell

Interim Senior Minister: Rev. Joe Zarro
Dir. Faith Formation: Andrea Terni
Music Director: Matthew Marion
Custodians: Frank Lee
& Barbara Lee



TO MAKE A DONATION: Offering envelopes are available for your use in the pew racks. To make a donation online, please use this QR code to access the donation page of our church's website, then click on the Tithe.ly link and use the drop-down box to designate where you would like your donation to go. We thank you for your financial support.



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