

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

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 3, 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

Hold On

Adapted from a prayer by an unknown Pueblo Indian supplicant.
From *God Has No Religion* by Frances Sheridan Goulart.

I will hold on to what is good
And I will hold on to what I believe
Even when it is a tree which stands by itself.
And I will hold on to what I must do,
Even if it is a long way from here.
I will hold on to life, even when it was easier to let go.
Please hold on to my hand, even when I have gone away from you.

PRELUDE. *Partita no 3 in A minor* J.S. Bach
Ian Watson, piano

WORDS OF WELCOME Barbara Callaghan & David C Clark

CALL TO WORSHIP



I will al - ways bless the Lord, praise His name and love His word.
9 Hum - ble folk will fill with joy, as in God I glo - ry

PRAYER OF INVOCATION. Barbara Callaghan

*OPENING HYMN. *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* #81

INTRODUCTION TO THE PROCLAMATION. David C Clark

*Congregation standing—some may wish to remain seated

Service of Worship

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORDKatie Brown-Bright & Barbara Callaghan
Mark 12:1-17

Then Jesus began to speak to the Judeans in parables. “A man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a pit for the winepress, and built a watchtower; then he leased it to tenants and went away. When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce of the vineyard. But they seized him and beat him and sent him away empty-handed. And again he sent another slave to them; this one they beat over the head and insulted. Then he sent another, and that one they killed. And so it was with many others; some they beat, and others they killed. He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But those tenants said to one another, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.’ So they seized him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. Have you not read this scripture:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes?’”

When they realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left him and went away.

Then they sent to him some Pharisees and some Herodians to trap him in what he said. And they came and said to him, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality but teach the way of God in accordance with truth. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not? Should we pay them, or should we not?” But knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, “Why are you putting me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me see it.” And they brought one. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and whose title?” They answered, “Caesar’s.” Jesus said to them, “Give to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.”

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

Many: Thanks be to God!

**Congregation standing—some may wish to remain seated*

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 David C Clark

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 Amy Cho

This week our offering will go to Rise Above. To learn more, please go to weriseabove.org. For more information about how to give, please see page 9.

OFFERTORY . . *All Ye That Cried Unto The Lord* from *Hymn of Praise* .by Mendelssohn
Chancel Choir

*All ye that cried unto the Lord in distress and deep affliction.
He counteth all your sorrows in the time of need.*

Service of Worship

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God all crea - tures
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 *Hear Our Prayer, O God* #278
The Choir will sing this first. Please join in singing the second time.

PASTORAL PRAYER Barbara Callaghan

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.

SERMON *Be the Faithfulness* David C Clark

COMMUNION HYMN . . . *Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken.* #319

Celebration of Communion

GATHERING WORDS (responsively)

ONE: We gather now at the table of Christ, seeking mercy, forgiveness, joy and peace. We remember that this is his table, and so we say, Come from the north and come from the

*Congregation standing—some may wish to remain seated

Service of Worship

south, come from the east and come from the west. Come regardless of age or race or sex or creed or orientation or identity. Come not because you must, but because you may.

MANY: Come because it is our Lord's table, and he bids us come.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ONE: For those times, O God when we have taken the gifts you give us for granted,

MANY: in your mercy, forgive us, we pray.

ONE: For those times, O God, when we let the worries of life drown out the wonder of being alive,

MANY: in your mercy, forgive us, we pray.

ONE: For those times, O God, when we have taken one another, or any of your children, for granted,

MANY: in your mercy, forgive us, we pray.

ONE: Restore in our hearts a childlike wonder that might awaken us to the gift of each day, and the beauty of all of creation.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (responsively)

ONE: We remember that on the night He was betrayed, Jesus sat at table with His disciples, and when they had eaten, He took the bread, and He blessed it and broke it, and He gave it to them saying,

MANY: "Take and eat. This is my body, broken for you. Eat of this bread as often as you will, and remember me."

ONE: After they had shared the bread, He took a cup, and He blessed it, and He gave thanks to God, and He poured it out for them and said,

MANY: "This is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sin. Whenever you drink of it, remember me."

ONE: These are the gifts of God...

MANY: ...for the people of God. Come, let us share the feast!

ONE: Come Holy Spirit Come. Open our eyes to the mystery of Christ's presence in these ordinary things in our ordinary lives. May they fill us with the awareness of the Christ in our midst. Through the broken bread...

MANY: We participate in the body of Christ.

ONE: Through the cup of blessing...

MANY: We participate in the new life Christ gives.

Service of Worship

COMMUNION

God's Communion table is open to any and to all who are in need of the gifts of healing and hope, of mercy and peace. Even if you have never shared Communion before, you are welcome to join us this day. We celebrate with juice and bread. Gluten free options are available at the table. Please process forward down one of the center aisles to receive bread and cup, you may eat immediately then return to your seat.

COMMUNION ANTHEM *Adoramus te, Christe*by Palestrina
Chancel Choir

Translation:
We adore thee, O Christ,
and we bless thee:
because by thy holy cross
thou hast redeemed the world.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*CLOSING HYMN *If You Will Trust In God to Guide You*#94

*BENEDICTION. David C Clark

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Taste and see that God is good. Know your yearnings un - der - stood,
9
find your true se - cur - i - ty, be God's ho - ly peo - ple

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 *Tocatta and Fugue in D minor* J.S. Bach
Ian Watson, organ

*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.

