

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

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

November 9, 2025 Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost 10:00am

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Maria vanKalken, *organ*

WELCOME AND CONCERNS

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 1)

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

One: Happiness comes to those who reject the path of violence.

All: Happiness comes to those who delight in the Law of Yahweh and meditate on it day and night.

One: They are like trees planted by flowing water—they bear fruit in every season and their leaves never wither: everything they do will prosper.

All: Yahweh watches over the steps of those who do justice; but those on a path of violence and injustice will find themselves irretrievably lost.

One: Let us worship the God of justice.

* HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

#12

CENTERING

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (from Amos 5:14) (Unison)

Our prayer of invocation today is a breath prayer, an ancient prayer practice where you silently repeat a phrase as you breathe in and out. The words for our prayer come from today's scripture reading from the prophet Amos.

Inhale: Seek good and not evil,

Exhale: that you may live.

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 (from Psalm 51)

One: Living God, from the beginning you have been teaching us what goodness is and how human beings should live together:

All: With integrity and justice, each one a refuge for others. Forgive our hard-heartedness, our lack of imagination, our inability to read the value of each person and to bring out the best in everyone we meet. God, forgive us for our lust for power and religious strife, separating us from one another and sapping all life's joys. Teach us humility, keep our hope alive, sustain our love for all humanity, until conflict is stifled and we stand together in your love.

One: We now take a few long breaths, and offer into the silence what weighs heavy upon us.

SILENT PRAYER

One: We offer our confessions in the sure and certain knowledge that God is faithful and just, knows us and loves us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: From the beginning we have been God's, loved wholly and completely. May this knowledge allow us to extend this love with joy beyond these walls to a world that is parched and aching. Amen.

* 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.**

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Christine Hribar

**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.**

We invite any children interested to now join their teachers in leaving the sanctuary for Sunday School. Their families can meet them in the classroom when the service is over.

* HYMN

When Jesus Came Preaching the Way of Our God

#358

LISTENING

FIRST READING **Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24** Read by Mark Adams

The words of Amos, who was among the shepherds of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of King Uzziah of Judah and in the days of King Jeroboam son of Joash of Israel, two years before the earthquake.

And he said:

The Lord roars from Zion
and utters his voice from Jerusalem;
the pastures of the shepherds wither,
and the top of Carmel dries up.

* * * *

Seek good and not evil,
that you may live,
and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you,
just as you have said.
Hate evil and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;
it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

* * * *

I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

GOSPEL READING **John 7:37-38** Read by Mark Adams

On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice,
“Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.”

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

SERMON “An Ever-Flowing Stream” Rev. Lindsay Popperson

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONDING

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Ruth Duell

OFFERTORY

INVITATION

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

My Eyes for Beauty Pine
Senior Choir

Herbert Howells

DOXOLOGY #45

**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

* CHORAL RESPONSE

SENDING

* HYMN *For the Healing of the Nations*

S 4

* BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE (please join in singing)

Send Me, Jesus (Thuma Mina)
Kevin Hayden; *tenor*

#344

- 1. Send me, Jesus; send me, Jesus;
send me, Jesus; send me, Lord.**
- 2. Lead me...**
- 3. Fill me...**
- 4. Thuma mina, thuma mina, thuma mina, Somandla.**

POSTLUDE

Maria vanKalken, *organ*