

**BE
THE
COMPASSION
YOU WISH
TO SEE IN THE
WORLD**

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 10, 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](https://www.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.

www.hancockchurch.org

Service of Worship

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION
Sabbaths 2005 in LEAVINGS by Wendell Berry

If we have become a people incapable of thought,
then the brute-thought
of mere power and mere greed
will think for us.

If we have become incapable
of denying ourselves anything,
then all that we have
will be taken from us.

If we have no compassion,
we will suffer alone, we will suffer
alone the destruction of ourselves.

These are merely the laws of this world
as known to Shakespeare, as known to Milton.

When we cease from human thought,
a low and effective cunning
stirs in the most inhuman minds.

PRELUDE. *Elegy* by George Thalben-Ball
Ian Watson, organ

WORDS OF WELCOME Barbara Callaghan & David C Clark

CALL TO WORSHIP



The musical notation consists of two staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are: "I will al - ways bless the Lord, praise His name and love His word. Hum - ble folk will fill with joy, as in God I glo - ry".

PRAYER OF INVOCATION. David C Clark

*OPENING HYMN. *The Care the Eagle Gives Her Young*. (please see page 4)

*Congregation standing—some may wish to remain seated

The Care the Eagle Gives Her Young

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R. Deane Postlethwaite, 1980

Deut. 32:11-12a; Exod. 19:4

1 The care the ea - gle gives her young, safe in her
2 As when the time to ven - ture comes, she stirs them
3 And if we flut - ter help - less - ly, as fledg - ling

loft - y nest, Is like the ten - der
out - to flight, So we are pressed to
ea - gles fall, Be - neath us lift God's

love of God for us made man - i - fest.
bold - ly try, to strive for dar - ing height.
might - y wings to bear us, one and all.

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are arranged in three columns, corresponding to the three verses. The first system contains the first three lines of the first verse. The second system contains the first three lines of the second verse. The third system contains the first three lines of the third verse.

This text was originally titled "For a Recognition of God's Feminine Attributes." The author explains: "I find a deep meaning and power in the image of a God who, like a mother eagle, pushes me from her nest, but who catches me, bears me up, when I fall."

Tunc: CRIMOND C.M.
Jesse Seymour Irvine, 1872
Harm. T. C. L. Pritchard, 1929

Harmonization Copyright © 1929, Oxford University Press. From the SCOTTISH PSALTER, 1929.

Service of Worship

INTRODUCTION TO THE PROCLAMATION Barbara Callaghan

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD Katie Brown-Bright & David C Clark
Mark 12:28-44

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; and ‘to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself’—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

While Jesus was teaching in the temple, he said, “How can the scribes say that the Messiah is the son of David? David himself, by the Holy Spirit, declared,

‘The Lord said to my Lord,

“Sit at my right hand,

until I put your enemies under your feet.”’

“David himself calls him Lord, so how can he be his son?” And the large crowd was listening to him with delight.

As he taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

One: The Word of God, for the People of God.

Many: Thanks be to God!

Service of Worship

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE . . . *Christ Beside Us* by Mark Morgan



Christ be - side us, God be - fore us, Spi - rit guide us on our way, Light our



foot - steps as we fal - ter through our night to end - less day.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE Barbara Callaghan

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 Barbara Callaghan

This week our offering will go to One Great Hour Sharing. To learn more, please go to ucc.org/OGHS. For more information about how to give, please see page 9.

OFFERTORY *More Love* Shaker texts

Chancel Choir adapted and arranged by Kevin Siegfried

*O we have found a lovely vine in this valley blooming,
Whose blossoms shoot and promise fruit that's beautiful and cheering.
More love, more love. More love, more love.
Its verdant branches spread so wide, it shields the meek and lowly,
Its dazzling light does shine so bright, it truly fills the valley.
More love, more love. More love, more love.
We'll plant it and sow it and ev'ryday grow it.
More love, more love.
The angels are calling more love.*

*Congregation standing—some may wish to remain seated

Service of Worship

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

**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.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Barbara Callaghan

CALL TO PRAYER *Hear Our Prayer, O God* #278
The Choir will sing this first. Please join in singing the second time.

PASTORAL PRAYER David 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 Gift of Love* #68

SERMON *Be the Compassion You Wish to See in the World* . . Barbara Callaghan

*CLOSING HYMN *Holy, Holy* Shaker song



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho-li-ness un-to the Lord, Love ye, love ye, love ye one an - oth-er.

*BENEDICTION Barbara Callaghan

Service of Worship

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Taste and see that God is good. Know your yearnings understood,
find your true security, be God's holy people

Our worship has ended!

We invite any who wish to stay for the postlude to move forward. Those looking for conversation and fellowship should move to the narthex or coffee hour in the dining room.

