

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**Communion Hymn**

"Here at Thy Table, Lord"

#384 Blue

**Invitation**

**Prayer of Transformation and Assurance of God's Grace**

Lynn

**Lord's Prayer**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

Pastor Lee

Leader: May Love be with you!

People: **And also with you!**

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: **We lift them up to the Lord!**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

Leader: ...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise the name of Love and join their unending hymn:

People:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: ...And so, in remembrance of this love in Jesus Christ, we offer our love completely as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

People: **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again!**

**Sharing of the Bread and Cup**

*The Deacons will distribute the bread and the cup. When all are served, we will partake in unison.*

The Body of Christ broken for you. **Thanks be to God.**

The Cup of New Life poured out for you. **Thanks be to God.**

**Communion Thanksgiving**

**All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.**

**Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led.**

**Blest are those who from this table live their lives in gratitude.**

**Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.**

**Closing Hymn**

"I Surrender All"

See Insert

**Blessing and Benediction**

**Three-Fold Amen**

**Postlude**

"Sarabande" by Bach

Tudor



Central Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
Chelmsford, Massachusetts

*An Open and Affirming Congregation*

*"A Community of Faith, Hope, and Love, Growing through Worship and Service"*

Ministers: The Congregation

Interim Pastor: Rev. Lee Atherton

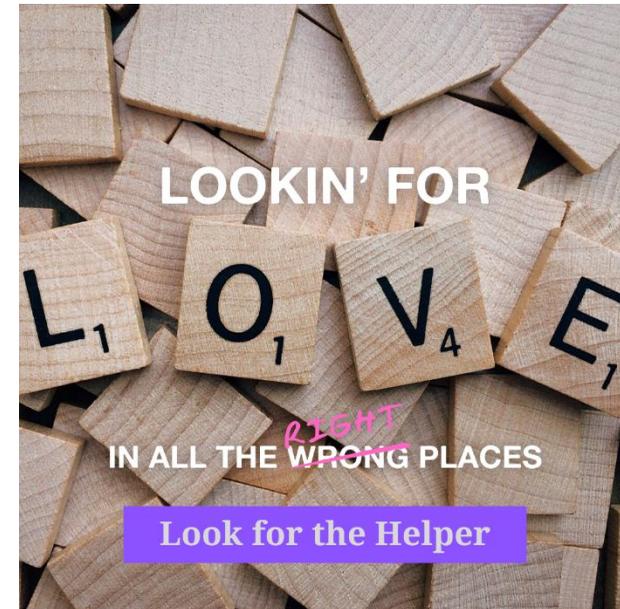
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. John A. Zachry

Director of Music/Organist: Tudor Bota

Sunday, March 1, 2026

Second Sunday in Lent

10 o'clock a.m.



**Second Sunday in Lent**

Welcome to Central Congregational Church, where no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome. If you are visiting us today, know that we are glad to have you. As we worship together, please note that an \* indicates a time to stand as you are able. Sentences in **bold** are to be spoken by the congregation.

**Order of the Service of Worship**

---

**WE GATHER**

**Prelude** "Create in Me a Clean Heart", "Lamb of God" arr. Hayes Tudor Bota  
**Welcome and Announcements** Lynn Horton  
**Ringling the Bell**

**THRESHOLD MOMENT**

**Song** "Show Us How to Love"  
Hearts open, minds awake,  
change us now for heaven's sake.  
Leave us not alone in hatred's wake.  
Show us how to love.  
Show us how to love.  
Show us how, show us how to love.

**Reflecting** Rev. Lee Atherton  
**Song** "Show Us How to Love"  
Eyes open, shocked awake,  
much to learn from our mistakes.  
Draw us closer in our heartache.  
Show us how to love.  
Show us how to love.  
Show us how, show us how to love.

**Passing the Peace** Lynn  
Lynn: The love and peace of Christ be with you!  
People: **And also with you!**

**\*Opening Hymn** "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" #67 Blue

**WE PROCLAIM**

**Children's Message** Pastor Lee  
**Sending Song**  
Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of God surround you  
Everywhere, everywhere you may go.

**Song of Preparation** 'Love Us Into Fullness' v. 1  
**Love us into fullness, touch us with your grace; Jesus, in your mercy, draw us to your face.**

**Scripture** Psalm 121 Pew Bible p. 498  
**Song of Preparation** 'Love Us Into Fullness' v. 2  
**Love us into fullness, hold us in your care, cheer us with your presence, here and everywhere.**

**Second Reading** John 3:1-17 Pew Bible p. 863  
**Song** 'Love Us Into Fullness' v. 3  
**Love us into fullness, and we will be strong; Jesus, walk beside us, fill our hearts with song.**

**Sermon** Pastor Lee

**WE RESPOND**

**Reception of New Members** Pastor Lee

Welcome  
Questions of the Candidates  
Affirmation of Faith (All who are able may stand and respond along with the candidates.)  
Do you believe in God? **People: I believe in God.**  
Do you believe in Jesus Christ? **People: I believe in Jesus Christ.**  
Do you believe in the Holy Spirit? **People: I believe in the Holy Spirit.**

