

# UNITED CHURCH ON THE GREEN

In the Heart of New Haven, Open to all Seekers



An Open and Affirming Congregation of  
the United Church of Christ



## We Gather as Church

\*please rise in body or in spirit

**PRELUDE**                      *Fugue in E-flat Major, "St. Anne", BWV 552*                      J. S. Bach  
From *Clavier-Übung III*

### **WORDS OF WELCOME**

Please rise in body or in spirit as our worship begins. A deacon of the church will place the opened Bible on the pulpit, reminding us that the Word of God gathers the church and belongs to all God's people.

**\*HYMN #386**                      *We Are One in the Spirit*                      ST. BRENDAN'S

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor:        We are called to remain here. Remain here with me.

**All:    Remain in this soil. Remain in this earth.**

Pastor:        Remain among these branches. Remain watered in this love.

**All:    Remain where we can grow. Remain here where God loves you. Remain here with us.**

### **GATHERING PRAYER**

Pastor: O God, remain here with us. Nurture us where we are not growing. Encourage us to see the sun again. Remain here with us, O God. Remain here. Remain in us. **Amen.**

### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**All:    O God, we are so worried about future generations. We want them to remain so that they can learn your ways. We worry that we won't be here to tell them about you. We are worried they won't know about your love. Remove this bad fruit from us, O God.**

**Trim away this branch. Remove that twig. Burn it in the fire. Remain with us so that we might show your glory as we seek to grow again. Feed us with your words so that we might find the new life we need. Amen.**

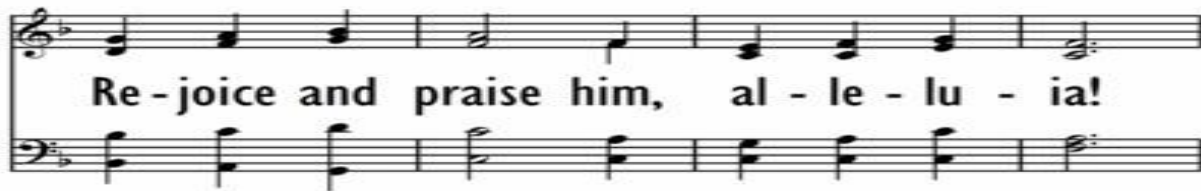
## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: Beloved, God will remain in you. You will always be a branch on God's vine. God will always grow with you. **Amen.**

## \* SUNG RESPONSE

*Mfurahini, Haleluya*

Tanzanian Hallelujah



## We Listen for God's Word

### READING OF THE SCRIPTURE

Deacon, Rahteisha Pittman

*from the Gospels*

**John 15:1-8**

Pew Bible New Testament p109

## CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

*All children are invited to come forward to share in the Children's Circle.*

*Afterwards there is childcare downstairs for ages 5 and under and church school for kids ages six and above.*

## Service of Baptism

**United Church welcomes our Candidates for Baptism!** During service today, we will be baptizing **Aubrylynn Marie Brady, Makaylarose Natalie Brady + Robert Barry James, III** into the body of Christ. Please join Pastor Bonnie, the Deacons, their parents, Amanda + Timothy Brady and Natalie Torres as we celebrate. (please see insert)

## VOLUNTARY

*Spring Comes to Boston Common*  
(and to New Haven.....)

Edward Thompson

## REFLECTION

**Transitional Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. Bonnie Scott**

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

## We Respond

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

The Lord be with you... *And also with you...* Let us pray...

- Prayers for Jennifer Massaro and Barbara Hutchinson at YNHH
- Prayers for George Lindsay preparing for his surgery on May 14<sup>th</sup>
- Prayers for Fred Walker who is in the hospital
- The people of Antioch, Tennessee
- Those who have a birthday this week including, Rev Dominique C Atchison + Diane Swift

### **PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR**

**Our Father/Mother/God, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### **\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Peace be with you... *And also with you...*

## Call to Action

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CALL TO OFFERING**

Pastor: It's hard to know if we are growing, but we see God in the love we share. We grow with God in the mercy we give. Let us give our gifts of love and mercy.

### **OFFERTORY**

*Ich ruf zu dir, BWV 639*

J. S. Bach

### **\*SONG OF THANKSGIVING**

### **OLD HUNDREDTH**

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW;  
PRAISE GOD, ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW;  
PRAISE GOD ABOVE, YE HEAVENLY HOST:  
CREATOR, CHRIST, AND HOLY GHOST. AMEN.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Steward, Peter O’Connell: O God, let these gifts grow to reach the whole world with love. Remain in these gifts, O God, so that future generations might know that we love them as much as we love you.

