

Maple Street Congregational Church United Church of Christ

*No matter who you are or where you are on your faith journey,
you are welcome here!*



November 26, 2017 Sacrament of Baptism 9:50 a.m.

Childcare is offered for 3 and under during Worship at "Kid's Korner" in the hall behind the Sanctuary.

PRELUDE *Adagio* L. v. Beethoven
(A time for meditation in preparation for worshipping God)

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP



Leader: It is harvest time! God is gathering us in! Come! Let us share all of our good gifts with God!

People: **God has planted seeds in us and now the time is ripe;**

Leader: Come! Let us celebrate and rejoice in what God is doing in us!

People: **God has plans for us, plans for a future with hope.**

Leader: Come! Let us rejoice in God's reaping at harvest time.

People: **Let us share our gifts for the glory of God!**

--Rev. Mindi, Rev-o-lution

***OPENING HYMN** *We Plow the Fields and Scatter* Red No. 460



*INVOCATION OF GOD'S PRESENCE (IN UNISON)



God of Grace and Glory, God of our Beginnings and our Future, God of the Universe: we come before You in thanksgiving and praise for all You have done, for all You have made, for all You continue to do. In the uncertainty that lies before us, help us to remember that You are our Sovereign God, our Creator. You are the one who knows our hearts. Refine our hearts so that we may be pure before You. Remove the blemishes of selfishness, so that we might truly love one another as our kindred in You. And when we are worn out and spent, when we are bitter and tired, make us new. God, You are always about to do a new thing. You are our Creator, and You are creating something new in us. Create in us a new, pure heart, that loves others as Your children, our kindred, part of our own body in You.

--Rev. Mindi, Rev-o-lution

In the name of our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us, saying...

**Please stand as you are able.*



***THE LORD’S PRAYER (in unison)**

**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. Amen.**



***RESPONSE**

Tune: Red No. 241

**Spirit divine, attend our prayers and make this world thy home;
Descend with all thy gracious powers, o come, great Spirit, come!**

ANTHEM

Thanks Be to Thee

G.F. Handel

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Paul Pepper

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Andrew James O’Keefe
Born, September 27, 2016, at Beverly Hospital
Child of Timothy and Kerianne O’Keefe
and

Alexa Sylvia Ann Brotherton
Born, June 2, 2017, at Beverly Hospital
Child of Taryn and Gregory Brotherton



***SONG**

*Down in the River to Pray
Please join in singing.*

Traditional

**As I went down in the river to pray, studyin' about that good ole way
And who shall wear a starry crown, good Lord, show me the way.
Oh, sisters,* let's go down. Let's go down. Come on down.
Oh, sisters,* let's go down. Down in the river to pray.
*substitute 1. brothers 2. children**



***BAPTISMAL HYMN** *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

Black No. 325

*(At the end of the hymn, children and youth are invited to go
to the “Cuvatent Room” for an all-age activity.)*

*You are invited to complete the “Connection Card” if you are new,
need to update information, or if you have a special request.*



PASTORAL PRAYER

Maple Street News



Today is the Sacrament of Baptism.

- 9:50 am Joys and Concerns
- 10:00 am Morning Worship. Childcare is offered for children 3 and under at "Kid's Korner" in the hall behind the Sanctuary. We welcome the family and friends of **Andrew James O'Keefe**, child of Timothy and Kerianne O'Keefe, and **Alexa Sylvia Ann Brotherton**, child of Taryn and Gregory Brotherton, both of whom are being Baptized here today.
- 11:30 am Fellowship time in the Social Hall—Join the Maple Street Church Family for a *Cup of Justice (free-trade coffee)* and fine fellowship. Don't forget to order your Christmas Wreaths from the Boys Scouts. You can even make an Advent Wreath!



Today following worship CE invites all to take part in the **All-Age Advent Wreath Making Workshop**. Wreath making will begin for the kids during worship and extend into fellowship hour for all.