Promise of Support  
**We welcome you with joy! As partners in the common life of this congregation, we pledge to you our friendship and prayers as we grow together in God's transforming love and as we share in the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in knowing God and God's love, and may we be witnesses of our risen Savior. We give thanks that you join us now, as fellow seekers and servants!**

*The Congregation may be seated.*

Greeting in Christian Love  
Prayer

**Joys and Concerns** Pastor Lee

**Music** Kyrie Eleison See insert

**Pastoral Prayer** Pastor Lee

**Music** Kyrie Eleison See insert

**Invitation to the Offering** Lynn

**Offertory** "When Love Came Down" arr. Shackley Chancel Choir  
When Love came down to earth and made His home with men, the hopeless found a hope, the sinner found a friend. Not to the powerful but to the poor He came, and humble, hungry hearts were satisfied again. What joy, what peace has come to us! What hope, what help, what love! When every unclean thought, and every sinful deed was scourged upon His back and hammered through His feet. The Innocent is cursed, the guilty are released; the punishment of God on God has brought me peace. Come lay your heavy load down at the Master's feet; your shame will be removed, your joy will be complete. Come crucify your pride, and enter as a child; for those who bow down low He'll lift up to His side.

**\*Doxology** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" #46-48 Blue  
*Feel free to sing the version of the lyrics that is familiar to you.*



*“A Community of Faith, Hope, and Love, Growing through Worship and Service”*

<b>Interim Pastor</b>	Rev. Lee Atherton	508-308-7116	Pastor-Lee@cccchelmsford.org
<b>Director of Music</b>	Tudor Bota	978-772-3173	tudorbota@gmail.com
<b>Interim Office Admin</b>	Margie Dissinger	978-256-5931	office.admin@cccchelmsford.org
<b>Sunday School Coord.</b>	Jennifer Hart	610-781-2074	jennifer.hart@cccchelmsford.org
<b>Custodian</b>	Juarez Gomes	978-957-5075	
<b>Council President</b>	Lynn Horton	978-256-8524	lynn@terpsoft.com
<b>Church Phone &amp; Email</b>	978-256-5931	office.admin@cccchelmsford.org	
<b>Church Address</b>	1 Worthen Street, Chelmsford, MA 01824		
<b>U.C.C. Website</b>	ucc.org (United Church of Christ)		

**Pastoral Search Committee:**

- Martha Chenault
- Glenn Dissinger
- Sue Houde
- John Lamplough
- Emmett Lyons
- April McCarthy
- Barbara Reilly
- Dorinda Toppan, Chairperson

We declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation, welcoming into the full life and ministry of the church persons of every race, culture, age, gender identity and gender expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, marital status, education, and economic status. We especially and intentionally welcome all who have known the pain of exclusion or discrimination in the church and society.



Scan the QR code to give your offering electronically and support our ministry.

Thank you for your generosity!



**Welcome to Central Congregational Church!**

*No matter who you are, or where you are on your spiritual journey, you're welcome here!*

**Good morning and welcome to Sunday morning worship!**

We are glad you are here to worship together! Please join us in Fellowship Hall after the service for food and fellowship. This service of worship is being livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube. If you do not wish to be visible on the internet, please choose a seat in the balcony.

**Children**

- ☺ Children are always welcome in our services of worship.
- ☺ Busy Bags for kids are available in the narthex (lobby).

**Deacons are available during Sunday services.** Reach out to any of them with questions or concerns. You can spot them wearing a blue name tag.

**Greeter(s):** Becky & Alan Wisniewski

**Liturgist:** Lynn Horton

**Deacon of the Day:** Margie Dissinger

**Coffee Hour Hosts:** Kelly Hargett

**Flowers** Jay & Chrissy Hungate in honor of those suffering from governmental pressures.

***Many thanks to all who enrich our morning together.***

## Announcements and Events – Sunday, March 1, 2026

### A Lenten Prayer Practice

Pastor Lee continues to lead a weekly Prayer group this Lent after the morning worship service in room 202 and by Zoom. Using Kristen Vincent's "We Are Beloved: A Lenten Journey" we'll use scripture, prayer and reflection, listening for God's presence. If you would like to make your own set of prayer beads to use, please let Pastor Lee know by calling or emailing the office. The Zoom link is in the Friday email.

### Community Event at CCC | March 7, 2026 @ 5:30pm Potluck and Game Night

Bring a dish to share and a game or two. We will gather for dinner and then play games. Hopefully winter will be done giving us storms! These events are open to all so bring a friend or two along. If you need more information reach out to Jennifer Hart or Pastor Lee.

### "Lookin' for Love in All the Wrong Right Places"

This Lent we are searching for Love - in every place. Where do you find love? What words are "love" for you? Check out the new table outside Pastor Lee's office that's covered with Scrabble tiles. You are invited to make a word or a phrase that spells out one way you find love in the world. Get as creative as you'd like!

