BE THE GENEROSITY YOU WISH TO SEE IN THE WORLD

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 18, 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.







MOMENT FOR REFLECTION Wendell Berry, Sabbath 1 1993

No, no, there is no going back. Less and less you are that possibility you were. More and more you have become those lives and deaths that have belonged to you. You have become a sort of grave containing much that was and is no more in time, beloved then, now, and always.	And so you have become a sort of tree standing over a grave. Now more than ever you can be generous toward each day that comes, young, to disappear forever, and yet remain unaging in the mind. Every day you have less reason not to give yourself away.
PRELUDE Prelude in G N	MajorC.V. Stanford
Ian Watson, organ	
WORDS OF WELCOME	Barbara Callaghan & David C Clark
CALL TO WORSHIP	praise His name and love His word.
Hum - blc folk will fill with joy, as	s in God I glo - ry
PRAYER OF INVOCATION	David C Clark
*OPENING HYMN Throughout These Lenten	Days and Nights (please see page 4)
INTRODUCTION TO THE PROCLAMATIC	DNBarbara Callaghan

Throughout These Lenten Days and Nights 108 вЬ Eb Bb F F7 1 Through - out these Lent - en days and nights we 2 The pil -Christ, grim the Lamb of God, who We 3 bear. si - lence, the cross and pain of 4 And though the road is hard and steep, the 5 So let choose us the path of One who 6 Re joice, 0 sons and daugh -Sing ters! and Eb вЬ Bb F Dm С вЬ F (Eb) $\widehat{}$ turn to walk the in - ward way, where, meet - ing Christ, our found in weak-ness great - er power, em brac - es us, though hu - man bur - dens, hu - man strife, while sis - ters, broth - ers Spir - it ev - er calls Cal - vary's dy - ing, us on through wore, for crown of us, the and thorn, slept in death that shout ho - san - nas! Raise the strain! For Christ, whose death Good Eþ Cm7 Bb F вb вþ Eb Gm F Bb guide light, and we live in hope till Eas - ter Day. lost and flawed, and leads his us to Ris - ing Hour. help sus tain our cour - age till the Feast of Life. dark and deep, til un we see the com - ing Dawn. we might wake life Res to on Morn! ur rec - tion day Fri brings Eas - ter Day on will rise a gain!

4

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORDDavid C Clark & Katie Brown-Bright Mark 10:17-31

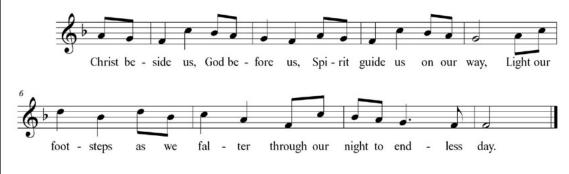
As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness. You shall not defraud. Honor your father and mother.' "He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for my sake and for the sake of the good news who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

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

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE . . Christ Beside Us 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 SONG Walk With Me		
Walk with me, I will walk with you		
And build the land that God has planned Where love shines through		
CHILDREN'S TIME Katie Brown-Bright		
THE MORNING OFFERING		
OFFERTORY The Meditations of My Heart by Elaine Hagenberg Donna Kim and Lea Peterson, soloists		
May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart		
Be acceptable in Thy sight, o Lord. O Lord my Rock, O Lord my God and Redeemer.		
O Lord my Rock, O Lord my strength, O Lord my Redeemer.		
*DOXOLOGY Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow		
Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God all crea - tures		
At		
here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host: Cre -		
a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.		

PRAYER OF DEDICATION David C Clark	
CALL TO PRAYER	
PASTORAL PRAYERDavid C Clark	
TIME OF SILENT PRAYER	
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.	
HYMN The King of Love My Shepherd Is #87	
SERMON Be The Generosity You Wish To See In The World Barbara Callaghan	
*CLOSING HYMN Giver of the Perfect Gift (please see page 8)	
*BENEDICTIONBarbara Callaghan	
BENEDICTION RESPONSE	
Taste and see that God is good. Know your yearn-ings un - der-stood,	
find your true se - cur - i - ty, be God's ho - ly peo - ple	
POSTLUDEC.V. Stanford Ian Watson, organ	



Words: from the Latin ca. 11th century, trans. John Ellerton 1891 Music: adapt. from Orlando Gibbons 1623

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

Household Goods is in Acton, and, for over 30 years, has been helping people in need to furnish homes. Each year, Household Goods furnishes 2,500 homes with 60,000 pieces of furniture and smaller household items.

Referred by social service agencies in Massachusetts, people in need include the recently homeless, survivors of domestic violence, low income individuals and families immigrants, veterans, victims of disaster, or those coping with illness or disability.

900 dedicated volunteers work over 40,000 hours a year to make this all happen. Our own HYG has volunteered there, as part of a local service trip.

