

# **THE VOICE of *Second Church***

United Church of Christ

50 Park Street

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May 2021



## **WORSHIP ON OUR WEBSITE SUNDAY, 10 AM**

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*Find us on Facebook!*

# THE VOICE

*We warmly welcome everyone to celebrate God’s love by joining in dynamic worship, creating genuine community, and serving all with justice and respect.*

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

May, 2021

<b>Outreach &amp; Missions</b>	<b>Lectionary</b>	<b>Jack &amp; Jill</b>	<b>Did You Know?</b>	<b>Christian Education</b>	<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>Calendar</b>
Page 2	Page 5	Page 3	Page 3	Page 2	Page 3	Page 3

## MINISTER’S MESSAGE

*Chronicles of a Grateful Heart.*



“Raise your hand if, when you were in your twenties, this is where you thought you’d be at this stage in your life.” I was at a meeting of fellow ministers not long ago and this was the statement posed by the keynote speaker to an audience made up of people who were all well beyond twenty-something. It’s a thought-provoking experiment. When I was in my twenties, I imagined I’d be a pastor at this time in my life. Just not sure I thought it would be in quite this way, exactly in this place. As many have noted, life is a journey with unexpected twists and turns, filled with crooked detours, and, along the way one experiences joys along with multiple baskets of wasted time. (The best autobiographical title I’ve ever heard was borrowed from a line in Shakespeare: *Chronicles of Wasted Time*.) The fact is, life is about change, even if you stay at the same address, keep the same vocation, and enjoy the same family and group of friends. Living itself brings regret even if we remain wealthy and healthy with children and choices and things and memories that mostly make us proud. There is always a road untaken, a path less traveled that we

didn’t traverse. One can only imagine the sights and sounds and joys that were missed there!

We must regret what we regret and grieve what we need to grieve. It is the human way, and it is the way of the divine. In the Christian calendar we now find ourselves in the midst of the Easter season and, if this means anything it means life from death, hope from despair, and the promise that spring’s bright colors will follow the gray and bleary that was bleak winter. This new season first whispers to wake us from winter’s slumber, and then it shouts, ‘*Peace be still!*’ We must remember to apprehend a grateful heart and show mercy instead of judgment, both to others and to ourselves, especially to ourselves. This is the way creation was meant to be, and the way of our God, too. To be sure, our choices have consequences and so it happens from time to time that those long ago decisions we made, or incidents that happened to us, can end up swallowing our strength and substance. Life brings the seeds of despair and death within it. The good news is that death brings the seeds of life and delight within it as well!

Many lives seem wasted beyond repair. We see a person tossed aside, destroyed by personal choosing and/or things that happened to them that made any hope of a practiced compassion or reception of blessing impossible. From time to time we all experience this lost-ness and the healthier ones among us take the time needed to 'bemoan' their 'outcast state.' In any case, as Easter people we are tasked with finding a necessary grace to serve these embittered ones, for we are all connected and called to be keepers of one another and ourselves. After all, the bitter root can burrow deeply wherever it is allowed entrance for the heart is gatekeeper to both good and evil. As Scripture enjoins, it is we who are strong who must bear the offenses, trials and pains of those who are weak. At one time or another, we have all known bleakness and rejection, despair and loneliness so that even our most eloquent remonstrations are without excuse. Each of us remains in various states of disrepair and dis-ease, in deep need of warmth and succor, because we are all mercy’s orphans.

At that meeting I started to raise my hand, but then thought better of it. “After all,” I reflected, “I am not where I thought I’d be, but *thanks be to God*, I am where I am!”

*Your friend, Pastor Wayne*

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

#### RESUMING OUR BEATITUDES JOURNEY

**A vision for the future!** All parents, present and past CE Committee members and volunteers, and any member of the church interested in our planning for the next school year and beyond is invited to join us via Zoom on **May 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**. Please let me know if you would like to attend so that I can share Zoom invitation details.

Is your child celebrating a milestone graduation this year? Be it pre-school, high school, or anything in between or beyond, we'd love to be able to celebrate and bless this occasion in a manner that works for your family in these special times. Feel free to join the meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> to share your thoughts or contact me directly.

