# United Church of Christ,
## *Congregational Boxborough*

723 Massachusetts Ave., Boxborough, MA 01719
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https://www.boxboroughucc.org

*No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you BELONG here.*

**August 2, 2026 9:30 a.m.**

Prelude *Trumpet Voluntary* Young

Welcome & Announcements Pastor Fran Graveson

* Psalter 133 (NCH Black hymnal pg. 712) *Psalm 133* Jeong

**Response**
**How pleasant to live in unity.**

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!
**Response**

It is like the precious oil on the head, running down the beard,
Upon the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.
**Response**

It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.
For there God ordained the blessing, the blessing of life forevermore.
**Response**

Call to Worship Lay Leader

One: Holy One of Love, we come together this morning with gratitude for a life of relationships, our life together in unity, uniformity.

**All: God welcomes us to our shared experiences of worship, fellowship, and prayer, many voices joined as one.**

One: Renewing God, we gather in this safe space to rest and renew our souls. May we refresh our energy and purpose. May our sense of being loved flow from our time together into the world.

**All: God refreshes us; reminds us of our binds together; and sends us into the world to act justly; love kindness; and walk humbly with God.**

Prayer of Transformation Lay Reader

**God of Grace, Walking together can be difficult. There are times when we wander from the one thing that can heal this world, Love. Help us to always choose love. May our fears, self-doubt, and bias disappear in the light. May we support each other as we walk together, respecting each path and protecting each heart.**

Moment of Reflection

Prayer of Assurance

You are loved. You are loved for your uniqueness. You are loved in relationship with God and neighbor. Remember these two facts and see the world around you through the lens of love. Amen.

* Passing of the Peace

One: We take this time in community to share God's peace from one heart to another. The peace of God be with you.

**All: And also, with you.**

* Song of Celebration *Spirit of the Living God*

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;**
**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**
**Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.**
**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

Scripture Reading Lay Leader

*Psalm 133 (NRSVUE)*

How very good and pleasant it is
when kindred live together in unity!
It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,
running down over the collar of his robes.
It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion.
For there the LORD ordained his blessing,
life forevermore.

Anthem *Sweet, Sweet Spirit* Løvland

Sung by: Steve Griffin

Sermon Pastor Fran Graveson

Prayers of the People, Pastoral Prayer, and Jesus' Prayer

**Creator God, 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.**

Offering

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory *Olivet* Young

*Sung Response

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,**
**Praise God, all creatures here below,**
**Praise God for all that love has done;**
**Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

*Dedication of the Offering

**Holy One, this is our offering. May our offering change us as much as it changes the world. May we see the things we do, no matter how small or mundane, as the way that we contribute goodness to the world, creating more life, more joy, and more love. Amen.**

* Hymn #391 (NCH Black hymnal) *In the Midst of New Dimensions* Rush

**In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,**
**Who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate ways?**
**God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,**
**We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.**

**Through the flood of starving people, warring factions and despair,**
**Who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of care?**
**God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,**
**We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.**

**As we stand a world divided by our own self-seeking schemes**
**Grant that we, your global village, might envision wider dreams.**
**God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,**
**We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.**

**We are man and we are woman, all persuasions, old and young,**
**Each a gift in your creation, each a love song to be sung.**

**God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,**
**We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.**

**Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain,**
**May your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again.**
**God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,**
**We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.**

Communion Pastor Fran

Prayer of Thanksgiving
**All: We thank you, generous God, for the nourishment of this table and our time sharing in community. May they sustain us in our work together, living in the light and walking the path of love's truth. Amen**.

Benediction

Postlude *Festal Song* Young

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***Denotes times in the service when the congregation will stand in body or spirit.**

**The flowers in the sanctuary today are provided in honor of César Martínez, Brenda's late husband, on the first-year anniversary of his passing. His life was a testament to his belief in a more equitable world, a belief he pursued with unwavering passion and a loving heart.**