

***The First Church of Christ in Marblehead  
Old North Church, United Church of Christ  
An Open and Affirming Congregation***

**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**July 7, 2024**

**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost 8:00am & 10am**

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**GATHERING**

**WELCOME AND CONCERNS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Don Remick

One: From shore to shore

**All: Let God's praise be sung**

One: From mountains high to valleys low –

**All: Let the echo of praise resound.**

One: From the mouths of children and the prayers of the saints –

**All: Let thanksgiving abound.**

One: For great is our God

**All: And greatly to be praised.**

**CENTERING**

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)**

**Creator and Ruler of humankind: While songs of our nation's birth ring in our hearts, remind us to celebrate above all the oneness of the race you have created and the openness of the church you have loved. And help us, who are your church in this place, to be truly open to all your children and to pray for the coming of the day when all shall be one in him who has broken down all the walls that now divide us, even Jesus Christ, the Lord of both church and world. Amen.**

**SILENT PRAYER**

**LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)**

**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, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

God of unity and peace, you know that we talk much about peace, but at the same time make much trouble for ourselves and for each other. We quarrel — in church, at home, at work and even within and between nations and religions. We let our loyalties to things and ideas and even our nation surpass our loyalty to Jesus Christ. We think worldly wisdom sometimes looks better than the truth shown to us by your incredible Word. Forgive us, in your mighty mercy. Embrace us with the Spirit's power of reconciliation. Fill us with a powerful light from above that shines with love into all the world. May we become even more committed to living the Fruit of Your Spirit today and every day. In the name of our risen Lord, Friend and Savior. Amen.

## SILENT PRAYER

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## LISTENING

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Galatians 5: 13 – 26

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. <sup>1</sup>But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.

## POETRY READING

“Caged Bird” by Maya Angelou

A free bird leaps  
on the back of the wind  
and floats downstream  
till the current ends  
and dips his wing  
in the orange sun rays  
and dares to claim the sky.

But a bird that stalks  
down his narrow cage  
can seldom see through  
his bars of rage  
his wings are clipped and  
his feet are tied  
so he opens his throat to sing.

The caged bird sings  
with a fearful trill  
of things unknown  
but longed for still  
and his tune is heard  
on the distant hill  
for the caged bird  
sings of freedom.

The free bird thinks of another breeze  
and the trade winds soft through the sighing trees  
and the fat worms waiting on a dawn bright lawn  
and he names the sky his own.

But a caged bird stands on the grave of dreams  
his shadow shouts on a nightmare scream  
his wings are clipped and his feet are tied  
so he opens his throat to sing.

The caged bird sings  
with a fearful trill  
of things unknown  
but longed for still  
and his tune is heard  
on the distant hill  
for the caged bird  
sings of freedom.

SERMON

“Sing”

Rev. Don Remick

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

PASTORAL PRAYER

**RESPONDING**

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*All are welcome to receive communion at Old North—young and old, baptized and not.*

*There is gluten free bread on each tray, and we serve only non-alcoholic grape juice.*

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

OFFERING OF THE BREAD

OFFERING OF THE CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**SENDING**

BENEDICTION

## **Announcements Sunday, July 7, 2024**

### **TODAY**

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**Today's Deacons are:** Mark Roberge (reading today's Scripture Lesson) and Bonnie MacDonald (reading today's Poem) at the 8am Lighthouse Worship; and Katharine Redmond (reading Scripture Lesson and Poem) at the 10am Sanctuary Service.

**Summer Worship at Chandler Hovey Park** – Again this year we are happy to continue our annual summer tradition of worshipping together at Chandler Hovey Park. There is something unique and spiritual about gathering in worship where ocean waters meet solid rock and the light shines to guide people safely. As in the past, if it is raining at 8 am, the service will be moved to the Sanctuary. Look for the sandwich board sign at the Devereux Beach entrance: if green, go to the Lighthouse; if red, the service will be held in the Sanctuary.

**10 Am Worship continues through July** – We've had a regular response to our 10 am service this summer and the Diaconate has decided to continue this service through the month of July. We will continue to offer the 8 am service at the Lighthouse at Chandler Hovey State Park (which will move to the Sanctuary in inclement weather). This summer we will be painting the Sanctuary ceiling as part of our Capital Campaign. When that project begins we will move the 10am service to the Parish Hall.

**Coffee Hour at the Lighthouse** – Please join us for coffee hour after the service at the Lighthouse (or in the Parish Hall in the case of inclement weather). Don't forget to bring your travel cup so we can reduce waste and save trees.

**Online worship** – For the month of July we will continue to livestream our 10am worship held in the Sanctuary.

### **CHURCH OPERATIONS**

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**Designated Term Associate Pastor Search begins** – With Rev Lindsay's Call to be our next Settled Senior Minister we have a staff opening. Rev. Lindsay has been serving as our Designated Term Associate Pastor for the past 5 years. Our Leadership Board affirmed a search for another Designated Term Associate Pastor and the profile to begin that search. Primarily, this person will continue to assist with the pastoral and worship responsibilities in coordination with the Senior Pastor. And they will oversee our Faith Formation program for all ages.

A Designated Term Pastor is called for a specific period of time to help the church with some specific tasks. In our church, the Designated Term Position allows our church a time to discern and fine tune its future staffing needs now that a Senior Minister has been called. Unlike an Interim Pastor, this is a national search. The candidate will be Called through a Congregational meeting and the candidate can be considered for the eventual settled position.

Betsey Halbert, Blair Lord and James Horgan have agreed to serve on this search team. Rev. Don will begin with work with them in July and Rev. Lindsay will move them forward in August. Our hope is to have a person in place in time for our fall faith formation programming.

## COMMUNITY LIFE

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**Gestures of Cheer** – If you know of anyone, either here at Old North or in the wider Marblehead community, who is going through a difficult time, the Community Life Board would like to reach out with a little plant and a friendly note. Please contact Lynda Hare at [hares8carrots@hotmail.com](mailto:hares8carrots@hotmail.com) or 781-639-0107 if you know someone who would appreciate a little extra cheer.

**Garden Volunteers** – During the summer months we will need volunteers to weed and tidy our church properties in the Memorial Garden, front patio area and parking lot beds. The Green Team has planted a pollinator garden behind the work trucks in the parking lot which they will maintain.

If you can help for an hour or two to keep our gardens looking healthy and beautiful Please contact Ginny von Rueden: [rvonrueden@comcast.net](mailto:rvonrueden@comcast.net) or 781-631-7898.

## GOD BLESS AMERICA

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God bless America

Land that I love

Stand beside her

And guide her

Through the night with the light from above

From the mountains

To the prairies

To the oceans

White with foam

God bless America

My home sweet home