

# **EDWARDS CHURCH** *of* NORTHAMPTON

United Church of Christ

**May 17, 2026**

**Sunday, 10:00 AM**

Worship at Maines Field (570 Riverside Dr., Florence, MA 01062)



Image: Janet Tucker

United in Christ's love, we are committed to creating a just and loving world where all feel valued and free to be themselves. Wherever you are on your journey of faith, we welcome you to be a part of shaping this community as it continues to evolve. We invite you to bring all that you are to this church: your gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, family structure, race, color, ethnicity, culture, age, range of ability; your economic, educational, and immigration status, and your unique perspective.

## Welcome to Edwards Church

Take a moment to read through the bulletin to familiarize yourself with the order of worship.

Please see an usher for:

- ❖ Large-print bulletins.
- ❖ SoundMate assisted listening devices.
- ❖ Childcare is provided.
- ❖ Faith Formation classes available following the children's message.
- ❖ Sunday services at Edwards Church are recorded and livestreamed, if you prefer not to be photographed or filmed, please inform an usher.

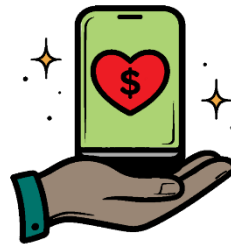
**Thank you volunteers:**

**Head Usher:** Jon Dietrich

**Welcome Liturgist:** Stefanie Adair

**Scripture Reader:** Ruth Griggs

**Fellowship:** Ruth Griggs and Michele Whiting



Edwards Church of Northampton  
297 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060  
413-584-5500

[www.edwardschurchnorthampton.org](http://www.edwardschurchnorthampton.org)

[info@edwardschurchnorthampton.org](mailto:info@edwardschurchnorthampton.org)

**Our Staff:**

Interim Pastor: The Rev. Jennifer Geary

Music Director: Adam Simon

Treasurer: Sabra Aquadro

Office Manager: Keith Barnicle

Sexton: Justin Clifford

Faith Formation: Shannon Ryan, Denisse Barron, Edith Parker Yourga

Livestream Services: Alex LaMarche, Thomas Campbell





## **Anthem**

Child of God

Mark Miller (b. 1967)

No matter what people say or think about me, I am a child of God.

No matter what people say or think about you, you are a child of God.

No matter what the world says or thinks about me, I am a child of God.

No matter what the church says, decisions, pronouncements on you, you are a child of God.

And there is nothing, or no one who can separate, they can't separate you from the truth that you're someone, you are family, you are meant to be, a child of God

## **Time for Children of all Ages**

↑Hymn # B 505

*Sweet Hour of Prayer*

## **Sermon**

Rev. Jennifer Geary

~ We Respond to God in our Lives ~

## **Offering**

### **Offertory**

↑Sung Presentation

tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Let trumpets sound and voices sing!*

*Let all on earth their praises bring!*

*Alleluia, Alleluia*

*For Christ has conquered sin and death*

*And given life eternal breath.*

*O Praise God, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia*

↑Unison Prayer of Dedication

**Hallelujah, thank you God for all our blessings, especially the resurrection of Jesus the Christ. In deep gratitude we lay these offerings before you. Offerings of our hearts and hands. Bless us all, and continue to use us as ambassadors of your love. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

## **Community Prayer**

### **Sharing**

## Pastoral Prayer

## Silent Prayer

**Lord's Prayer** *Use the words most comfortable for you. If you are unfamiliar with this prayer, here is one version. Other versions can be found on page 9 in the black hymnal.*

**Our Nurturer who is in heaven, holy be your name. Your kingdom come; your 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

## Announcements

↑ **Hymn # B 314** *Community of Christ*

↑ **Benediction**

↑ **Sung Blessing** *As You Go on Your Way*

As you go on your way, may God go with you  
May God go before you to show you the way  
May God go behind you to encourage you  
Beside you to befriend you  
Above you to watch over  
Within you to give you peace