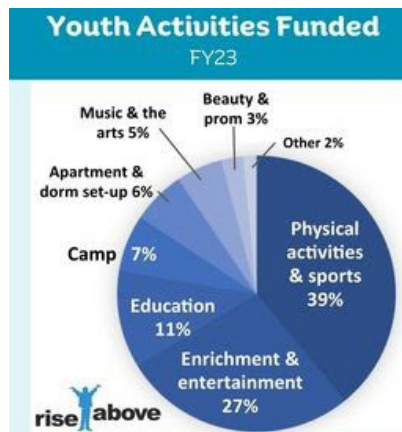
Sustaining Hancock's Vision: Gifts are also welcome in the Sunday offering plate for Hancock Church that support our staff, our building, community outreach, and all of the worship and programs at Hancock.

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

Rise Above is a small but mighty highly rated nonprofit with 3 staff dedicated to providing Massachusetts children in foster care with enriching activities, opportunities and experiences since 2009. Rise Above funds individual activity wishes for foster children through an online application process. There are over 10K children who are in the physical care and custody of the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families (DCF). Rise Above serves over 2K last year. Your donations help them reach more children!



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:

- 3/10/24 One Great Hour of Sharing (UCC)

Thank you for your continued support of these important organizations.

Our Mission Is To...

Build Community in a Diverse World



FLOWER OFFERING

In memory of loved ones lost
by Charlie and Sally Wyman

TODAY, HOUSING JUSTICE ACTION WITH GBIO



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. 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.

Sunday, March 3 at 3:00 PM

Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center
100 Malcolm X Blvd, Roxbury, MA 02120

Link to register: bit.ly/gbiomarch3

MAR. 10, 15TH ANNUAL LEXINGTON CHORAL FESTIVAL

Seven choral ensembles from Lexington will be raising their voices together in the **15th Annual Lexington Choral Festival on Sunday, March 10 at 3:00pm** hosted by Pilgrim Congregational Church. This year's Festival features over 100 singers participating from 7 area churches, temples, and religious communities. This will be the first festival concert in 4 years due to covid. Admission is free and open to the public. There is free parking, and a reception will follow the concert. The church is handicap accessible. The concert will take place at Pilgrim Congregational Church, 55 Coolidge Ave. in Lexington. Further information can be found at www.hancockchurch.org or by calling 781-862-4220.

Participating this year are choirs and ensembles 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. This year's festival encompasses a wide array of Jewish, Christian, and Unitarian communities. The concert will feature music from a wide variety of traditions, from western classical to contemporary Jewish and many in between. Each community shares songs of its own choice, then all will join together as one massed choir.

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 RPTthayer@verizon.net.

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.

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. 4, 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. 4, 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. 6, 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.

MAR. 6, LENTEN NOONTIME CONCERT SERIES

Come to our Lenten Concert Series on **Wednesdays at noon** in the Sanctuary. These 30 minutes concerts will feature an array of performers from around the area.

Previous concerts featured Ian Watson playing with colleagues from the Handel and Haydn Society, including cellist Guy Fishman and violinist Susanna Ogata.

The concerts are free and open to all.

MAR 6 Ian Watson, organ

MAR 13 A Joyful Noyse Early Music

MAR 20 Ian Watson, organ

MAR 27 Shi Chen, piano

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...

Walk Our Spiritual Paths Together

STAFF UPDATE: JANE'S DEPARTURE



We are sad to announce that our cherished Church Administrator, Jane Park, will be leaving us in the middle of March. After many years of dedicated service, her vibrant spirit and contributions have left an indelible mark and been a joy to work with! We invite you to stop by and say hello before her departure. Jane, we are immensely grateful for you and your time with us and will miss you dearly. Here's to celebrating your past achievements and looking forward to your future successes. Wishing you the very best in your new endeavors!

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!

LENT 2024

BE
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WORLD

HancockChurch.org/Lent-2024



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.

EASTER MARCH 31

6:15 AM
SUNRISE

On Easter Day, experience the sun rise during an outdoor service at the Old Belfry at 6:15am.

10 AM
WORSHIP

At 10:00am is a joyful Traditional Easter Service in the sanctuary with music by a vibrant ensemble of choir, brass, organ and percussion.

11 AM
EGG HUNT

Stay for a special coffee hour and exciting Easter Egg Hunt for the kids in Clark Hall!

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 3

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

7:30am The Outdoor Church - lunch provisions pickup

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 Children's Choir

3:00pm GBIO Housing Justice Action

3:30pm Band Rehearsal

5:00pm No Worship at the Well

MONDAY, MARCH 4

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

7:00pm Committee Night

7:30pm Halalisa Singers

TUESDAY, MARCH 5

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

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, MARCH 7

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, MARCH 8

9:30am Morning Glory Rehearsal

10:00am LCE: Joyful Yoga

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

10:00am AA Meeting in Dining Room

1:00pm AA Meeting in Dining Room

2:00pm Plaster Posaunes Brass Group

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

11:15am Junior Youth Organization

11:15am Children's Choir

3:00pm Lexington Interfaith Choral Festival

3:30pm Band Rehearsal

5:00pm No Worship at the Well



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!

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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To conserve trees and your pledge dollars, consider sharing your bulletin. Please recycle.

