



August 2, 2026
Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Sharing an experience of belonging, with God's music and the love
and justice of Jesus at the heart of what we do.

Welcome

Rachel Robicheau

Opening Music: Come As You Are

Opening Prayer

Rev. Bethany Meier-Evans

Entry Into Worship

Carol Wallace

One: The psalmist tells us there is fullness of joy in the presence of God.

Many: Then let the joy begin!

One: Jesus says, "I came that you may have life, abundant life!"

Many: Not cramped life. Not hidden life. Life overflowing!

One: So bring your laughter, your longing, your love and your whole beautiful self.

Many: We come as we are, and we come ready to celebrate!

One: Queer joy is sacred. Queer joy is resilient. Queer joy is a gift to the whole church.

Many: We rejoice in every life lived freely and every love lived boldly!

One: Come, let us worship the God who knows us and delights in us.

Many: With open hearts and joyful spirits, we worship together!

Scripture: Psalm 16: 5-11

Carol Wallace

Gospel: John 10: 7-11

So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

Music: Shepherd Me, O God

Sermon: Living Abundantly

Rev. Bethany Meier-Evans

Music: Let Love, Be Our Legacy

Affirmation (Unison)

Rachel Robicheau

We believe in God,
who created us in glorious diversity,
who knows us fully,
and who delights in who we are.

We believe in Jesus,
the Good Shepherd,
who calls us by name,
leads us out of every place of fear,
and came so that we might have life...
not merely survive,
but live abundantly.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who moves beyond every boundary,
who gives courage to our truth,
music to our laughter,
and joy to our resistance.

We believe in the Church
when it throws its doors wide,
celebrates every body and every love,
and becomes a community
where all God's people can flourish.

We believe queer joy is holy.
We believe delight can be an act of resistance.
We believe love is stronger than shame.
And we believe God is still leading us
into fuller, freer, and more joyful life.

Offering Invitation

Rachel Robicheau

Music: In Remembrance

Communion

Pastoral Prayer (with the Lord's Prayer)

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. Amen.

Closing Music: All Belong Here

Sending Forth

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

This morning we welcome **Rev. Bethany Meier-Evans**, our Guest Preacher. Rev. Bethany Meier-Evans is an author, creative spirit, speaker and coach focused on queer joy, healing, and liberation. She has an M.A. in Gender and Queer Studies, a Master of Divinity degree and is an interfaith minister who was ordained in the UCC. She has served churches in Missouri and New Mexico and now works for Glisten, an LGBTQ non-profit that advocates for queer youth. She finds queer joy spending time with her wife and son, their animals, her family and chosen family, queer entertainment and iced lattes. You can find out more about Bethany at joyfullyqueer.com!

STAFF VACATION AND EMERGENCY PASTORAL COVERAGE: Pastor Timoth is on vacation through August 30th. If there is a pastoral emergency, please contact Paul Meoni (pjmeoni@verizon.net).

POSTCARD WRITING, Sunday, August 2nd, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm: Please join the Racial Justice Team for a postcard writing event to encourage people in North Carolina (a swing state) to vote November 3rd. Postcards, pens and addresses will be provided. We will have our postcard campaign on three Sundays – July 26th, August 2nd and August 9th – after Fellowship Hour at 11:30 am in Memorial Hall. Please join us!

SWEENEY TODD: An infamous tale, Sweeney Todd, an unjustly exiled barber, returns to nineteenth century London, seeking vengeance against the lecherous judge who framed and ravaged his young wife. The road to revenge leads Todd to Mrs. Lovett, a resourceful proprietress of a failing pie shop, above which, he opens a new barber practice. Mrs. Lovett's luck sharply shifts when Todd's thirst for blood inspires the integration of an ingredient into her meat pies that has the people of London lining up...and the carnage has only just begun! **Performances are August 21st, 22nd and 23rd.** Get your tickets at bit.ly/2026SweeneyTodd

DAUGHTER OF AN OATH: A REVOLUTIONARY FOLK OPERA AUDITIONS, August 12th, 6:00-9:00 pm: Based on the true story of historical figure Bathsheba Ruggles Spooner in Revolutionary-Era Massachusetts. Please prepare a one-minute selection of classical theatre or light opera (i.e., Gilbert & Sullivan, Rodgers & Hammerstein) and sign up at <https://wearechanginglives.org/ministry/auditions>. An accompanist will be provided. Those auditioning will also be asked to read from the script. Callbacks will be held on Friday, August 14th. Performances will be November 20-22, 2026.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Missions Team
Racial Justice

Sunday, August 2nd
Friday, August 7th

After coffee hour in the Chapel
2:30 pm in the Parlor

SCAN OUR QR CODES:



Online Giving



Events Page of Our Website

Rev. Timoth Sylvia, Pastor
Jeff Hobart, Director of Music Ministry

1 South Main Street, Randolph, MA
www.wearechanginglives.org

781-963-6373
info@wearechanginglives.org

Choir

Madison Christian, Angela Marseglia, Marjie DiSalvio, Joy Tardiff, Julia Pottey, Noah Hobart, Rachel Robicheau, Aaron Cohen, Laura Lee Coveney, Sam Hobart, Sue Goodale, Paul Meoni

Band

Jeff Hobart – Piano, Rachel Robicheau – Song Leader, Angela Marseglia – Guitars, Sam Hobart – Guitars, Joy Tardiff – Bass, Noah Hobart – Drums

Tech Team

Pat Dzierzak – Dramatic Sounds, John Silipigno, Adrian Sylvia, Caleb Tobin, Alex Goodrich, Ariana Seeramsingh