

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

February 11, 2024, 10:00 a.m. Hancock United Church of Christ, Congregational • 1912 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington, MA

Vision, Mission, and Values

OUR VISION:

Inspired by the life and teachings of Jesus, we are changing the world through love, compassion, and courage.

OUR MISSION:

In the revolutionary spirit of our Christian faith, we invite you to join us as we

- worship God with all our hearts and minds
- walk our spiritual paths together
- cherish one another
- build community in a diverse world
- protect the earth
- work for the common good

OUR VALUES:

faithfulness inclusion compassion gratitude integrity generosity humility vulnerability courage

WELCOME TO HANCOCK

We are delighted that you chose to worship with us this Sunday and are strengthened by your participation in our service! If you would like to watch us virtually, you can visit our youtube page via youtube.com/hancockchurch.

Given the continuing decline of covid cases, masks will

no longer be required in any areas of the building or services. Individuals are always encouraged and supported in their decisions to wear masks as they need to given their own situation.

Infant and toddler care is available each Sunday. Today, it will begin at 9:30am in the nursery and toddler room.

Cover art: Linoleum Print by Elizabeth Steele Halstead. Reprinted by permission from Visuals for Worship, c2006, Faith Alive Christian Resources.



2





MOMENT FOR REFLECTION
Psalm 51:7-15

- outility			
 Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be brighter than snow. Oh, give me back my joy again; you have broken me— now let me rejoice. Don't keep looking at my sins. Remove the stain of my guilt. Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me. Do not banish me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me. PRELUDE Prelude in F 	Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you. Then I will teach your ways to rebels, and they will return to you. Forgive me for shedding blood, O God who saves; then I will joyfully sing of your forgiveness. Unseal my lips, O Lord, that my mouth may praise you.		
Ian Watson, organ			
WORDS OF WELCOME Barbara Callaghan & David C Clark			
CALL TO WORSHIP			
The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion: in God I trust, in God I trust.			
PRAYERS OF INVOCATION	Barbara Callaghan		
*OPENING HYMN Be Thou My Vision			
INTRODUCTION TO THE PROCLAMATIONDavid C Clark			

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORDBarbara Callaghan Mark 7:1-8, 14 & 15, 20-23

One day some Pharisees and teachers of religious law arrived from Jerusalem to see Jesus. They noticed that some of his disciples failed to follow the Jewish ritual of hand washing before eating. (The Jews, especially the Pharisees, do not eat until they have poured water over their cupped hands, as required by their ancient traditions. Similarly, they don't eat anything from the market until they immerse their hands in water. This is but one of many traditions they have clung to—such as their ceremonial washing of cups, pitchers, and kettles.)

So the Pharisees and teachers of religious law asked him, "Why don't your disciples follow our age-old tradition? They eat without first performing the hand-washing ceremony."

Jesus replied, "You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you, for he wrote,

'These people honor me with their lips,

but their hearts are far from me.

Their worship is a farce,

for they teach man-made ideas as commands from God.'

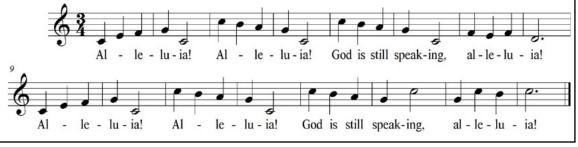
For you ignore God's law and substitute your own tradition."

Then Jesus called to the crowd to come and hear. "All of you listen," he said, "and try to understand. It's not what goes into your body that defiles you; you are defiled by what comes from your heart."

And then he added, "It is what comes from inside that defiles you. For from within, out of a person's heart, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, wickedness, deceit, lustful desires, envy, slander, pride, and foolishness. All these vile things come from within; they are what defile you."

One: The Word of God, for the People of God. Many: Thanks be to God!