↑ **Postlude** *Summertime* George Gershwin (1898 - 1937)  
Kimaya Diggs; soprano

*During the Postlude, feel free to sit or to make your way to fellowship time.*



## This Week at Edwards Church

### Monday 5/18

1:00 PM Pastor Open Office Hours  
6:00 PM Meditation Group (Edwards Room)  
7:00 PM Elected Core Ministry (Zoom)

### Tuesday 5/19

10:00 AM Pastor Open Office Hours  
7:00 PM Gamblers Anonymous (Addis Hall)

7:00 PM Music at the Crossroads: South River Singers (Sanctuary)

*Wednesday 5/20*

11:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom)

7:00 PM Building & Grounds Team Meeting (Zoom)

7:00 PM Finance Team Meeting (Zoom)

7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous (Addis Hall)

*Thursday 5/21*

5:00 PM Pastor Open Office Hours

6:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous (Addis Hall)

7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

*Friday 5/22*

7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous (Addis Hall)

*Sunday 5/24*

10:00 AM Worship – Pentecost, wear red

Looking Ahead: May 31 Care Circle Luncheon (Addis Hall)

## Announcements

### **Music at the Crossroads: South River Singers**

**May 19 @ 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

An eclectic mix of world choral music spanning many continents and centuries directed by Sophie Michaux and Adam Simon.

Suggested Donation: \$10 – \$30

100% of donations benefit Northampton Music Center. Edwards Church produces and fully funds the Music at the Crossroads series to benefit local non-profit organizations. The South River Singers is supported by the Massachusetts, Ashfield and Conway Cultural Councils.



## **Upcoming Installations**

Our Congregation is allowed to have four delegates and any number of visitors attend these events. Delegates must be church members. Please let the church office know which event you can attend.

### **Hampshire Association Installations:**

- TODAY at 3 PM Installation of the Rev. Susan Cartmell at South Church Amherst, UCC
- May 24<sup>th</sup>, 3 PM Installation of Larry Picard as a Lay Pastor at North Hadley Congregational Church, UCC

## **Care Circle Luncheon**

Plan to attend the Care Circle Luncheon on May 31 at 11:30 AM after worship. Bring your own lunch. There is plenty of space in the refrigerator and two microwaves to heat items. Dessert and drinks will be provided. Learn about our Care Circle ministry and meet the folks in your circle.

## **Meditation Group**

All are welcome participate in Meditation. It is offered weekly at Edwards Church on Mondays at 6:00 PM in the Edwards Room. No experience necessary!

## **Zoom Bible Study**

Join us every **Wednesday at 11:00 AM** as we read together the passages for the upcoming Sunday. Every day is a stand-alone event so come when you can and join our lively discussion. This week's scripture is: Acts 2:1-21; John 7:37-39

Let the church office know if you would like to have your name added to the weekly Zoom invitation or just join using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/fbrph2p5>  
If you need a Bible, there are a few copies available through the Church office.

## **Worship Services Online**

To watch our worship services online, please go to our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/EdwardsChurchNorthamptonMA>

## In Our Prayers

If you would like to add or remove a name on the prayer list, please contact the church office or Rev. Geary.

Deb	Steve	Mildred	Laura
Jack	Mark	Courtney	Kate
Rachel	Yvette	Kimberly	Charlie
Gwen	Dick	Margaret	Michele
Emily	June	Kan	Danny
Baby Alden	Laura	Nicole	Margaret
Ann	Tom	Shelia	Bob
Bert	Beth	David	Bill

Those who mourn, the family and friends of:

Rick Aponte	Carla Bee	Marjorie E. Tauer
Evelyn Blakesly	Larry Hansmeier	Audrey Easter
Molly McGovern	Janie Thurber	Marc Abel
Phyllis Rogers	Eleanor Dietrich	

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Luke 24:13-48; John 20:19-23

Patrick M. Kirkland (1857-1943); alt.