For the month of May we are continuing Sunday School at 9:00 am via Zoom. Packets were distributed in April for the continuation of our Beatitudes journey. Included in this packet are the coloring and activity sheets for our virtual time together as well as family pages that you can use in addition to or in place of joining us for a particular part of the journey. If you know anyone who would like to join us please let me know so that I can extend the resources to them.

#### Sunday May 2<sup>nd</sup>:



Matthew 5:9. Participants will encounter the seventh blessing and promise of the Beatitudes. They will develop an understanding of the word "peace" that transcends lack of conflict. Participants will hear a grown-up say that we are all called to be peacemakers, and we are all children of God. They will receive a challenge to make peace in the world around us.

#### Sunday May 9<sup>th</sup>:

Blessed Are Those Who Are Persecuted Matthew 5:10. Participants will encounter the eighth blessing and promise of the Beatitudes. They will become familiar with the word "persecution" and how it relates to the

life of Jesus and the lives of all people who resist injustice. Participants will hear a grown-up say that persecution often happens when we make brave choices. They will receive a challenge to choose the way of righteousness and justice, even if it makes people uncomfortable or frustrated.

#### Sunday May 16<sup>th</sup>:

Blessed Are You When...

Matthew 5:11-12. Participants will encounter the ninth blessing and promise of the Beatitudes. They will consider how we may rejoice even when people misunderstand or persecute us. Participants will hear a grown-up say that children do not have to do this work alone. They will receive a challenge to be a part of an ancient team, a team that partners with God to bring about love and justice.

#### Sunday May 23<sup>rd</sup>:

Coming Down the Mountain

Matthew 4:23-5:12. Participants will reflect on their beatitude journey and wonder together about what it means to come down the mountain with Jesus. Participants will hear a grown-up say that Jesus preached about a world where God blesses those who may seem powerless. God's kingdom looks different from kingdoms of violence, selfishness, and harshness. It is a community of love. They will receive a challenge to descend the mountain with Jesus, bringing everything we have learned into a new perspective for living.

#### Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup>:

Memorial Day – No Sunday School  
As a family I invite you to attend worship, explore the great outdoors, participate in a local Memorial Day event, or any activity that gives you time for gratitude and peace. As always, if you have any questions or ideas please feel to reach out to me.

*Diane Osborne*

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### OUTREACH & MISSIONS



The theme this year for One Great Hour

of Sharing is "**Let Love Flow.**" "Any monetary gifts are leveraged with those of others across the United Church of Christ bringing a greater impact to the work being done with local and global partners. Your support enables the Wider Church Ministries [http://www.ucc.org/oghs\\_resources](http://www.ucc.org/oghs_resources) to respond to a variety of global and local concerns by addressing advocacy, sustainable development, refugee and asylum issues, migration, and disasters, and assisting those most in need and vulnerable." The Outreach & Missions Committee will be collecting checks made out to *One Great Hour of Sharing Offering*, and mailing them together in one envelope on May 31, 2021. There will be a basket in the Narthex for this collection.

The Outreach & Missions Committee was overwhelmed by the incredible Lenten Mission Collection to help the Attleboro Literacy Center students! You answered the call for compassion and assistance.



The **Food Pantry** will be "open for business" to on **Monday, May 24<sup>th</sup>** in Fellowship Hall. Thank you for your generous donations of money and supplies. Spaghetti sauce, cereals, real fruit juices, canned fruit, baked beans, tuna, spam, peanut butter, hearty soups, corned beef hash, detergent, toiletries, and female hygiene products are always welcome. The drop-off site is in the Narthex on Sunday or the kitchen during office hours. Contact: Betsey Pray, [rlbpbpp@verizon.net](mailto:rlbpbpp@verizon.net).

The **Family Café** is temporarily closed.

Contact: Linda Wiswall, [wiswalllinda@gmail.com](mailto:wiswalllinda@gmail.com).