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE. . Alleulia, God Is Still Speaking. . . by Mark Morgan



*Congregation standing—some may wish to remain seated

PASSING OF THE PEACE
ONE: The Peace of Christ be with you MANY: And also with you!
GATHERING SONGGuide My Feet
Guide my feet, while I run this race (3 times) For I don't want to run this race in vain. Hold my hand, while I run this race (3 times) For I don't want to run this race in vain.
CHILDREN'S TIME Katie Brown-Bright
THE MORNING OFFERING
OFFERTORY
O Redeemer divine, our sole hope of salvation, Eternal light of the earth and the sky,
We kneel in adoration, O Savior,
Turn on us Thy loving eye.
Send down on us the fire of Thy grace all consuming, Whose wondrous might dispersed the powers of hell, And rouse our slumbering souls within Thy radiance, That they may waken Thy mercy to tell.
O Christ bestow Thy blessing on us, we implore Thee, Who here are gathered on penitent knee, Accept the hymns we chant to Thine eternal glory And these Thy gifts we return unto Thee.

	r woromp
*DOXOLOGY	From North and South and East and West
May God's eterna Alleluia! Till everywhere Thy kingdom com Alleluia! Alleluia!	th and east and west I name be blessed! Alleluia! beneath the sun e, Thy will be done Alleluia! Alleluia!
PRAYER OF DEDICATION	Barbara Callaghan
PASTORAL PRAYER	Barbara Callaghan
TIME OF SILENT PRAYER	
THE LORD'S PRAYER	
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us t debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead For thine is the kingdom, and the power, a	his day our daily bread, and forgive us our us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
ANTHEM O How . Chancel Choir	Amiable by Ralph Vaughan Williams
O how amiable are thy dwellings; though Lord of hosts! My soul hath a desire and longing To enter into the courts of the Lord: My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.	The glorious Majesty of the Lord our God be upon us: Prosper thou the work of our hands upon us. O prosper thou our handiwork.
Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, And the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: Even thy altars, O Lord of Hosts, My King and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: They will be alway praising thee.	O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.

*Congregation standing—some may wish to remain seated

SERMON	Spring Cleaning	David C Clark
*CLOSING HYMN Our C	God, Our Help In Ages Past	#80
*BENEDICTION		David C Clark
POSTLUDE	Postlude in D minor	.C.V. Stanford

FLOWER DEDICATION



Today's flowers are given in loving memory of her parents, Dorothy and William Lindsay Clore, by Isabelle Plaster.

CALLING NEW USHERS! Hancock seeks to replenish usher teams in February!

Please consider involving yourself as a Hancock usher. The commitment is minimal, the impact is significant. Here's what you need to know:

- We run five rotating usher teams
- Every five weeks, you will receive an email from your usher team leader to see if you are available to usher/greet on the following Sunday
- If you can help that week, we would ask that you return an affirming email and arrive at Hancock by 9:30am for set up, and stay for 10 minutes after the service to help with the service clean up
- There are No usher meetings, No usher phone calling.....just the important role of greeting your church family and getting to know your Hancock community on a deeper level.

If you can help out, please contact Brian Keeping at **BCKeeping72@gmail.com** or 781-953-3162. Thank you!

Worship God With All Our Hearts And Mind

MORNING OFFERING

Each week at Hancock we accept an offering of gifts for two purposes:

Mission Partner of the Week: Each Sunday we accept gifts for one of our mission partners, a select organization doing God's work in the world. Many are local or regional organizations with whom we've worked with for years. All are effective organizations making a difference in people's lives. These donations are passed directly to the organization in addition to the donations included in Hancock's budget.

Sustaining Hancock's Vision: Gifts are also welcome in the Sunday offering plate for Hancock Church that support our staff, our building, community outreach, and all of the worship and programs at Hancock.