Mission Partner Update:

1/14/24 Outdoor Church \$845
1/21/24 UCC Christmas Fund \$1,011
1/28/24 LexRAP \$1,191
2/4/24 Women's Lunch Place \$782
2/4/24 MBA Scholarship Fund in honor of David Clark's Installation \$782

2/11/24 LGBT Asylum \$658

Upcoming Offerings:

2/25/24: Poland Church for Ukraine 3/3/24 Rise Above

Thank you for your continued support of these important organizations.

Walk Our Spiritual Paths Together

FLOWER DEDICATION



Today's flowers are given by Myrtle and Ed Cox with gratitude for 68 years of happy marriage and 63 years membership in Hancock Church.

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.

NO WORSHIP AT THE WELL TONIGHT

There will be no Worship at the Well tonight due to the holiday weekend. Please come to the next meeting on February 25 at 5:00pm!

SING WITH US FOR EASTER!

Everyone 9th grade through adult, in all voice parts, are invited to join the choir in singing for our Easter service! We are singing a range of beautiful music including a stunning Appalachian song, a rousing chorus by the English composer Vaughan Williams, a premiere of a new piece by Mark Morgan, and, of course, the Hallelujah Chorus! We will be accompanied by organ, brass quintet, and percussion. It's absolutely thrilling to be part of making that sound, and we encourage you to join us.

You can also spread the word to any non-Hancock folks that would like to join us--it's available to anyone who would like to sing, regardless of denomination, faith, or lack thereof. We will be rehearsing on Thursday evenings starting February 28 at 7:00pm. There will be a dress rehearsal on Saturday, March 30 from 9:30-11:30am. If interested, please contact Mark Morgan at Mark@HancockChurch.org.

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**.

Walk Our Spiritual Paths Together

GIVING STATEMENTS MAILED

Giving Statements for calendar year 2023 were mailed the week of February 5. If you have not received yours, please contact Suzie at **Suzie@HancockChurch.org** or 781-862-4220 x60 for a copy.

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.

Here is where the giving campaign is as of **Friday 2/9/24**

Total # of Pledges received = 93 made as follows:

- Pledges Online = 27
- Pledges on Giving Sunday = 38
- Pledges by Mail = 24
- Pledges made by phone = 3
- Pledges made by email = 1

Total Amount Pledged: **\$518,323** or **71%** of goal (\$725,000)

The bar chart above 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 number of gifts and the amounts committed in each year. The goal we need to meet this year is \$725,000, are we are currently about \$221,000 short of that.

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.

PASTOR'S CLASS BIBLE STUDY

Pastor's class meets via Zoom every Wednesday at 1:00pm. This class reads and discusses the scripture for the following Sunday. For the Zoom link, contact Jane Park to join the class reminders email list at Office@HancockChurch.org.



Lent 2024

HECHANGE YOU WISH TO SEE IN THE WORLD



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

FEB 18

GENEROSITY SUNDAY

Be the generosity you wish to see in the world

FEB MERCY SUNDAY

- Be the mercy you wish to see in the world
- MAR FAITHFULNESS SUNDAY
 - Be the faithfulness you wish to see in the world
- MAR COMPASSION SUNDAY

Be the compassion you wish to see in the world

MAR COURAGE SUNDAY

Be the courage you wish to see in the world

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

Cherish One Another

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 11:15am 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!

MAR 2, HARMONY ON THE GREEN PRESENTS: ANTJE DUVEKOT!

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.

This concert is Saturday, March 2 at 7:30pm in Clark Hall at Hancock Church. Tickets are \$20 or pay what you can.

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!

MAY 19, A JOYFUL NOYSE CONCERT

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 on Sunday, May 19 at 2:00pm. \$15 suggested donation at the door.

Build Community in a Diverse World

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

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!

The Week Ahead

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 5:00pm No Worship at the Well

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19 PRESIDENT'S DAY Offices Closed on Mondays 7:30am Monday Morning Prayer 12:00pm Hancock Bulletin & Weekly Submission Deadline 7:00pm Monday Night Small Group 7:30pm Halalisa Singers

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20 9:00am Moderators Meeting 10:15am Staff Meeting 11:00am LABBB Program 11:00am Gentle Yoga with Mary Wixted 7:00pm Lexington Pops Chorus

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 12:00pm Lent Noontime Concerts 12:00pm Hancock Weekly Sent Out 1:00pm Pastor's Class 7:00pm Vocamotion Rehearsal 7:00pm Hancock Carillon Rehearsal

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22 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 23 9:30am Morning Glory Rehearsal 10:00am LCE: Joyful Yoga

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24 10:00am AA Meeting in Dining Room 1:00pm AA Meeting in Dining Room 2:00pm Plaster Posaunes Brass Group

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 SECOND 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 Welcoming Information Session 11:15am Junior Youth Organization

11:15am Junior Youth Organization
11:15am Children's Choir
3:30pm Band Rehearsal
5:00pm Worship at the Well

Lexington Food Pantry For January/February, we are requesting donations of whole or 2% shelfstable 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.



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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

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