

United Church of Christ,
Congregational Boxborough

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

June 28, 2026 9:30 a.m.
Re-Integrate

We spend too much time being "driven" rather than "drawn in." We focus on what we "should" do rather than what we feel excited and compelled to do in our lives, in this world. During this series, we will connect with our inherent creativity and nurture this foundational aspect of being human, giving us renewed energy for passionate work, delightful play, and creative problem solving to make this world a better place for all.

Prelude *Melody in C Minor* Blake

Welcome & Announcements Pastor Fran Graveson

* Hymn #394 (NCH Black hymnal) *In Christ There Is No East or West* Oxenham/Burleigh

In Christ there is no East or West, in Christ no South or North;
But one community of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;
God's service is the golden cord close binding humankind.

In Christ is neither Jew nor Greek, and neither slave nor free;
For men and women live in God, and all are kin to me.

In Christ now meet both East and West, in Christ meet South and North;
One joyous, true community throughout the whole wide earth.

Call to Worship Lay Leader

One: Loving God, you created us to love you and each other. This morning, your beloved community gathers to be in the presence of love.

All: May our time together be focused on love. May this space be safe and filled with your presence.

One: Creator, your creation is abundant. This morning, your beloved community gathers to give thanks and to reject scarcity. Help us to see the grace-filled abundance that can bring our world together.

All: May our time together be focused on gratitude. May Love show us the way to caring for each other.
One: Holy One, the kin_dom of justice and peace is here on earth. This morning, your beloved community gathers to heal and find strength in the work of re-integrating in the creative process.
All: May our time together be focused on the dream, God's dream.

Prayer of Transformation Lay Reader
Reintegrating God, we confess that we sometimes contribute to the *dis-integration* of the world rather than re-integration of all things into the beloved and supportive community. Sometimes fear of making ourselves vulnerable keeps us isolated, unforgiving, and focused on our own agenda, the "right" agenda. We find ourselves on an island dreaming, hovering, risking, and listening by ourselves. Afraid of the complexity and pitfalls relationships and community can bring into our lives. Afraid to re-integrate; afraid to lose our own power and safety.

Prayer of Assurance
Hear the Good News! We were made for each other, we were made for relationships, we have only to choose to say "yes" to God's invitation to participate fully in the life and love of community. As our greeting and passing of the peace today, I invite you to turn to your neighbors and as you wave, shake their hand or give a hug, affirm your connection by saying, "Love you, neighbor!"

* 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 *Let Us Be Drawn In*

In the world of the driven
Let us be drawn in
Let your love be a given
Let us be drawn in
To imagine, to dream, to create, to redeem
For the sake of the livin'
Let us be drawn in

Scripture Reading Lay Leader
1 Corinthians 12:25a-31,13:1-13
But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for

one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work powerful deeds? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.
If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.
Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now, we see only a reflection, as in a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love.

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 *Grace Flowering* Blake

*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 creative spirit in the world, 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, 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.

Benediction

Postlude *Not Alone for Mighty Empire* Chesterton

The flowers on the altar this morning are given by Gloria Roe in celebration of summer!

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