You may make a gift for either in one of three ways:

- Through our website. Go to www. hancockchurch.org, click on the Give button in the upper right, and follow the instructions to make a gift by credit or debit card, or ACH bank transfer. Be sure to indicate in the dropdown menu whether the gift is for "Mission Partner" or "Hancock Church."
- Send a check. Make it payable to Hancock UCC, and note on the memo line either "Mission Partner" or "Hancock." Our address is 1912 Massachusetts Ave., Lexington, MA 02421.
- Text to give. From your smart phone or tablet, text the dollar amount along with "Mission" or "Hancock" to 781-386-0866 and tap the link to enter your credit card information.

THE WEEKLY OFFERING

The LGBT Asylum Task Force is a church ministry that was formed in Worcester in 2008. The Task Force welcomes LGBTQ people of all faith traditions as it provides housing, food, and connection to legal, medical, and mental health resources at other local agencies. This vital ministry provides comprehensive support for the entire twoyears in which in which asylum seekers are not allowed to work.

Asylum seekers seek protection from torture and abuse that is happening in their home countries. They must have faced persecution or have a well-founded fear of persecution because of race, religion, nationality, or membership in a particular social group, or political opinion. "Particular social group" has been interpreted to include the LGBTQ community. Several Ugandan LGBTQ asylum seekers in Worcester have reported that they were tortured, and that individuals they knew were tortured and murdered after being arrested by police.

Mission Partner Update: 12/24/23 10 am: UCC-Christmas Fund \$175 12/24/23 Christmas Eve: Hancock Church \$7, 264.50 12/31/23: Habitat for Humanity \$589

Upcoming Offerings: 2/18/24: Household Goods 2/25/24: Poland Church for Ukraine

Thank you for your continued support of these important organizations.

Worship God With All Our Hearts And Mind

5:00 PM, MARDI GRAS WORSHIP AT THE WELL TONIGHT!



On Feb. 11, Hancock Church celebrates Mardi Gras with a special evening service! All are invited for worship and snacks. Our newly installed Associate Minister, David C Clark, leads the service and the River Rock Band pulls out the big brass instruments to bring a New Orleans feel to a spirited service with musical guests. This is an event for any age – the young and young in spirit are very welcome!

3:00 PM, Youth Group Mardi Gras

On February 11, Hancock youth will be hosting a Mardi Gras party with nearby UCC youth groups. There will be mask decorating, games, snacks and, of course, a King Cake. For more info email **Katie@HancockChurch.org**.

Ash Wednesday Wednesday, February 14, 2024

> DRIVE-THRU ASHES 6:30 - 7:30am 12:00 - 1:00pm

Drive around the back of the church to the exit driveway to receive ashes and blessing from a minister.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE 7:00 PM

Attend Ash Wednesday service in the chapel or virtually via pre-recorded broadcast. The service includes readings, a brief reflection, and an opportunity to receive a blessing.

HECHANGE YOU WISH TO SEE IN THE WORLD



Walk Our Spiritual Paths Together

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

	GENEROSITY SUNDAY	
18	Be the generosity you wish to see in the world	Join Pasto of Lent for the week your came shares pra work weel
^{FEB} 25	MERCY SUNDAY	
	Be the mercy you wish to see in the world	
MAR 03	FAITHFULNESS SUNDAY	Moi Mond
	Be the faithfulness you wish to see in the world	
mar 10	COMPASSION SUNDAY	Barbara & study on t teachingst scholar of and fresh Bible that
	Be the compassion you wish to see in the world	
mar 17	COURAGE SUNDAY	
	Be the courage you wish to see in the world	
25 Mar 03 Mar 10 Mar	Be the mercy you wish to see in the world FAITHFULNESS SUNDAY Be the faithfulness you wish to see in the world COMPASSION SUNDAY Be the compassion you wish to see in the world COURAGE SUNDAY Be the courage you wish to see	shares work w M Mo Barbara study o teachin scholar and fre Bible th

MONDAY MORNING PRAYER ZOOM Monday mornings from Feb. 19 - Mar. 25 from 7:30 - 7:45 AM

Join Pastor David on Zoom each Monday morning of Lent for a time of prayer and centering before the week begins. You are welcome to join with your camera and microphone on or off as David shares prayer and a short devotional to start the work week well.

MONDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUP Monday evenings from Feb. 19-Mar. 25 from 7 - 8 PM

Barbara & David will lead a small group Bible study on the Gospel of Mark using short video teachings from Amy Jill-Levine. Levine is a Jewish scholar of the New Testament, and brings a new and fresh understanding to this book of the Bible that we are using in our worship services throughout Lent. You do not need to be at each meeting, just come as you are able.

WEDNESDAY NOONTIME CONCERTS

Free noontime classical concerts are back for the season of Lent! The concerts take place in the sanctuary every **Wednesday from February 21 - March 27 from 12 - 12:30pm**. The series features a variety of performers including organist Ian Watson, the Joyful Noyse Early Music ensemble, pianist Shi Chen, and performers from the Handel and Haydn Society.

FEB 21 Ian Watson, organ FEB 28 TBA MAR 6 Ian Watson, organ MAR 13 A Joyful Noyse Early Music MAR 20 Ian Watson, organ MAR 27 Shi Chen, piano

Walk Our Spiritual Paths Togethe

CHILDREN'S TAKE HOME MATERIAL FOR LENT

Lent take home materials designed for Families with Children will be available in the Narthex the First Sunday of Lent, Feb. 18. The bags will include resources to facilitate family conversations about injustice in the world. Each week will include a discussion of an issue in the wider world, examples of what people are doing to make a change, and a prayer practice to pray as a family for those experiencing and fighting injustice. If you have any questions, please email Katie at Katie@HancockChurch.org.

Harmony on the Green presents: Antje Duvekot! Saturday, March 2, 2024



Antje Duvekot has solidified her reputation as one of Boston's top singer songwriters with "Big Dream Boulevard," her debut studio release, and "the Near Demise of the Highwire Dancer" and "New Siberia," her follow-up albums. The debut CD was produced by Seamus Egan, founder of the Irish super group SOLAS, and the project was released on songwriter Ellis Paul's label and quickly attracted international attention for Antje.

Opening the show is eclectic singer-songwriter and pianist Eva Gertz who hails from Melrose, MA, and was raised by artsy parents. Introspective, honest lyrics and a moody Joni Mitchellinformed writing style flow expressively like the characteristic Jewish curls atop her head. For more information, please go to HancockChurch.org/coffeehouse.

All concerts start at 7:30pm in Clark Hall at Hancock Church. Tickets are \$20 or pay what you can.

SAVE THE DATE FOR A JOYFUL NOYSE ON MAY 19!

A Joyful Noyse performs Forgotten Treasures: Opera arias from 18th Century Hamburg featuring Handel, Telemann, Keiser, and more. Performed on period instruments by A Joyful Noyse at Hancock Church. \$15 suggested donation at the door.

MUSIC ADMIN HELP NEEDED!

An Hour or Every So Often--Our music program needs some help with basic admin needs like filing. If you have an hour, a few hours, or an hour every few weeks, we could use you! Please contact Mark Morgan at **Mark@HancockChurch.org**.

Work for the Common Good

FEB 25, WELCOMING COMMITTEE INFORMATION SESSION

Are you a visitor or have you been attending worship regularly and are interested in learning more about Hancock? Would you like to find out about what becoming a member of Hancock means? Then plan to come to the Welcoming Committee's next information session on Sunday, February 25, at 11:15 in the Wilson Room. The ministers and members of the Welcoming Committee will be there to share information and answer your questions. You'll hear about the faith journeys that that brought some of our members to Hancock and learn what it means to be a member of our faith community. A light lunch will be served, and children are welcome. If you would like to attend this session or have any questions, please email Welcoming@ HancockChurch.org or stop by the Welcoming Table in the narthex on Sunday mornings. We look forward to seeing you there!

Feb. 25, February Celebrations

On February 25, we will take time during worship to celebrate anybody who wants to mark a milestone in their life. Whether that be a birthday, an anniversary, retirement, or a promotion, you are welcome to share it with us! Please submit email Office@HanockChurch.org or use the online form by Feb. 21, 2024.