### Lenten Devotional

A Lenten Devotional/Journal is available on the website or online by clicking [HERE](#). Please contact the office if you need to have one printed.

### 'Who To Call' List

A few years ago Pastor Rich and the Deacons started a program called "Who To Call". This is a list of members who might live alone or don't have family in the area. The list has the phone number of a close friend or family member that the church could contact in case of an emergency. The Deacons will be in Fellowship Hall at Coffee Hour on Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> so members can check the list to see if it needs to be updated. Also anyone else who would like to be put on the list can fill out an information slip.

### March is Stewardship Month

Our theme for this year's Stewardship Campaign is "There Our Hearts Will Be." Next Sunday we will hear more about it.

**One Great Hour of Sharing** also happens in March. This is a Special Mission Offering of the United Church of Christ that supports partners worldwide with ministries that fund health, education, and agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries, and both international and domestic disaster response.

### Save the Date!

Saturday, April 25, 2026 from 3-5:30 pm the church will celebrate its 150th Anniversary in Fellowship Hall. Watch the newsletters and bulletins for more details!

### THIS WEEK AT CCC

<b>Sun, Mar 1</b>	Worship	10:00 AM	Sanctuary
	Children's Choir	11:15 AM	Sanctuary
	Easter Concert Rehearsal	11:30 AM	Sanctuary
	We are Beloved – A Lenten Journey	11:30 AM	Rm 202 & Zoom
	Women's Bible Study	7:00 PM	Zoom
<b>Mon, Mar 2</b>	ChristCare	7:00 PM	Zoom
	<b>Tues, Mar 3</b>	Knitters & Crocheters	10:30 AM
Lunch Bunch		11:45 AM	Room 202
SAM Committee Meeting		7:00 PM	Room 302
Sonlight Band Rehearsal		7:30 PM	Sanctuary
<b>Wed, Mar 4</b>		Pastoral Search	5:30 PM
	CE Committee	7:15PM	Room 202
<b>Thurs, Mar 5</b>	Bell Choir	5:45 PM	Room 312
	Chancel Choir	7:00 PM	Sanctuary
	Stewardship Committee	7:00 PM	Zoom
<b>Sat, Mar 7</b>	Potluck & Game Night	5:30 PM	Fellowship Hall

**Pastor Lee's Office Hours:** Sundays, 8:15–1:00; Tuesdays, 9:00–2:00; Wednesdays 9:00–12:00. She is also available by appointment.

## HYMN LYRICS

---

### Hymn

### “O God, Our Help In Ages Past”

---

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!

Under the shadow of your throne still may we dwell secure;  
sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,  
from everlasting, thou art God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight, are like an evening gone;  
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, soon bears us all away;  
we fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
be thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home.

### Communion Hymn

### “Here at Thy Table, Lord”

---

Here at thy table, Lord, this sacred hour,  
O let us feel thee near in loving power;  
calling our thoughts away from self and sin.  
As to thy banquet hall we enter in.

Sit at the feast, dear Lord, break thou the bread;  
fill thou the cup that brings life to the dead;  
that we may find in thee, pardon and peace;  
and from all bondage win a full release.

Come then, O holy Christ, feed us, we pray;  
touch with thy pierced hand each common day;  
making this earthly life full of your grace,  
till in the home of heaven we find our place.

## We Welcome with Joy our New Members

**Erin McNally** is a Senior Director at Global PMO. She enjoys knitting, reading and puzzling. Erin has two children, Lila and Jack. She is on the SAM committee, bakes for church events and participates in food drives.

**Ana Milena Reatiga Rivera** currently works in retail. She loves handcrafts, music, cinema, theater and animals. She is good at organizing events, makes soaps to sell and speaks Spanish. Ana has a heart to serve others and has already joined the SAM Committee.

**Sarah Roy** is a nursing assistant at the Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital. She attends church with her husband, Christopher and son, Jacob. Sarah is a social, friendly person who is happy to make Central Congregational Church their family church.

### Kyrie Eleison

Greek Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
 English Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
 Lord, have mer - cy.

## I Surrender All

1 All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der, all to him I free - ly give;  
 2 All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der, hum - bly at his feet I bow,  
 3 All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der, make me, Sav - ior, whol - ly thine;  
 4 All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der, Lord, I give my - self to thee;

I will ev - er love and trust him, in his pres - ence dai - ly live.  
 world - ly pleas - ures all for - sak - en: take me, Je - sus, take me now.  
 may thy Ho - ly Spir - it fill me, may I know thy power di - vine.  
 fill me with thy love and pow - er, let thy bless - ing fall on me.

*Refrain*

I sur - ren - der all, I sur - ren - der all, I sur - ren - der all,  
 I sur - ren - der all, I sur - ren - der all, I sur - ren - der all,

all to thee, my bless - ed Sav - ior, I sur - ren - der all.