

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

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

June 14, 2026

Third Sunday after Pentecost

10:00am

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Maria vanKalken, *organ*

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Christine Hribar

from Deuteronomy 6:4-7

One: We open with words from Deuteronomy that have been recited through the ages: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

All: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

One: These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children.

All: Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

* HYMN

The Sun is On the Sea and Shore

#261

CENTERING

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

**O God, all people are your Beloved,
across races, nationalities, religions, sexual orientations
and all the ways we are distinctive from one another.**

We are all manifestations of your image.

**We are bound together in an inescapable network of mutuality
and tied to a single garment of destiny.**

Let us glimpse the mosaic of your beauty.

Under the shadow of your wings in this hour

may we find rest and strength, renewal and hope.

THE 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

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

One: God knows us. God knows how hard we try to be good, and God knows when we fail. We pray a prayer of confession each week so that we can admit where we need help, and so that we can ask for another chance. Let us pray.

Sometimes we forget how much you love us.

All: We are sorry, God.

One: Sometimes we forget to love ourselves and our neighbors.

All: We are sorry, God.

One: Sometimes we are meaner than we meant to be.

All: We are sorry, God.

One: Sometimes we stay quiet when we should speak up.
Sometimes we speak up when we should stay quiet.

All: We are sorry, God.

One: Sometimes we know what we're supposed to do and don't do it.
Sometimes we don't know what we're supposed to do at all.

All: We are sorry, God.

One: In the silence, we think of other things we've done wrong or messed up, and we bring them to God.

SILENT PRAYER

One: We are sorry, God.

All: Forgive us: we are only human and are doing the best we can. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

from Psalm 103:8, 13

One: Let us tell the truth about God:

**All: "You are tender and compassionate, Yahweh—
slow to anger, always loving.
As tenderly as parents treat their children.
That's how tenderly you treat your worshippers."**

One: We are the children of a loving God.

All: **We are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (please join in singing)

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

LISTENING

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE AND BLESSING OF TEACHERS

May you know that you belong here and can always come home.

May you grow, learn, and question.

May you feel the love of God wherever you go.

* HYMN

Come, Teach Us, Spirit of Our God

#226

SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 2: 1-13

Read by Andrea Gilgulin

If our life in Christ means anything to you—if love, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness or sympathy can persuade you at all—then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing that would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit, but everybody is to be humble: value others over yourselves, each of you thinking of the interests of others before your own. Your attitude must be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

Christ, though in the image of God, didn't deem equality with God something to be clung to—but instead became completely empty and took on the image of oppressed humankind: born into the human condition, found in the likeness of a human being. Jesus was thus humbled—obediently accepting death, even death on a cross! Because of this, God highly exalted Christ and gave to Jesus the name above every other name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee must bend in the heavens, on the earth and under the earth, and every tongue proclaim to the glory of God: Jesus Christ reigns supreme! Therefore, my dear friends, you who are always obedient to my urging, work out your salvation with fear and trembling, not only when I happen to be with you, but all the more now that I'm absent. It is God at work in you that creates the desire to do God's will.

ANTHEM

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands Arr. Margaret Bonds
Holly Cameron, *soprano*

SERMON

“The Best Way to Learn”

Rev. Christine Hribar

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONDING

Today's Offertory Anthem is offered by members of the senior choir in honor of Lisa Nahatis.

OFFERTORY

INVITATION

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

Irish Blessing
Senior Choir

Bob Chilcott

* DOXOLOGY #48

**Praise God for love we all may share,
Praise God for beauty everywhere,
Praise God for hope of good to be,
Praise God for truth that makes us free. Amen**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

* HYMN

The Church's One Foundation

#238

* BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE: (Please join in singing)

verse 1, #345

**God be with you till we meet again;
Loving counsels guide, uphold you.
With a shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.
Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' Feet;
Till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Maria vanKalken, organ