

United Church of Christ,
Congregational Boxborough

723 Massachusetts Ave., Boxborough, MA 01719
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No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you BELONG here.

June 14, 2026 9:30 a.m.
Risk

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 *Interlude* Hayes

Welcome & Announcements Pastor Fran Graveson

* Hymn #73 (NCH Black hymnal) *Enter, Rejoice, and Come In* Ruspini

Enter, rejoice, and come in. Enter, rejoice, and come in.
Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice and come in.

Open yourself to the song. Open yourself to the song.
Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice and come in.

Open your hearts everyone. Open your hearts everyone.
Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice and come in.

Don't be afraid of some change. Don't be afraid of some change.
Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice and come in.

Enter, rejoice, and come in. Enter, rejoice, and come in.
Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice and come in.

Call to Worship Lay Leader

One: We know God's presence in God's act of creating all that is; God's act of entering our lives in the person of Jesus; God's everyday act of creating new life and recreating us. We know God through acts that bring that which is not into being, into existence.
All: God help us to take the risk of believing in your creativity acts.

One: *To create is to assert ourselves in a way that is risky, that invites stepping into the unknown. Beginning with a blank page, a new ball yarn, an empty canvas, a melody without lyrics. To create is to have faith to take the first step to something new.*
All: God help us to know your creative nature; help us to share in your wonder that takes risks; help us to break the norms and move in the space of the "third way."
One: Let us prophesy a new world; Let us dream dreams and know your through the risks we take.
All: Let us live in your dream, God. Let us live in the dream of a beloved community for all, where everyone co-creates joy, justice, peace, and love together.

Transformation Meditation Pastor Fran Graveson

* 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

Painting Project

Scripture Reading Lay Leader
Matthew 25 13-30 CEB
"The kingdom of heaven is like a man who was leaving on a trip. He called his servants and handed his possessions over to them. To one he gave five valuable talent coins and to another he gave two, and to another he gave one. He gave to each servant according to that servant's ability. Then he left on his journey.
"After the man left, the servant who had five valuable coins took them and went to work doing business with them. He gained five more. In the same way, the one who had two valuable coins gained two more. But the servant who had received the one valuable coin dug a hole in the ground and buried his master's money.
"Now after a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five valuable coins came forward with five additional coins. He said, 'Master, you gave me five valuable coins. Look, I've gained five more.'

"His master replied, 'Excellent! You are a good and faithful servant! You've been faithful over a little. I'll put you in charge of much. Come, celebrate with me.'
"The second servant also came forward and said, 'Master, you gave me two valuable coins. Look, I've gained two more.'
"His master replied, 'Well done! You are a good and faithful servant. You've been faithful over a little. I'll put you in charge of much. Come, celebrate with me.'
"Now the one who had received one valuable coin came and said, 'Master, I knew that you are a hard man. You harvest grain where you haven't sown. You gather crops where you haven't spread seed. So I was afraid. And I hid my valuable coin in the ground. Here, you have what's yours.'
"His master replied, 'You evil and lazy servant! You knew that I harvest grain where I haven't sown and that I gather crops where I haven't spread seed? In that case, you should have turned my money over to the bankers so that when I returned, you could give me what belonged to me with interest. Therefore, take from him the valuable coin and give it to the one who has ten coins. Those who have much will receive more, and they will have more than they need. But as for those who don't have much, even the little bit they have will be taken away from them. Now take the worthless servant and throw him out into the farthest darkness.'
"People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth.

Sermon — Pastor Fran Graveson

Painting Update

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 — *Prayer on "Surrender"* — Carr

*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 #540 (NCH Black hymnal) *All Things Bright and Beautiful* Alexander

Refrain
All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, our dear God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings
Refrain

The purple-headed mountain, the river running by,
The sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky.
Refrain

The cold wind in the winder, the pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden, God made them everyone.
Refrain

Benediction

Postlude *This Is The Day* Garrett

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

The flowers on the altar this morning are presenting in gratitude for the joy, beauty, and humor Nancy Warren brings to our congregation every week.

Summer Worship Schedule:
In August we will be co-worshipping with the Congregational Church of Harvard.
Please note the dates, times, and locations:

August 2nd – Boxborough hosting at 9:30 am
August 9th – Boxborough hosting at 9:30 am
August 16th – Harvard hosting, 5 Still River Road, 10 am
August 23rd – Harvard hosting, 5 Still River Road, 10 am