The next Outreach and Missions Committee meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>** at 9 a.m. on Zoom. Please let us know if you would like to join our committee, attend meetings, or have any concerns. Contact: Janet Blair, [janbblair@aol.com](mailto:janbblair@aol.com).



### May Birthdays

- 1 Chris Janson
- Derek Janson
- Dawn McCarthy
- Ella Saunders
- Alex Sawyer
- 2 Pam Middleton
- 5 Roberta Ferguson
- 7 Audrey Sadler-Morse
- 8 Christina Renoni
- 10 Kevin O'Connor
- 11 Steve Withers, Jr.
- 12 Gladys Brander
- 13 Bret Brown
- Jessie Macomber
- 15 Joan Blais
- 17 Bob Richardson
- 18 Diane Findley
- 20 Lorraine Lunt
- 22 Ben Macomber
- Zach Ramsay
- Chris Saunders
- Nick Saunders
- 23 Marilyn Freeman
- 24 Sandy Saunders
- 26 Ted Moxham
- 27 Zoe LaClair
- 30 David Keith



We are entering the final weeks of this school year. The year has gone by so quickly! The teachers and children are busy with spring themed projects. Science lessons include life cycles and each classroom has a butterfly garden where they will watch caterpillars transform into butterflies! This is a truly rewarding time of the

year for us as educators. The children have grown so much over the course of the school year. They understand the rules and structure of our classrooms and we are able to witness the joys of learning and friendship.

We are looking forward to celebrating the adults in our lives this month! We will be hosting a teacher appreciation luncheon during the first week of May. We will also be honoring Mother's Day and Father's Day with 2 different activities. During the week of May 10<sup>th</sup> we will host "Snacks with Someone Special" on our playground. On the evening of May 26<sup>th</sup> we will host a "Walk with Someone Wonderful."

Plans for our pre-school graduation are underway. We have 24 children moving on to Kindergarten! We will be holding a graduation ceremony on Thursday evening June 3<sup>rd</sup> for limited family and friends to attend! We will host graduation at The Newell Shelter at Capron Park due to the current health and safety guidelines. We have asked guests to bring a canned good as a donation to the Second Church Food Pantry.

We have been registering families for the 2021-2022 school year. We have limited openings in some of our classes. If you know of anyone looking for a pre-school placement, please encourage them to call me at 508-222-1149.

*Warmly, Katrina Lay  
Executive Director*

- O&M Committee Virtual Meeting,  
May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 am
- Church Council Virtual Meeting,  
May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 12:00 pm.
- Food Pantry Distribution,  
May 24<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 to 5:00 pm

### Did You Know?

Around the turn of the last century, the name Major Everett S. Horton was very well known at Second Church. Everett Horton was born on June 15, 1836. Little is known of his early years but his rise to fame begins with the Civil War. Several men of the Attleborough area were recruited into a company which elected Everett Horton as a second lieutenant. Gradually he rose through the ranks until he was promoted to major.

On September 30, 1864, Major Horton became a prisoner of war and was held for some time at the infamous Libby Prison. On February 22, 1865 he was paroled and was released to union lines.

After the war he returned to Attleborough and, upon the death of his older brother, became associated with the Horton-Angell Co. Major Horton eventually became the senior partner in that firm.

In later years Major Horton became closely connected with the William Streeter Post of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.). He was the host of several former P.O.W. reunions at the old Archway Hotel next door to the church.

Major Horton was a lifelong member of Second Church and was held in the greatest respect. In 1903, he was appointed chairman of the committee that would design and erect the church that we use today.

If you are interested, there is a commemorative tablet in our little museum at the bottom of the stairs under the narthex.

