

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS:** Today's Chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Bertha & Gerald Barrett, by Elizabeth Barrett & Theodore Barrett.



# Jazz Vespers

**THE SPRING SERIES** of Jazz Vespers starts up this Saturday, March 19 at 4PM in the Sanctuary. There will be moments to listen, moments to read, and moments to pray.

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## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH IN WINCHESTER, UCC

**21 Church Street Winchester, MA 01890 781-729-9180**

An Open and Affirming Congregation

The Congregation, Ministers to The World

Rev. William Burhans, Lead Pastor

Rev. Judith B. Arnold, Associate Pastor

Ms. Kathleen Zagata, RN, MS, CS, Minister of Cong'l Health & Wellness

Ms. Jane Ring Frank, Minister of Music & Worship Arts

Mr. Ben Pulaski, Minister of Faith Formation: Children & Youth

Mr. Jeffrey Mead, Organist

Mr. Bradley Ross, Sexton

Tyler Campbell, Assistant Sexton

Sarah Marino, Office Manager

Rev. Dr. Kenneth Orth, Pastoral Counselor (Affiliate)

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FCCW [www.fcc-winchester.org](http://www.fcc-winchester.org); MA Conference [www.macucc.org](http://www.macucc.org); Nat'l UCC [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)  
[first.congregational@verizon.net](mailto:first.congregational@verizon.net)



# First Congregational Church in Winchester

Fifth Sunday in Lent  
March 13, 2016

**Words for meditation and preparation:** "The gospel alone liberates you to live a life of scandalous generosity, unrestrained sacrifice, uncommon valor, and unbounded courage." Tullian Tchividjian

### Order of Worship

GATHERING MUSIC *Benedictus* François Couperin (1668-1733)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. William Burhans

A MOMENT OF SILENCE/PASSING THE PEACE

PRELUDE *Trivium (1998) – Mvt. 1* Arvo Pärt (b. 1953)

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Isaiah 43:16-21) Ben Pulaski

This is what God says,

***the God who builds a road right through the ocean,***

"Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-new.

***It's bursting out! Don't you see it?***

There it is!

***I'm making a road through the desert, rivers in the badlands.***

I provided water in the sun-baked earth and the wild animals say 'Thank you!'

***I provided drinking water for you, my own people.***

For the people I custom made for myself."

***For us, your people, who praise you.***

ALL: Let us worship God

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*  
red-covered Pilgrim Hymnal 177

\*GATHERING PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER Kathleen Zagata  
**God of love, you have loved us first and continue to love us lavishly.  
We come this morning longing to love you in return.  
We hunger for your healing love in our lives  
as we long to love ourselves and our neighbors.  
Fill our longing hearts as we join together to worship you,  
so that we may pour out our very lives as an offering of praise and love for you  
in this world, through Christ our Lord who taught us to pray,  
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 sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory forever. Amen**

\*AN ACT OF PRAISE The Gloria Patri PH 513  
(Please use words that are most meaningful to you)  
**Glory be to the Creator and to the Christ and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be;  
World without end, amen, amen.**  
(Children are invited to leave for Stepping Stones at this point.)

TESTIMONY Bruce Lauterwasser

THE CALL TO OFFERING Rev. Will  
Hymn Just As I am red-covered PH 319  
Doxology (Please use words that are most meaningful to you) NCH 780  
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God above you heavenly host,  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Dedication Rev. Will

SCRIPTURE John 12: 1-8 Stephen Cole  
Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

SERMON Rev. Judy Arnold

SPECIAL CHORAL MUSIC The Beatitudes [1990; rev. 1991] Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)  
Matthew 5: 3-12

Blessed are the poor in spirit :  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are they that mourn :  
for they shall be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek :  
for they shall inherit the earth.  
Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness :  
for they shall be filled.  
Blessed are the merciful :  
for they shall obtain mercy.  
Blessed are the pure in heart :  
for they shall see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers :  
for they shall be called the children of God.  
Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake :  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you,  
and persecute you and say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.  
Rejoice, and be exceeding glad :  
for great is your reward in heaven :  
for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.  
Amen

SERVICE OF PRAYER Rev. Will  
During Lent, we have the opportunity to lift our prayers in light as well as in words. When invited, those who wish to may come forward and mark their prayers by lighting a candle. Should you desire to communicate your prayers in words to the congregation, index cards are provided in the pews for you to write a prayer on. Place the card in the baskets on the candle table, and they will be added to the prayer bulletin board in Chidley Hall. During the prayer time, we will sing "Jesus, Remember Me" as our prayer response (please see white insert).