POSTLUDE *Carillon de Westminster* by Louis Vierne
Ian Watson, organ



FLOWER OFFERING

Today's flowers are given in memory of Iris Larssen
by Larry Larssen

TODAY AT 3:00 PM, 15TH ANNUAL LEXINGTON CHORAL FESTIVAL

Seven choral ensembles from Lexington raise their voices for the **15th Annual Lexington Choral Festival on Sunday, March 10 at 3:00pm** hosted by Pilgrim Congregational Church. For the first time in four years, due to covid, 100 singers participate from the Church of Our Redeemer Episcopal, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, First Parish Unitarian Universalist, Hancock United Church of Christ, Pilgrim Congregational Church, Temple Emunah and Temple Isaiah.. Admission is free and open to the public. Reception to follow.

There is free parking, and the church is handicap accessible. The concert is at Pilgrim Congregational Church, 55 Coolidge Ave. in Lexington. Further information can be found at www.hancockchurch.org or by calling 781-862-4220.

*Congregation standing—some may wish to remain seated

Our Mission Is To...

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

On the fourth Sunday of Lent, One Great Hour of Sharing® is collected, one of four yearly UCC offerings. One Great Hour of Sharing helps the United Church of Christ to respond to humanitarian and development needs in the world, carrying God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. By working with local churches, conferences, international partners and organizations, One Great Hour of Sharing provides sources of clean water, food, education, health care, small business micro-credit loans, advocacy, resettlement of refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation, as well as disaster preparedness and response.

Mission Partner Update:

2/11/24 LGBT Asylum \$658
2/18/24 Household Goods \$793
2/25/24 Poland Church for Ukraine \$1,488

Upcoming Offerings:

3/17/24 GBIO
3/24/24 Foodlink

Thank you for your continued support of these important organizations.

Our Mission Is To...

Build Community in a Diverse World

WORSHIP AT THE WELL TONIGHT

Worship at the Well will not be held on March 10. However, we warmly invite you to attend the Lexington Interfaith Choral Festival at Pilgrim Church at 3:00pm. Thank you for your understanding and continued support! Please join us for the next meeting on March 17 at 5:00pm in the Chapel.

STAFF UPDATE: WELCOME HANNAH MEZZINA



We are so excited to introduce Hannah Mezzina, our new Church Administrator! Hannah will be working with Jane during these next two weeks, and will officially start as Church Administrator on March 18. Hannah brings four years of Administrative and Marketing experience to Hancock Church. Please come by and say hello!

STAFF UPDATE: WELCOME BETHANY RAMIREZ!



Welcome Bethany Ramirez, our new Social Media Coordinator. Look out for her at worship and church events. Bethany brings creativity and passion to our digital outreach! Let's extend a warm welcome as she enhances our online connections. We are thrilled to have her on board!

MAR. 17, CAPITAL CAMPAIGN INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Please join the capital campaign cabinet and building committee on **Sunday, March 17**, for an informational meeting and discussion. We will meet **directly after morning worship** in the sanctuary and also over Zoom if you would like to attend online. We will bring you up to date on our work with the architect and the plans that are developing. We will share preliminary cost estimates and discuss next steps.

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.

LEXINGTON FOOD PANTRY - MARCH

The food pantry wish list for March includes **toothpaste, 2% and whole shelf-stable milk, string handled bags**. We are also looking for a **volunteer who is versed in writing grants**. If you could help with grant writing, please contact Becky Linton via email, Becky@Lintons.org. Thank you!

Our Mission Is To...

Cherish One Another

MAR. 16, ALL-CHURCH POTLUCK DINNER

Saturday, March 16, 2024 from 5:00-7:00pm in the Dining Room. Come and bring your favorite dish. This will be a fun evening to socialize and enjoy good food and good company. Children are welcome!

If your last name begins with:

A through H, bring a side dish

I through M, bring a salad

N through S, bring a main dish

T through Z, bring a dessert

Please bring a generous amount of food to feed extra folks. This potluck is hosted by the Welcoming Committee, and we encourage other committees to consider hosting additional potlucks throughout the year.

If you have any questions, please contact CeCe Potter at Hannah.Potter@verizon.net or Priscilla Thayer at RPTHayer@verizon.net.

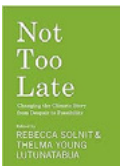
POTTER LIBRARY DEBUTS TWO NEW BOOKS

Wintering: The Power of Rest and Retreat in Difficult Times (Katherine May)



Part memoir, part meditation, “Wintering” is an empathetic look at the similarities between the cold season of the year and the period of hardship in a human life. Just like nature itself, we too go through different seasons in our lives. “Wintering brings about some of the most profound and insightful moments of our human experience,” observes May, “and wisdom resides in those who have wintered.”

Not Too Late: Changing the Climate Story From Despair to Possibility (Rebecca Solnit and Thelma Young Lutunatabua, editors)



“Not Too Late” is a collection of climate-hope messages from climate scientists, organizers and activists, who challenge us to recognize that the future is yet to be decided and that our actions do matter. Bill McKibben, 350.org co-founder and Third Act founder, rates this book “absolutely beautiful, absolutely necessary, and absolutely right!”

You can find both books on the New Books Cart in Potter Library, open before and after Sunday worship and on weekdays, when the church offices are open. The library is self-serve and check-out instructions are posted.

