



"Weaving Paris" by Kristine Arena
Paper Sculpture
ink on BFK Rives
2017

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 14, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

Hancock United Church of Christ, Congregational • 1912 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington, MA

Vision, Mission, and Values

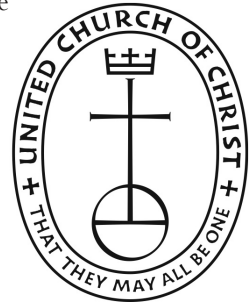
OUR VISION:

Inspired by the life and teachings of Jesus, we are changing the world through love, compassion, and courage.

OUR MISSION:

In the revolutionary spirit of our Christian faith, we invite you to join us as we

- worship God with all our hearts and minds
- walk our spiritual paths together
- cherish one another
- build community in a diverse world
- protect the earth
- work for the common good



OUR VALUES:

faithfulness inclusion compassion gratitude integrity generosity humility vulnerability courage

WELCOME TO HANCOCK

We are delighted that you chose to worship with us today and are strengthened by your participation in our service! While we are sad that we cannot see you face-to-face this week, we are blessed to still be able to worship in a meaningful way. In these next few weeks, we will be having our worship televised and livestreamed via youtube.com/hancockchurch.



In these times, community is more important than ever. Because of this, we invite you all to share your ideas of how best to feel spiritually fulfilled in these times of limited interaction. You can send any thoughts to Hancock Church at 781-862-4220 or email us at office@hancockchurch.org

www.hancockchurch.org

Service of Worship

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

Welcome to the fourth Sunday of Lent. Today we meet Jesus in the middle of his encounter with Nicodemus, one of the religious authorities, who has come to seek him out at night. A rather long conversation ensues between them, only part of which is our text for today. This can be read on many levels, but one thing that is clear is that Jesus is offering to Nicodemus, and thereby to us, the notion of a life lived in transparency (i.e. in the light). There is great freedom and peace to be had in living in this way. It frees us up to love the world as God does because we are allowed to take the focus off of ourselves and our shortcomings. Maybe this is what is meant by the "eternal life" that is promised in the most well known portion of our text today: John 3:16. We will also explore art as a form of prayer that can help us to express what is often beyond words. Welcome, one and all!

PRELUDE *Seasons of the Heart*. by Karen Buckwalter
Morning Glory Ringers, pre-recorded

WORDS OF WELCOME Barbara Callaghan

OPENING HYMN *Wondrous Love* traditional American hymn
Ellen Putnam, pre-recorded

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD Barbara Callaghan

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

CONG. RESPONSE. . . *from Now We Walk Our Lenten Journey* Pre-recorded

Service of Worship

GATHERING SONG.....*Gather 'Round*

Come on Children to the Gospel Feast
Gather round! Gather round!
Jesus Welcomes all the little and least!
Gather round! Gather round!

This is where we sing and pray
Read God's word on this glad day!
Come on children to the gospel feast
Gather round! Gather round!

CHILDREN'S TIME David C Clark

THE MORNING OFFERING Kay Barney, pre-recorded

*This week our offering will be donated to the American Medical Resources Foundation (AMRF).
Learn more at www.amrf.com. For more information on how to give, see page 6.*

OFFERTORY *God So Loved the World* by John Stainer

Chancel Choir, pre-recorded

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Barbara Callaghan

DOXOLOGY *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

PRAYER PRACTICE Art Kristine Arena, pre-recorded

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE David C Clark

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 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.

PRAYER RESPONSE... Sarabande from English Suite V by J.S. Bach

THE SERMON..... *What is Eternal Life?* Barbara Callaghan

CLOSING HYMN *God of Grace and God of Laughter* Pre-recorded

BENEDICTION Barbara Callaghan

Service of Worship

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Go With Us Lord*
Chancel Choir, pre-recorded

PASSING THE PEACE David C Clark

POSTLUDE *Toccata in F by D. Buxtehude* Marilyn

Join Us for Virtual Coffee Hour Following Morning Worship!

Join us immediately following Morning Worship for virtual coffee hour via Zoom! Here's how to participate! **To join by video:** Download the Zoom app on your phone, tablet, or computer that you will use for the conference. A non-handheld device is best.

- Click "Join a meeting." Then enter the Meeting ID Number: 835-957-432, followed by your name.
- Select "Join with Computer Audio." A picture will appear if your camera is enabled. Use your device settings to enable the camera if there is no picture.