\*RECESSIONAL HYMN God Loved the World (verses 1, 2, 4)  
Black-covered New Century Hymnal 208

\*COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION (remain standing please) Rev. Judy

POSTLUDE Trivium – Mvt. II Pärt

PH indicates Pilgrim Hymnal (red)  
NCH indicates New Century Hymnal (black)

\*Those who are able please stand

Head-sets for the hearing impaired & large print bulletins are available from the deacons.  
We encourage you to use the nametags available in the vestibule.

## People We are Praying for...

<u>Names</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Bradford Swing	for healing
Ken Barclay	for healing
Rev. Jena Roy	for healing
Jessica Brand	for healing
Rev. Janet Dorman, previous Associate Pastor	for healing

*Please let the Deacons or Ministry Team know if you have someone to add or remove from this list.*

**Tuesdays with Jesus: February 9 - March 22**

**6:30-7:00 PM Centering Prayer**

**7:00-8:00 PM Breaking Bread and reading scripture**

Come join us for a time of prayer, conversation and a simple meal together each Tuesday during the season of Lent. Come to just the centering prayer time or just the mealtime or come to both. Come every Tuesday or whichever Tuesday works best for you. Come as you are and support your own ongoing prayer practice or learn a new one. Questions, comments, enthusiasm? Contact Will Burhans (iwillb@fcc-winchester.org or 781-729-9180) and/or Jena Roy (jenaroy@aol.com or 617-480-2558).

**Maundy Thursday Vigil**

**March 24th & 25th**

Jesus asked his disciples to stay awake and pray with him during his agony in the Garden of Gethsemane the night before his death. In response, we hold an all-night vigil in our sanctuary — staying awake with Christ and praying for a suffering world. The Vigil begins at 9:00 PM on March 24th (after the Tenebrae Service of Shadows) and ends at noon on Good Friday, March 25th with a brief Vigil closing service. All are invited to help keep watch with the single Christ Candle that is lit at the end of the Tenebrae Service. No sign up is required to participate. We are also seeking Anchors to ensure a continuous watch through the night. The sign up sheet for anchors is located in the Church lobby.

## Church Events This Week (March 13-20)

SUNDAY	10:00	AM	Worship Service: Fifth Sunday of Lent
	10:00	AM	J2A Class - 9th & 10th Grades
	10:00	AM	Rite 13 7th & 8th graders
	10:15	AM	Stepping Stones (Church School)
	11:30	AM	11th Hour: Outreach
	4:00	PM	Girl Scouts
	4:00	PM	Sounds of Grace
	7:30	PM	FORUM (High School)
MONDAY	7:15	PM	The Carilloneers
TUESDAY	Deadline for the April Spire		
	6:30	PM	Tuesdays with Jesus
	7:30	PM	Boy Scouts
WEDNESDAY	8:30	AM	Men's Coffee & Conversation
	10:00	AM	Ministry Team Meeting
	10:00	AM	FAN Toddler Playgroup
	7:30	PM	Winchester Got Lunch
	7:30	PM	Worship Ministry
THURSDAY	7:30	PM	Choir Rehearsal
SATURDAY	4:00	AM	Jazz Vespers
	5:00	PM	The Dwelling Place
SUNDAY	Palm Sunday		
	9:30	AM	Blessing of the Palms on the Common
	10:00	AM	Worship: Palm Sunday
	10:00	AM	J2A Class - 9th & 10th Grades
	10:00	AM	Rite 13 7th & 8th graders
	10:15	AM	Stepping Stones (Church School)
	11:30	AM	Leadership team Meeting
	4:00	PM	Girl Scouts
	4:00	PM	Sounds of Grace
	7:00	Pm	Ruth Group
	7:30	PM	FORUM (High School)

### Easter Lilies and Tulips

You are invited to donate a chancel Easter plant as a memorial or as a gift. Plants will be distributed to our shut-ins following the worship service on **Easter Sunday, March 27**.