Our Mission Is To...

Walk Our Spiritual Paths Together

MAR. 11, MONDAY MORNING PRAYER ZOOM

Join Pastor David on Zoom each Monday morning of Lent from 7:30 - 7:45am. This is 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.

MAR. 11, MONDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUP ZOOM

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. This class is Mondays from 7:00 - 8:00pm.

MAR. 13, PASTOR'S CLASS BIBLE STUDY ZOOM

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.



Join us on Thursday, March 14th from 2-4pm in the Pearson Room for a farewell open house! Stop by to offer good wishes and thanks to Jane, our Church Administrator, as her time with us comes to an end! Cards appreciated and lite refreshments will be offered

MAR 24 Palm Sunday
10 AM

Process with palms in the sanctuary for an uplifting service with the Handbell and Chancel Choirs.

MAR 28 Maundy Thursday
6 PM

Gather in community for this informal, spiritual service with a shared meal in the Dining Room. The River Rock Band plays acoustic folk music.

MAR 29 Good Friday
7 PM

Embrace the profound solemnity of Good Friday in a deeply contemplative service in the chapel with renaissance motets sung by a chamber choir.

MARCH 31 6:15 AM SUNRISE
EASTER 10 AM WORSHIP
11 AM EGG HUNT

On Easter Day, experience the sun rise during an outdoor service at the Old Belfry at 6:15am. At 10:00am is a joyful Traditional Easter Service in the sanctuary with music by a vibrant ensemble of choir, brass, organ and percussion. Stay for a special coffee hour and exciting Easter Egg Hunt for the kids at 11:00am!

APR 07 Easter at the Well
5 PM

The River Rock Band is rolling away the stone with a dynamic Rock 'n' Roll evening service! Celebrate the Easter season!

MAR. 13, LENTEN NOONTIME CONCERT SERIES

Come to our Lenten Concert Series on Wednesdays from 12 - 12:30pm in the Sanctuary. These 30 minutes concerts will feature an array of performers from around the area.

This week's concert on March 13 features A Joyful Noyse! Previous concerts have featured Ian Watson playing with his colleagues from the Handel and Haydn Society: violinist Susanna Ogata and cellist Guy Fishman.

MAR 13 A Joyful Noyse Early Music

MAR 20 Ian Watson, organ

MAR 27 Shi Chen, piano

EASTER FLOWERS ORDER FORM

Please submit this form no later than Monday, March 24, 2024. Checks made out to Hancock Church, memo "Easter Flowers" can be delivered to the church office or left in the collection basket. Thank you for your lily order!

Office use:

Date

Check #

Initial

Name

Email address or Phone number

These flowers are given by:

These flowers are given in honor/memory of:

No. of plants _____ x \$15 (suggested donation) = _____ Total

CHECK IF INTERESTED:

I am interested in making a delivery to another Hancock Member

I am interested in helping decorate the sanctuary on March 30

I would like to take my flowers home.

Please donate my flowers to another Hancock Member.

Other. Please clarify: _____

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT - COMPASSION

- 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
- 11:00am Coffeehour for all parents
- 11:15am Junior Youth Organization
- 11:15am Children's Choir
- 3:00pm Lexington Interfaith Choral Festival
- 5:00pm No Worship at the Well

MONDAY, MARCH 11

Offices Closed on Mondays

- 7:30am Monday Morning Prayer Zoom
- 11:00am LABBB Program
- 12:00pm Hancock Bulletin & Weekly Submission Deadline
- 5:30pm Spanish Academy
- 6:30pm LCE: Zumba
- 7:00pm Monday Night Small Group
- 7:30pm Halalisa Singers

TUESDAY, MARCH 12

- 9:00am Moderators Meeting
- 9:15am HNS Parent Committee Meeting
- 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, MARCH 13

- 12:00pm Lent Noontime Concerts - A Joyful Noyse
- 12:00pm Hancock Weekly Sent Out
- 1:00pm Pastor's Class
- 6:30pm LCE: Belly Dance
- 7:00pm Vocamotion Rehearsal
- 7:00pm Hancock Carillon Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

- 9:30am Security Team Meeting
- 2:00pm Drop-in coffee with Jane
- 6:30pm Scout Troop Merit Badges
- 6:30pm Pack 137 Meeting
- 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30pm Scout Troop Meeting

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

- 9:30am Morning Glory Rehearsal
- 10:00am LCE: Joyful Yoga

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

- 10:00am AA Meeting in Dining Room
- 1:00pm AA Meeting in Dining Room
- 2:00pm JIE Vocal Musical Studio
- 2:00pm Plaster Posaunes Brass Group
- 5:00pm All Church Potluck

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT - COURAGE

- 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
- 11:00am Coffeehour for all parents
- 11:15am Junior Youth Organization
- 11:15am Children's Choir
- 11:30am Capital Campaign Informational Meeting
- 3:30pm Band Rehearsal
- 5:00pm Worship at the Well

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

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For Emergency Pastoral Support:
Call (781) 862-4220 and press 9

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