SUNDAY MORNING ONLINE CHAT REACTIVATED

Become a Virtual Greeter! For all you folks that watch our Sunday Worship service from home, we're happy to report that the chat has been reactivated and we have recruited some new virtual greeters. Now you can use the online chat to once again be in touch with our church family.

We are delighted to have folks willing to help with this job and would welcome additional volunteers to be virtual greeters. This is an important ministry to keep our Hancock members and friends connected to the life of our church community. If you are a regular online viewer (or even an occasional viewer) and are willing to help, please contact CeCe Potter at **Hannah**. **Potter@verizon.net** or call at 781-812-8534 to learn more about what is involved in being a virtual greeter.

MAR. 16, ALL CHURCH POT LUCK

Please save the date for an All Church Pot Luck Dinner on Saturday, March 16, 2024, from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. This event is hosted by the Welcoming Committee. Mark your calendars now!

Work for the Common Good

MAR. 3, HOUSING JUSTICE ACTION WITH GBIO



Are you interested in advancing GBIO's Housing Justice Campaign? Did you attend one of the two In-District meetings held at Hancock to obtain local legislator agreement and wondered what would be the next step? GBIO's next step is a Housing Justice Action gathering on Sunday, March 3 in Boston. We are

considering car-pools or a bus for Hancock and other Lexington congregations to attend.

Contact Wendy Tanahasi-Works at **DWWorks@verizon.net** or Jim Weston at **JamesRWeston@ gmail.com** for additional information and sign-up with the QR code.

Sunday, March 3 at 3:00 PM Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center 100 Malcolm X Blvd., Roxbury, MA 02120

Join us to push the Housing Justice Campaign across the finish line! Major action to call for the passing of the Affordable Homes Act and GBIO's budget and legislative asks to:

- Improve public housing
- Expand affordable home-ownership and rental
- Improve housing access for Returning Citizens

Register: bit.ly/gbiomarch3

LEXINGTON FOOD PANTRY

For January/February, we are requesting donations of whole or 2% shelf-stable milk, such as Parmalat. Refugees who are being housed at the Element and Aloft hotels in Lexington are now accessing the food pantry.

Food donations are being collected at the front and back of the church. Please note that expired dates are not accepted. To get more information, or to volunteer, you can contact Carolyn Wortman at CarolynWortman@icloud.com.

Work for the Common Good

UPDATE FROM THE ANNUAL GIVING COMMITTEE

Thanks to so many of you, the annual gifts that fund all of our good work and worship for the coming year are flowing in. And, for that, thank you so much from the Giving Committee!

The bar chart, below, captures commitment data as of Dec. 29, 2023. The numbers are good, but we are hoping for better. You will see that for 2024 we are lagging behind 2023 and 2022, both in the number of gifts and the amounts committed in each year. The goal we need to meet this year is \$725,000, and we are currently about \$221,000 short of that.

If you intend to give, and we very much hope you will, we would greatly appreciate your letting the church know of your plans for 2024. Your commitments make a huge difference in the church's ability to plan for the good work ahead. And, please remember that in addition to the good work you help fund within Hancock, these gifts also help support our mission partners beyond these walls throughout the year.

We recognize that for some it may be difficult to make a commitment of the size you might wish, and we understand that. We also understand that circumstances change through the year, and, if needed, adjustments can be made. Right now, in asking for your plans, we simply ask for you to place your financial gifts where your heart is in the good work, ministry and community of Hancock Church. If you are fortunate enough to be able to consider increasing your gift, that would be greatly appreciated.

As we wrap up the annual appeal next month, we ask you to let the church know of your giving plans for 2024 by selecting one of the following three giving options:

- on Hancock's website, click "give" and complete the 2024 commitment form
- or drop your completed 2024 commitment card in the secure box outside of Suzie Barry's office (commitment cards are available in the narthex)
- or email Financial.Administrator@HancockChurch.org

Together we are changing the world through love, compassion, and courage. Thank you!