To join by phone: Dial 646-558-8656. When prompted, enter the Meeting ID Number, 835-957-432, followed by #.

Service of Worship

Walk Our Spiritual Paths Together

MORNING OFFERING

Each week at Hancock we accept an offering of gifts for two purposes:

Mission Partner of the Week: Each Sunday we accept gifts for one of our mission partners, a select organization doing God's work in the world. Many are local or regional organizations whom we've worked with for years; all are effective organizations making a difference in people's lives. These donations are passed directly to the organization and are in addition to the donations included in Hancock's budget.

Sustaining Hancock's Vision: Gifts are also welcome in the Sunday offering plate for Hancock Church that supports our staff, our building, community outreach and all of the worship and programs at Hancock.

You may make a gift for either in one of three ways:

- **Through our website.** Go to www.hancockchurch.org, click on the Give button in the upper right, and follow the instructions to make a gift by credit or debit card or ACH bank transfer. Be sure to indicate in the dropdown menu whether the gift is for "Mission Partner" or "Hancock Church."
- **Send a check.** Make it payable to Hancock UCC, and note on the memo line either "Mission Partner" or "Hancock." Our address is 1912 Massachusetts Ave., Lexington MA 02421.
- **Text to give.** From your smart phone or tablet, text the dollar amount along with "Mission" or "Hancock" to 781-386-0866 and tap the link to enter your credit card information.

Upcoming offerings:

March 21: Women's Lunch Place; // March 28: Sustainable Harvest International.

On February 28, we raised \$745 for GBIO. Thank you!

PRAYER MEDIUM: ART



Invite art
into your
worship
space

This year's Lenten theme at Hancock Church is "Claiming what God can do within the dirt." We encourage you to consider what new and beautiful things might be growing just below the surface in your life and to engage with Lent by exploring different modes of prayer with us.

This week's prayer medium is art. Invite art into your worship space this morning. Bring a picture or painting that is meaningful to you into your worshipping space, either physically or digitally online.

If you take time this week to engage in an artistic practice that brings you joy - whether building, designing, sewing, drawing, fixing, or painting - we would love to see a photo of your creativity! Please send pictures to office@ Hancockchurch.org.

Service of Worship

Worship God with all our Hearts and Minds

LENT 2021 AT HANCOCK CHURCH!



Today is the first day of Lent! This year's theme is "Claiming what God can do within the dirt." We encourage you to consider what new and beautiful things might be growing just below the surface in your life and to engage with Lent by exploring different modes of prayer with us. Each Monday, you'll receive a Lenten email with a weekly meditation and an invitation to participate in some of this year's Lenten offerings. Join us as we draw nearer to God together:

Hear about new modes of prayer in our **weekly congregant testimony** during our Sunday morning worship.

Worship with us for **Evening Worship at 4PM via Zoom on March 21**. You can find the Zoom link in our Hancock Weekly!

Use our **downloadable Lenten guide** to explore a new type of prayer each week. The link to the guide will be available in our next Weekly, and in a Lenten email next Monday.

Join us for **weekly Zoom small group every Wednesday during Lent from 8-9PM**, beginning on February 24 and ending on March 31. Together, we'll practice a small version of the prayer mode of the week, and reflect on our experiences with the week's prayer mode. Feel free to come one Wednesday or every Wednesday! Check the Hancock Weekly to find out more on how to participate.

Walk with us to Palm Sunday in our **Weekly Minister's Lenten Blog**, which you can find on our Facebook page, and in our weekly Lenten email.

As we embark on this journey to Easter Sunday, we hope that Lent can be a season for you of preparation, reflection, and finding the Holy in the everyday.

With love and blessings for our Lenten journey,

The Hancock Worship Team

A NOTE ON BUILDING ACCESS



Hancock's office is now staffed limited hours Monday through Friday. Please note that all building access must be coordinated in advance. If you would like to arrange a time to meet with one of our staff members or enter the building, contact the church office at 781-862-4220. Please use the front entrance, and call or ring the doorbell when you arrive. Thank you for your cooperation!

Our Mission is To...

Worship God with all our Hearts and Minds

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday Worship - Sunday, March 28 at 10:00 AM

Join us as we remember Jesus' entrance in Jerusalem with a virtual Palm Sunday procession video featuring Hancock members. Minister for Children and Families David C. Clark will preach on John 12:12-16. Worship can be viewed via LexMedia (RCN 3/HD613, Comcast 8, Verizon 35), YouTube, or Facebook Live.