Major Horton died on June 3, 1911 and was buried with full military honors in the Old Kirkyard. *Ted Moxham*

### MAY CALENDAR

- Each Sunday Service, 10 am  
In-person if possible,  
live streamed on our website!  
View later as well.
- Virtual Sunday School at 9:00 am. See CE article for details.
- CE Parent Virtual Meeting,  
May 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm
- J&J Board of Directors Meeting,  
May 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm
- Board of Deacons Virtual Meeting,  
May 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm
- Facilities Committee Virtual Meeting,  
May 17<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm.
- Admin Committee Virtual Meeting  
May 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm
- June Voice Input Deadline,  
May 20<sup>th</sup>**



**WELCOME SPRING!**



# Southern New England Conference

United Church of Christ

*Living the Love & Justice of Jesus*

## Daily Lectionary Scripture References – May 2021 (Year B)

**Sat., May. 1**

Psalm 22:25-31  
Amos 9:7-15  
Mark 4:30-32

**Sun., May. 2*****Fifth Sunday of Easter***

Acts 8:26-40  
Psalm 22:25-31  
1 John 4:7-21  
John 15:1-8

**Mon., May. 3**

Psalm 80  
Isaiah 5:1-7  
Galatians 5:16-26

**Tues., May. 4**

Psalm 80  
Isaiah 32:9-20  
James 3:17-18

**Wed., May. 5**

Psalm 80  
Isaiah 65:17-25  
John 14:18-31

**Thurs., May. 6**

Psalm 98  
Isaiah 49:5-6  
Acts 10:1-34

**Fri., May. 7**

Psalm 98  
Isaiah 42:5-9  
Acts 10:34-43

**Sat., May. 8**

Psalm 98  
Deuteronomy 32:44-47  
Mark 10:42-45

**Sun., May. 9*****Sixth Sunday of Easter***

Acts 10:44-48  
Psalm 98  
1 John 5:1-6  
John 15:9-17

**Mon., May. 10**

Psalm 93  
Deuteronomy 7:1-11  
1 Timothy 6:11-12

**Tues., May. 11**

Psalm 93  
Deuteronomy 11:1-17  
1 Timothy 6:13-16

**Wed., May. 12**

Psalm 93  
Deuteronomy 11:18-21  
Mark 16:19-20

**Thurs., May. 13*****Ascension of the Lord***

Acts 1:1-11  
Psalm 47 or Psalm 93  
Ephesians 1:15-23  
Luke 24:44-53

**Fri., May. 14**

Psalm 47  
Exodus 24:15-18  
Revelation 1:9-18

**Sat., May. 15**

Psalm 47  
Deuteronomy 34:1-7  
John 16:4-11

**Sun., May. 16*****Seventh Sunday of Easter***

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26  
Psalm 1  
1 John 5:9-13  
John 17:6-19

**Mon., May. 17**

Psalm 115  
Exodus 28:29-38  
Philippians 1:3-11

**Tues., May. 18**

Psalm 115  
Numbers 8:5-22  
Titus 1:1-9

**Wed., May. 19**

Psalm 115  
Ezra 9:5-15  
John 16:16-24

**Thurs., May. 20**

Psalm 33:12-22  
Genesis 2:4b-7  
1 Corinthians 15:42b-49

**Fri., May. 21**

Psalm 33:12-22  
Job 37:1-13  
1 Corinthians 15:50-57

**Sat., May. 22**

Psalm 33:12-22  
Exodus 15:6-11  
John 7:37-39

**Sun., May. 23*****Pentecost***

Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b  
Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21  
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

**Mon., May. 24**

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b  
Joel 2:18-29  
1 Corinthians 12:4-11

**Tues., May. 25**

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b  
Genesis 11:1-9  
1 Corinthians 12:12-27

**Wed., May. 26**

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b  
Ezekiel 37:1-14  
John 20:19-23

**Thurs., May. 27**

Psalm 29  
Isaiah 1:1-4, 16-20  
Romans 8:1-8

**Fri., May. 28**

Psalm 29  
Isaiah 2:1-5  
Romans 8:9-11

**Sat., May. 29**

Psalm 29  
Isaiah 5:15-24  
John 15:18-20, 26-27

**Sun., May. 30*****Trinity Sunday***

Isaiah 6:1-8  
Psalm 29  
Romans 8:12-17  
John 3:1-17

**Mon., May. 31**

Psalm 99  
1 Samuel 2:11-17  
Romans 9:19-29

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