Also today, ***your help is needed to decorate the Sanctuary!*** All are welcome and encouraged to join in to make our Sanctuary more beautiful for the Advent and Christmas seasons. Cider and pizza will be served to all helpers!



Today is the last day to order Boy Scout Wreaths in the Social Hall during fellowship hour. Wreaths will be delivered in the parking lot on December 3. We appreciate your supporting our Boy Scouts.



It's time to order **Poinsettias**, in memory of or in honor of someone special, to have placed in the Sanctuary. An order form is inserted in this bulletin. Absolute deadline for orders is December 7.

Be sure to see the **Living Nativity this coming Saturday, December 2** at 2:30, hear the Girl Scouts caroling, and then enjoy **cocoa, cookies and photos by the DCat Christmas elves!**



Join with **Pastor Kevin in a three-session Bible study focusing on the Advent and birth narrative stories in the Gospel of Luke.**

Everyone is invited to join together for this Bible discussion in the Reception Room beginning at 11:30 am **following the worship service on Dec. 3rd, 10th, and 17th.** Each session will last about an hour. If you are interested in reading ahead for the first session, please see Pastor Kevin for the handout, or pick up one in the church office.



Coming soon:

- First Sunday in Advent
- Advent Bible Study
- Prayer & Table Service
- Youth Advent Celebration
- Polar Express Movie & Dinner Night
- And lots more!

See the enclosed **Advent and Christmas Schedule** for more details



You were most generous last In-Gathering Sunday and we were able to donate quite a large amount of food to the People-to-People Food Pantry. As always, your thoughtfulness and generosity shine, and we are most grateful.

Cookies Needed! Calling all bakers! The Church Growth Committee **needs cookies** for "Cocoa & Cookies" on December 2.



Question: What kind of Baptism did John promise the Christ would administer?

This Week



Monday

- 4:30 pm Girl Scouts in the Social Hall
- 6:20 pm Cub Scouts in the Social Hall



Tuesday

- 9:15 am A New Day Yoga in the Reception Room
- 4:00 pm Girl Scouts caroling rehearsal
- 6:30 pm Boy Scouts in the Social Hall

BOARD
of *Trustees'*
MEETING

Wednesday

- 10:00 am **Women's Group** in the Reception Room
- 4:00 pm Brownie Scouts in the Social Hall
- 4:30 pm *Alleluia Morning* in the Music Room
- 7:00 pm **Trustees' Meeting** in Reception Room



Thursday

- 11:00 am Staff Meeting in the Reception Room
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir in the Music Room



Saturday Living Nativity at 2:30, Caroling by Girl Scouts, Cocoa, Cookies, and photos by DCat Christmas Elves

Sunday

“First Sunday” and Communion, First Sunday in Advent, Advent Bible Study begins, DIP Youth at Unitarian Church



Answer: A Baptism with the Holy Spirit and with fire. (John 3:16)



Maple Street Congregational Church, UCC
90 Maple Street, Danvers, MA 01923
www.maplestreetchurch.org

Rev. Kevin Smith Senior Minister	978-774-4510, ext. 3 (cell) 978-968-5020	revkevmsc@gmail.com
Rev. Pamela Cochrane Associate Minister for Youth and Family Ministry	978-774-4510, ext. 4 (cell) 781-956-2371	revpammsc@gmail.com
Ms. Kathy Gross Director of Music Ministry	978-774-4510, ext. 5	candk144@gmail.com
Ms. Ji-Hye Jung Asst. Dir. of Music Ministry	978-774-4510, ext. 1	jihye87@gmail.com
Ms. Linda Blair Office Administrator	978-774-4510	info@maplestreetchurch.org
Mrs. Lynne Hathaway Nursery School Director	978-774-4510, ext 6	msscurseryschool@gmail.com
Ms. Lori Dupont Council Member at Large	978-774-1723	nanadupont@verizon.net
Ms. Marj Simpson Council Member at Large	978-774-0434	helochanana@aol.com

