

Unordered and Radical Love

July 13, 2025

MEDITATION

"Thank goodness, we can choose our friends. We have to take our relatives as they are, and be thankful." Lucy Maud Montgomery, author of Anne of Green Gables

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING WORDS

L: And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. **P: And also with you.**

PRELUDE

"Behold Our God"

Arranged: Mary McDonald

Music: Stephen Altrogge, Jonathan Baird, Ryan Baird and Meghan Baird

CALL TO WORSHIP

Linda Thomas, Deacon

Leader: Christ has set us free

All: Free to serve

Leader: Free to welcome and include

All: Free to love our neighbors as ourselves

*SONG OF REJOICING

"Rejoice in the Lord Always" 2x

In Pew

RESPONSIVE OPENING PRAYER

Linda Thomas, Deacon

Leader: Loving and Gracious God, We delight in you!

All: We commit to your ways--ways of love, mercy, peace, justice, grace, humility, and salvation.

Leader: We trust you to lead us, to act in loving, merciful, peaceful, just, and grace-filled, ways.

All: We confess that too often our own desires and egos get in the way of trusting where you would lead us in ways of love.

Leader: Empty our best laid plans and open ourselves to where you would lead us.

All: Show us, God, how to use our gifts to connect with all people you put before us. We pray in the name of Jesus, our savior, Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** “They Asked, “Who’s My Neighbor?” *Black 541*

WORD FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN *Lisa Allen*

ANTHEM “A Time for All Things” *Choir*
Words: Adapted from Ecclesiastes, music: Douglas E. Wagner

OLD TESTAMENT READING | Psalm 25:1-10, p. 618 *Linda Thomas, Deacon*

NEW TESTAMENT READING | Luke 10:25-37, p. 87

L: The Word of God for the people of God. **All: Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION “Unordered and Radical Love” *Rev. Eric Stroshine*

***RESPONSIVE HYMN** “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” *Black 43*

PASTORAL PRAYER & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*During the prayers of the people, you are invited to voice your joys and concerns out loud. When names are spoken, all invited to respond, “**O Lord, hear our prayers.**”*

THE LORD’S PRAYER (*trespasses*)

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass 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. All are invited to sing “Amen”. (Black 812)

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC “Create in Me a Clean Heart” *Choir*
Words: Psalm 51:10-12, music: Arnold B. Sherman

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessing flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love had done:
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One Amen.

***UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**Most generous God, you have blessed us with gifts to serve and share.
May the offerings we present today be used to further your Kingdom
and build your beloved community. Amen.**

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Jesus Love Me”

Black 327

***BENEDICTION**

SUNG BENEDICTION

“May you Go in Peace”

Choir

Music: Gene Grier and Lowell Everson

POSTLUDE

“By Our Love”

Music by Christy Nockels, arranged: Mary McDonald

** Please stand in body or spirit.*

Many thanks to the volunteers who enriched our morning together!

Deacon, Linda Thomas; Tech Deacon, Amelia Allen; Choir, Kay Clark, Linda Thomas,
Joyce Kenneally, Meg Tivey, Alan King and Chris Polloni; Hospitality & Food donation,
Rosemary Carey

NEW HERE TODAY?

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey you are welcome here!

To help you navigate Sunday mornings with us, please see the guide below.

1. **Order of Worship:** **An asterisk means stand in body or spirit. **Bold text** is spoken in unison.*
 2. **Kid's Connection:** *After the "Word for all God's children," the children leave worship for a time learning and fun with Bible stories, crafts, and games with Lisa Allen.*
 3. **TAKE TWO** *is an adult faith formation group that meets after worship with Lisa Allen. The summer discussion topic will be "Hearing the Voice of God."*
 4. **Coffee and Conversation:** *You are welcome to gather with us after worship to meet some new friends in the Covenant Room, down the hall on the right.*
 5. **Have Questions?** *Please reach out to the Deacon of the day.*
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Music covered under One License # A-728849

Welcome to Rev. Eric Stroshine

The Reverend Eric Stroshine is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and lives in Centerville with his wife Colleen. He served churches for 29 years and the last church he served was the First Congregational Church of Hanover, Massachusetts. Five years ago he started a counseling ministry and is now a psychotherapist in private practice. He graduated with an undergraduate degree from University of Massachusetts Amherst and has graduate degrees from Yale Divinity School and Boston University School of Social Work.