Maundy Thursday Worship - Thursday, April 1 at 7:30 PM

Join us for a simple, meditative service via Zoom as we commemorate the Last Supper. We will be celebrating Communion, and encourage you to participate by gathering bread and juice prior to the service. To participate, please see the link in the Hancock Weekly.

Stations of the Cross - Beginning on Thursday, April 1 at 3:00 PM

We invite you to participate in outdoor, self-guided Stations of the Cross. The 14 stations, created by artist Mary Button, are entitled "Stations of the Cross: Pandemic Hope." They will be displayed outside Hancock Church beginning at 3:00 PM on Maundy Thursday, April 1, 2021, and will remain on view Good Friday, April 2, and Holy Saturday, April 3. To take part, please park in the Hancock's rear parking lot and then process on foot. Walk down the exit driveway, proceed around the front of the building, and continue up the entrance driveway back to your vehicle. Please note that participants are required to wear masks and maintain social distancing of at least six feet.

Good Friday Worship - Friday, April 2 at 7:30 PM

Join us for a simple service of scripture, prayer, and contemplation as we reflect on Jesus' Passion. Worship can viewed via YouTube or Facebook Live.

Easter Sunrise Worship - Sunday, April 4 at 6:15 AM

Join Hancock Church at the Old Belfry for Easter Sunrise Worship. Gather outside for a simple service of scripture and sharing the names of loved ones who have died. Please note that participants are required to wear masks and maintain social distancing of at least six feet.

Easter Worship - Sunday, April 4, 2021 at 10:00 AM

All are welcome as we celebrate together the joy of the resurrection and the power of love, with a special message for children, with song, and with a message of hope for all of us. The Rev. Barbara Callaghan, Senior Minister, will preach on John 20:1-18. Worship can be viewed via LexMedia (RCN 3/HD613, Comcast 8, Verizon 35), YouTube, or Facebook Live.

Our Mission is To...

Cherish One Another

TRIVIA NIGHT ON MARCH 20



The Parish Life Committee is delighted to announce that Meg Carley and Sarah Keeping have agreed to host another Trivia Night for Hancock! If you missed the first one, you don't want to miss this one! It will take place via Zoom on Saturday, March 20 at 7:00 p.m. Mark your calendars now! Click on the Zoom link found in the Hancock Weekly to

participate in this fun event.

EASTER 2021 LILY DONATION FORM



Every year, the Sanctuary is filled with beautiful lilies and Easter flowers in memory or honor of the loved ones of Hancock members. Dedicate a lily by submitting our online form:

<https://hancockchurch.breezechms.com/form/a723ca85>

no later than Friday, March 26. The suggested donation is \$10 per plant.

Please note that this year, it will not be possible to pick up lilies from the church. Your lilies will be a donation to Hancock to beautify the Sanctuary, and following Easter, they will be given to a homebound member or resident of a senior community.

"LISTEN TO THE MUSIC" MARK MORGAN SOLO CONCERT ON MARCH 15



"Listen to the Music," a new online show by Hancock's Director of Music Mark Morgan, will premiere on live on Monday, March 15 at 7:30 PM. The show will feature folk, rock, and jazz music for all ages broadcast live from the church's sanctuary. Mark will sing and play favorites by The Beatles, Richard Thompson, Cyndi Lauper, Paul Simon, the Doobie Brothers, and many more.

This concert marks the 1-year anniversary of the shutdown in Massachusetts with optimism about what's to come, while also acknowledging what we've been through.

Those watching will be able to engage with each other and the artist in real time through the YouTube chat feature. The show is free and can be accessed via Hancock Church's website, its YouTube channel, or its Facebook page.

STAYED CONNECTED: DOWNLOAD THE MARCH 2021 DIRECTORY!



Thank you to everyone who has submitted corrections to the February 2021 directory! Please click the link found in the Hancock Weekly for an updated March 2021 household directory. If there are any errors in your entry, please contact Kathryn in the church office at kathryn@hancockchurch.org.

Our Mission is To...

Build Community in a Diverse World

VOLUNTEER & WINTER DONATIONS NEEDED FOR LEXINGTON FOOD PANTRY



VOLUNTEER NEEDED - The Food Pantry has a need for a volunteer to gather the contents of the donation bin at Stop and Shop on Friday afternoons and deliver them to the pantry (6 Meriam Street, Lexington). This person must be to lift bags of groceries several times in the process. If interested, please contact Carolyn Wortman at carolynwortman@verizon.net.