The cost of plants is \$20.00 each.

All orders are due by March 20

I wish to purchase \_\_\_\_plants, which will be

\_\_\_\_In memory of\_\_\_\_ In honor of (please check as appropriate)

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Given by\_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form with a check payable to First Congregational Church, with memo "flowers" to the church office, or place it in an offering plate in an envelope marked "Easter plants"

### Palm Procession

Next Sunday, we'll meet on the Town Common Palm Sunday, March 20th, at 9:30 AM, for the "Blessing of the Palms" and then proceed to our worship service. We hope you can join us.

## JESUS, REMEMBER ME

### Ostinato Response

Mixed Voices

$\text{♩} = 69$



Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your King - dom.



Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your King - dom.

## THIS MORNING'S SPECIAL MUSIC

The Senior Choir presents Arvo Pärt's haunting and effective *The Beatitudes*, written in 1990 and revised in 1991. An Estonian by birth (September 11, 1935), Pärt's meditative compositional style is the result of a period of struggle and silence. In 1968, after prolonged conflict with the communist Soviet regime, he turned away from the complex, atonal music he was writing and stopped composing for eight years. During those years, in the 1970's, Pärt converted from Lutheranism to the Russian Orthodox faith.

This period of monastic reflection and discernment produced a completely new compositional style; he returned with music based on triads of notes, the simplest building blocks of Western music. The music was spare — filled with spacious grace and hints of Gregorian chant. He called his new style "tintinnabuli," a reference to the ringing of bells. "Tintinnabuli" embraces an entire system and even a philosophy and theology, embodying the composer's yearning and quest for the One out of the many.

Pärt's musical interpretation of *The Beatitudes* — taken from the Sermon on the Mount as recorded in the Gospel of St. Matthew — traces a gradual harmonic ascent as each statement is separated by a lengthy pause. The organ lays a pedal foundation (starting with a low D-flat), working up by half-steps to G-sharp. Glints of dissonance in the homophonic choral writing animate the texture, until the organ harmonizes along with the singers' "Amen" and then proceeds with a separate concluding fantasia.

When asked about the silence in his music, the composer tells us: "Silence is like fertile soil, which, as it were, awaits our creative act, our seed." Pärt has often spoken of his work as the interweaving of two opposing currents: one is suffering, the other consolation. One is sin, the other is forgiveness. One is human, the other is divine. One is exile, the other is return. These lines are always discernible, yet always intertwined. Arvo Pärt's simple, meditative and unabashedly prayerful choral music is a perfect offering as we walk our Lenten journey.

## The Dwelling Place needs volunteers for

**Saturday, March 19th!**

We are looking for **4-6 volunteers** to prepare and serve a meal for about 20 people at the Dwelling Place on **Saturday, March 19th**. The Dwelling Place is a collaboration of area churches that prepares and serves meals at the United Methodist Church in Woburn for individuals and families in need. Our FCC is responsible for preparing and serving the meal on the third Saturday of each month.

Can you and your family or friends help?

- Volunteers can be adults and children.
- Serving time is only 2 hours -- from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- The food is simple and easy to prepare.

If you want to serve but are not sure you can prepare the food, we can help with that.

To sign up, please contact your FCC Dwelling Place coordinators:

Linda Alexander (617.763.0650) lgalexander@comcast.net

Lisa Loughlin (781.346.1241) lisa3abp@aol.com

## **Bagels & Bunnies**

**Saturday March 26 at 9:30 AM**

Perhaps you thought the Easter Bunny was not a religious figure. Well, you'd be wrong. No, I'm not talking about ancient fertility symbols, I'm talking about modern fund raising events. On Saturday, March 26th, the Easter Bunny will be at our church to meet and greet all the kids. (RAIN OR SHINE) He (or is it she?) will be available for picture taking - as well as supervising the Easter Egg Hunt. There will be prizes for the finder of two special eggs. Where does the fund raising come in? Well, it's simple... we just ask for a donation to get your picture taken with the bunny and for the bagels! Bring your camera (or we will have a camera and will email you the pictures if you'd prefer!) COME HAVE A MORNING OF FUN AND HELP SUPPORT THE HIGH SCHOOL TRIPS THIS YEAR! As always, the candy will all be nut free.