Our Worship Services are recorded each week aired on Danvers Comcast Channel 99 and Verizon Channel 36, Sunday 10:00 am and 7:00 pm (one week delay)

OFFICE HOURS—

Monday 10 am-2 pm; Tuesday through Thursday 9 am-2 pm; Friday 9 am-12 pm

Pastor Kevin Smith is available for home visitation, member weddings, funerals, memorial services, baptisms, and pastoral counseling. Pastor Pam is also available. Feel free to contact Pastor Kevin or Pastor Pam if you need a listening ear, if you want to discuss the work of the congregation, or if you would like to join Maple Street Church!

Office schedules can vary for ministers as they attend meetings, attend to church business, write and prepare for Sunday worship away from the office, visit members of the congregation, and more, so it's always wise to call or e-mail to make an appointment if at all possible. Pastor Kevin's day off is Friday. Pastor Pam's day off is Monday. Pastor Kevin's worship preparation times are Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoon when he will be out of the office. You can contact both at the Church Office phone listed above, the e-mails listed above, or you can contact Pastor Kevin at 978-968-5020.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

*Offertory

My Jesus, I Love Thee

arr. Joel Raney

*Doxology

Lyrics: Thomas Ken, Tune: Red No. 64

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ
whose pow'r uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

SCRIPTURE LESSON Ephesians 1:11-23 (*The Message*)

It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone.

It's in Christ that you, once you heard the truth and believed it (this Message of your salvation), found yourselves home free—signed, sealed, and delivered by the Holy Spirit. This signet from God is the first installment on what's coming, a reminder that we'll get everything God has planned for us, a praising and glorious life.

That's why, when I heard of the solid trust you have in the Master Jesus and your outpouring of love to all the followers of Jesus, I couldn't stop thanking God for you—every time I prayed, I'd think of you and give thanks. But I do more than thank. I ask—ask the God of our Master, Jesus Christ, the God of glory—to make you intelligent and discerning in knowing him personally, your eyes focused and clear, so that you can see exactly what it is he is calling you to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life he has for his followers, oh, the utter extravagance of his work in us who trust him—endless energy, boundless strength!

John 1:1-4

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

SERMON

“Cosmic Love”

Rev. Kevin

*HYMN OF RESPONSE *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*

Black No. 304

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

November

I. Tchaikovsky

Our Worship together concludes with the Benediction Response. The Postlude is transitional music which inspires us as we go forth as disciples to serve God and one another. Worship has ended. Our Service Begins



Welcome to Maple Street Congregational Church, United Church of Christ. If you are here for the first time, please fill out a connection card and place it in the offering plate. Our ushers and greeters are happy to answer any questions. Nursery care, with a trained staff, is offered throughout the worship service. **Sunday School** for children and youth takes place following the beginning of the second Hymn.

The church of disciples who welcome you!
Visit our web page at www.maplestreetchurch.org

Sunday's Servants:

Deacon of the Month: Sandi Bogel

Acolytes: Michaela Bartlett and Angie Djoko

Ushers: Donna Mandriota, Peggy Coyne, Donna Eovacious, and Bob McBride

Special Assistant to the Deacon: Bob Wilkinson

*The flowers in the Chancel are in loving memory of
Calvin R. and Jane P. Potter
Given by the Potter family*

Donating flowers for the altar or narthex is a wonderful way to honor a loved one. If you wish to donate flowers, please contact Peggy Kuzma at 978-998-5007 or smkuzma1@gmail.com

Our lighted steeple is an important symbol of our presence in the community. Your contributions in memory of loved ones and friends or to commemorate a special event help keep the steeple lighted. If you would like to have the steeple lighted for one or more weeks, please fill out the form below and send it with \$15 per week to the church office.

I would like the steeple lighted in memory of: _____

I would like the steeple lighted in honor of: _____

Requested date (if available) to light: _____

(signed) _____ Telephone Number: _____