The Lexington Food Pantry is currently servicing more than 110 clients weekly. The outside storage cabinet at the Church of Our Redeemer is locked for the winter because of the freezing temperatures. However, donations can still be dropped off at Stop & Shop, 36 Bedford Street, Lexington, between registers 1 and 2. Items the Pantry is in need of include baked beans, canned fruit and vegetables, macaroni and cheese, pasta and pasta sauce, canned tuna, peanut butter, rice, toiletries.

Another donation alternative is the pantry's Amazon Wish List. Items ordered are delivered to one of the manager's homes, and she will bring the items into the food pantry.

Paper bags are not being accepted at this time.

Thank you for your support!

HANCOCK VISITORS MEET & GREET ON MARCH 28



The Welcoming Committee invites you to attend a Visitors Meet & Greet via Zoom on Sunday, March 28 at 11:00 a.m., immediately following Morning Worship. Join Senior Minister Rev. Barbara Callaghan and members of the Welcoming Team to learn more about Hancock and ask any questions you may have. To participate, please use the Zoom meeting link found in the Hancock Weekly. We look forward to seeing you!

Our Mission is To...

Build Community in a Diverse World

THIS WEEK: GBIO REFUNDING CELEBRATION AND LISTENING CAMPAIGN



Refounding Celebration - Tuesday, March 16, 7-9 PM

Hancock Listening Campaign - TBD

As you may know, over the last year, GBIO has focused on increasing its membership (Refounding) in order to have a greater voice to address key legislative and social justice issues. Many of you at Hancock Church have contributed significantly to GBIO's efforts, and we thank you for that service. In a few months, Hancock Church will be holding a Listening Campaign to help GBIO plan their focus and activities for the next 2-3 years.

But before that, GBIO wants to celebrate its refounding with a Celebration from 7-9 PM on Tuesday, March 16. Your participation in the Refounding celebration is a great way to learn more about GBIO's actions in social Justice. Registration is required. Please register soon using the link found in the Hancock Weekly

Following the Refounding Celebration Zoom meeting, we will schedule a Zoom meeting to plan for our listening campaign. The input of our church will be combined with other GBIO members to determine their focus for the next couple of years. Stay tuned for announcements for planning the Listening Campaign

For further information, please contact Wendy Tanahashi-Works (dwworks@verizon.net) or Jim Weston (jamesrweston@gmail.com).

ZOOM LECTURE ON BLACK LIVES MATTER PROTESTS OF 2020



The Cary Lecture Series, an annual series of free public lectures in Lexington, will be offering a lecture by Brandeis University professor Chad Williams entitled "The Black Lives Matter Protests of 2020: An Early History." This lecture will take place on Saturday, March 20 at 8:00 p.m. Williams, a noted historian, educator, public commentator and author of *Torchbearers of Democracy*, will lead us through an 'early history' of the BLM protests. The U.S. has been rocked by the murder of George Floyd and the widespread recognition of violence against Blacks. These events have re-awakened us to our racist legacy. Across the nation and globally, Black and white people have protested police brutality and the continued inequalities in our society. What will be the lasting effects of the Black Lives Matter movement? How will this moment affect future policies - and everyday lives of Black and white Americans?

Advanced registration is required. Please sign up using the link found in the Hancock Weekly. To learn more about Chad Williams, please visit his Brandeis University webpage.

Hancock Covenant of Welcome

We welcome all who seek to know God.

We believe that, although we are many members, we are one body in Christ.

We have been called as well as challenged by God to respect and reconcile our differences.

We recognize and love each individual as a child of God.

We welcome, respect, support, and lovingly encourage people of every race, ethnicity, creed, class, gender, sexual orientation, age, and physical and mental ability to join us on our journey of faith.

The faith journey indeed calls Hancock Members not to be silent in the face of prejudice, injustice, and exclusion, but to express our faith, in word and deed, for justice and inclusiveness for all humanity.

As Paul wrote in Galatians, "In Christ there is no longer Jew or Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for all are one..."

Barbara Callaghan

Senior Minister

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David C Clark

Minister of Children and Families

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To conserve trees and your pledge dollars, consider sharing your bulletin. Please recycle.