1 Je - sus, Sov - ereign, Sav - ior, once for sin - ners slain,  
 2 Faith - ful ones com - mun - ing towards the close of day,  
 3 In the up - per cham - ber, fol - low - ers, in fear,

cru - ci - fied in weak - ness, raised in power to reign,  
 des - o - late and wea - ry, met you on the way.  
 gath - ered sad and trou - bled, there you did ap - pear.

Dwell - ing now im - mor - tal, end - less in your days,  
 So, when sun is set - ting, come to us and show  
 Christ, be pres - ent with us, bid our sor - rows cease;

un - to you be glo - ry, hon - or, bless - ing, praise.  
 your truth, and with - in us make our hearts to glow.  
 breath - ing on us, Sav - ior, say, "I give you peace."

Patrick M. Kirkland ministered to a Presbyterian church in Cheshire, England, for forty years. Named for a village near Bristol, King's Weston is one of several fine hymn tunes written by the English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams.

Tune: KING'S WESTON 6.5.6.5.D.  
 Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1925

*William Walford, 1845; alt.*

1 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! that calls me from a world of care,  
 2 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! the joys I feel, the bliss I share  
 3 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! whose wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear

and bids me at my Ma-ker's throne let all my needs and wants be known.  
 of those whose anx-ious spir-its burn with strong de-sires for your re - turn!  
 to One whose truth and faith-ful - ness en - gage the wait - ing soul to bless.

In sea - sons of dis - tress and grief, my soul has of - ten found re - lief,  
 With them I has - ten to the place where I would know my Sav - ior's face,  
 And since I'm bid to seek God's face, be - lieve God's word, and trust God's grace,

and oft es - caped the tempt - er's snare by your re - turn, sweet hour of prayer!  
 And glad - ly take my sta - tion there, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!  
 I'll cast a - way my ev - ery care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!

*Although credited to a different poet when first published in 1845, researchers believe this hymn was written by William Walford. William Bradbury, a highly trained musician, sang under Lowell Mason in Boston and also wrote "Jesus Loves Me."*

Tune: SWEET HOUR L.M.D.  
 William B. Bradbury, 1861

Shirley Erena Murray, 1985

1 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, who make the Cross your own,  
 2 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, look past the church's door  
 3 Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, through whom the word must sound—  
 4 When men-ace melts a - way, so shall God's will be done,

live out your creed and risk your life for God a - lone:  
 and see the ref - u - gee, the hun - gry, and the poor.  
 cry out for jus - tice and for peace the whole world 'round:  
 the cli - mate of the world be peace and Christ its Sun;

The God who wears your face, to whom all worlds be - long,  
 Take hands with the op - pressed, the job - less in your street,  
 Dis - arm the powers that war and all that can de - stroy,  
 Our cur - ren - cy be love and kind - li - ness our law,

whose chil - dren are of ev - ery race and ev - ery song.  
 take towel and wa - ter, that you wash your neigh - bor's feet.  
 turn bombs to bread, and tears of an - guish in - to joy.  
 our food and faith be shared as one for ev - er - more.

Shirley Erena Murray has grown up within the Ecumenical Movement and addresses related themes such as Christian unity and social justice in her hymnody. This text was first sung at the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand.

Tune: LEONI 6.6.8.4.D.  
 Traditional Hebrew melody  
 Adapt. Meyer Lyon, 1770

MUSIC AT THE CROSSROADS

THE

*presents*

# SOUTH RIVER SINGERS

# SOUTH RIVER SINGER

artwork by Hanah Harvester

**TUESDAY MAY 19TH • 7PM**

**EDWARDS CHURCH**

**297 MAIN STREET NORTHAMPTON**

an eclectic mix of world choral music

spanning many continents and centuries

directed by Sophie Michaux and Adam Simon

**SUGGESTED DONATION: \$10 - \$30**

**100% OF DONATIONS BENEFIT**

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