**All: And Bless those who give and those who long to give, that we may become living stones of mercy, grace and justice in the house of your creation. Amen.**

**We Are Sent Out**

**\*HYMN #487**

*Abide with Me*

EVENTIDE

**\*COMMISSION AND BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE**

*In dir ist Freude, BWV 615*

J. S. Bach

**PLEASE BE SEATED UNTIL THE CONCLUSION OF THE MUSIC**

**Our Worship Has Ended. Let Our Service Begin!**

## THIS WEEK'S WORSHIP LEADERS

<b>Transitional Senior Pastor</b>	Rev. Dr. Bonnie Scott
<b>Deacons</b>	Rahteisha Pittman
<b>Steward</b>	Peter O'Connell
<b>Director of Music and Organist</b>	Caesar Storlazzi
<b>Church School Teacher</b>	Betty Baisden
<b>Childcare Provider</b>	Colleen O'Connor
<b>Childcare Provider</b>	She'mone Jenkins
<b>Head Sexton</b>	William Henton
<b>Sexton</b>	Brendan Linehan
<b>Coffee Hour Hosts</b>	Joél Rodriguez, Ramón Molina, Darnell Ray, Kristina Zallinger, Harlene Sullivan, George Lindsay

## THIS WEEK AT UNITED CHURCH

- Apr 29th:** 10:00AM Worship at United Church  
11:30AM Coffee Hour in the Bradley Room  
12:30PM Second Worship Service at the Meeting House  
1:30PM Search Committee Meeting at the Meeting House  
4:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) at the Parish House  
5:00PM Shalom Congregation Worship and Potluck at Parish House
- Apr 30th:** 12Noon AA at the Meeting House  
7:30PM Adult Faith Formation at the Parish House
- May 1st:** 12Noon Staff Meeting at the Parish House  
12Noon AA at the Meeting House  
4:30PM Amistad Committee at the Parish House  
7:00PM Deacons Meeting at the Parish House
- May 2nd:** 12Noon AA at the Meeting House  
12:30PM Finance Committee Meeting at the Parish House  
6:00PM NA Speakers Group at the Parish House
- May 3rd:** 12Noon AA at the Meeting House  
7:00PM Hope After Loss in the Parish House Lounge  
7:30PM New Generation NA at the Parish House  
7:30PM UCG Choir Rehearsal at the Meeting House
- May 4th:** 12Noon AA at the Meeting House
- May 5th:** 10:00AM NA Group Workshop at the Parish House

## CHURCH NOTES

### **Pastor Bonnie's Contact Information and Office Hours**

**Mondays: Sermon Drafting**

**Tuesdays: Office Hours**

**Wednesdays + Thursdays: Pastoral Calls and Visitation**

**(203) 787-4195 x104**

[dr.bonnie.scott@gmail.com](mailto:dr.bonnie.scott@gmail.com)

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**Pastor Bonnie's Sermon Discussion Series:** If you are interested in this Series, please contact the Pastor by phone or by email, so she can add you to the group. On Mondays, the Pastor will email the upcoming Sunday's scripture to the group. The group can then respond and join in the discussion by email.

**Upcoming Surgery? New Baby or Grandchild? Moving? Death in the Family?** If you've had a recent major life change, please contact the Pastor so that she can contact you and your family and provide appropriate Pastoral Care.

**A Moveable, Musical Feast!** This afternoon at United Church at 2pm, David von Behren of the Yale Institute of Sacred Music, a student of Martin Jean, will present the first part of his recital. Part I, at UCG, will feature organ works that are right at home on our Hillebrand/Moore organ. Part II of David's program will take place at Trinity Church on the Green (hence the "Moveable Feast" title of this notice) and the whole audience will take a delightful stroll up to Trinity for the conclusion of the recital. Please come if you can! (It's free....)

### **Canned Meat/ Poultry/ Fish**

**Going forward, we will be taking food donations once a month as part of our Communion Service.** Please bring in your food offering on the first Sunday of each month or drop it off at the Parish House during business hours. In May, we are collecting Canned Meat/ Poultry/ Fish (ie ham, Vienna sausage, chicken, tuna, salmon, etc.)

**Our Second Service is at 12:30AM.** Our second service has been designed for those within the community who may appreciate a different Christian experience. It is a special bi-lingual, inclusive and progressively Pentecostal/ Charismatic musical worship service. The worship is entitled, "Feel the Spirit! ¡Siente El Espiritu!" Deacons Edwin Perez and Carlos Sanchez seek to provide love, welcoming and inclusion, with lively music and singing and a short reflection by your Pastor. We look forward to continuing to see you at one of our services - or even come to both!

**At United Church on the Green, we seek to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God, following in the footsteps of Jesus.** We are also a progressive Protestant Christian church, a member of the nationwide United Church of Christ (UCC).

**We have a long history.**

- Established 1742. Meetinghouse was built in 1815.
- The Amistad Incident? Abolition of slavery? The 1970 Black Panther trials? Divestment in South Africa? United was there.

**We believe God is still speaking to the world today... and we're trying to listen.**

- Not a "The Bible says it. I believe it. That settles it." kind of church. Questions encouraged. (Actually, they're necessary.)
- "Open and Affirming" of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people since 1989.

**We are working with God to build a better future.**

- Not interested in "saving souls" or "converting the heathen." God's love is for all.
- Trying to "connect the dots" to grow peace, justice, and compassion in the world.

**Staff Contacts**

**Rev. Dr. Bonnie Scott**, *transitional senior pastor*  
**Caesar Storlazzi**, *director of music*  
**Betty Baisden**, *director of the nursery school*  
**Jack Russell**, *director of operations*  
**Nicole René Atchison**, *church administrator*  
**Nancy Lupi**, *financial secretary*  
**Rev. Louise B. Higginbotham**, *minister emerita*

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**United Church on the Green, UCC**

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**parish house office**, *corner of Temple & Wall*  
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fax 203.772.7884

*Worship Sundays @ 10:00am, corner of Temple & Elm*

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