The Week Ahead

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11 9:30am Infant and Toddler Care Available 9:40am Prayers with Choir 10:00am Morning Worship & Livestream 10:15am Church School 11:00am Fellowship Hour 11:15am Children's Choir 3:30pm Junior Youth Organization - Mardi Gras Party 3:30pm Band Rehearsal 5:00pm Mardi Gras Jazz Service - Worship at the Well

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12 Offices Closed on Mondays 11:00am LABBB Program 12:00pm Hancock Bulletin & Weekly Submission Deadline 3:00pm Congregational Care Meeting 5:30pm Spanish Academy 6:30pm LCE: Zumba 7:30pm Halalisa Singers

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13 9:00am Moderators Meeting 9:15am Iyengar Yoga with Mary Wixted 10:15am Staff Meeting 11:00am LABBB Program 11:00am Gentle Yoga with Mary Wixted 4:30pm Spanish Academy 7:00pm Lexington Pops Chorus 7:00pm Meeting Night 2

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14 ASH WEDNESDAY 6:30am Drive-thru Ashes 12:00pm Drive-thru Ashes 12:00pm Hancock Weekly Sent Out 1:00pm Pastor's Class 7:00pm Hancock Carillon Rehearsal 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15 9:30am Security Team Meeting 6:30pm Scout Troop Merit Badges 6:30pm Pack 137 Meeting 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Scout Troop Meeting

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16 9:30am Morning Glory Rehearsal 10:00am LCE: Joyful Yoga

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17 10:00am AA Meeting in Dining Room 1:00pm AA Meeting in Dining Room 2:00pm Plaster Posaunes Brass Group

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT 9:30am Infant and Toddler Care Available 9:40am Prayers with Choir 10:00am Morning Worship & Livestream 10:15am Church School 11:00am Fellowship Hour 11:15am Junior Youth Organization 11:15am No Children's Choir 11:15am Welcoming Session 3:30pm Junior Youth Organization - Mardi Gras 5:00pm No Worship at the Well

HANCOCK WEEKLY

Stay updated on Hancock news, events, and volunteer opportunities! Visit hancockchurch.org or scan the <u>QR Code</u> to sign up!



Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-729105. All rights reserved.

Hancock Covenant of Welcome

We welcome all who seek to know God.

We believe that, although we are many members, we are one body in Christ.

We have been called as well as challenged by God to respect and reconcile our differences.

We recognize and love each individual as a child of God.

We welcome, respect, support, and lovingly encourage people of every race, ethnicity, creed, class, gender, sexual orientation, age, and physical and mental ability to join us on our journey of faith.

The faith journey indeed calls Hancock Members not to be silent in the face of prejudice, injustice, and exclusion, but to express our faith, in word and deed, for justice and inclusiveness for all humanity.

As Paul wrote in Galatians, "In Christ there is no longer Jew or Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for all are one..."

www.hancockchurch.org

Barbara Callaghan (she/her) Senior Minister barbara@hancockchurch.org

David C Clark (he/him) Associate Minister david@hancockchurch.org

Katie Brown-Bright (she/her) Student Minister for Children & Families katie@hancockchurch.org



Mark Morgan (he/him) Director of Music mark@hancockchurch.org

Marilyn Becker (she/her) Director of Handbell Ministries marilyn@hancockchurch.org

> Ian Watson (he/him) Organist ian@hancockchurch.org

Suzie Barry (she/her) Director of Operations suzie@hancockchurch.org

Jane Park (she/her) Church Administrator jane@hancockchurch.org

For Emergency Pastoral Support:

Church Office Phone: (781) 862-4220 Church Email: office@hancockchurch.org

Call (781) 862-4220 and press 9

For bulletin announcements, corrections, or suggestions, email office@hancockchurch.org To conserve trees and your pledge dollars, consider sharing your bulletin. Please recycle.

