

EDWARDS CHURCH *of* NORTHAMPTON

United Church of Christ

May 24, 2026

Sunday, 10:00 AM



Peace I leave you, My peace I give you; not as the world gives,
do I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, nor fearful.

John 14:27, NASB

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: Ron Korza

Welcome Liturgist: Stefanie Adair

Scripture Reader: Floyd Cheung

Fellowship: Sarah Briggs and Michele Whiting



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

www.edwardschurchnorthampton.org

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



Order of Worship

↑ Indicates standing in body or spirit.

B = Black New Century Hymnal, R = Red Pilgrim Hymnal.

~ We Gather to be Present to God ~

Prelude Prélambule from "24 Pièces en style libre" Louis Vierne (1870 - 1937)

Welcome

Introit

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer - Unison

All-mighty, all-powerful, all-encompassing God, you are so vast that you know the farthest star and you are so intimate that you know the number of hairs on our heads. We humbly come into your presence to worship you, to learn from you and to receive power from your Spirit. Meet us this day, through our thoughts, our actions and our inner most desires. Bless us as only you can. We ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

↑ **Sharing the Peace of Christ**

Use whatever gesture or words feel best for you to greet each other with the Peace of Christ.

↑ **Hymn # B 270** *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song*

~ We Listen to Hear God's Voice ~

Scripture Numbers 11:24-30; Acts 2:1-21

Anthem Every Time I Feel the Spirit Spiritual, arr. T. Backhouse

*Every Time I, Feel The Spirit
Moving In My Heart ... I Will Pray*

*Upon The Mountain, My Lord Spoke,
Out His Mouth Came Fire And Smoke
Looked All Around Me, Looked So Fine
I Asked My Lord If All Was Mine*

Time for Children of all Ages

↑**Hymn # B 293**

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Sermon

Rev. Jennifer Geary

~ We Respond to God in our Lives ~

Offering

Offertory

Trees

Oscar Rasbach (1888 - 1975)

Hanif Lawrence; tenor

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

A tree whose hungry mouth is
prest
Against the sweet earth's flowing
breast;

Upon whose bosom snow has
lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;
text: Joyce Kilmer

Poems are made by fools like
me,
But only God can make a tree.

↑**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 gift of the Holy Spirit. 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 311**

Renew Your Church

↑ **Benediction**

John 20:19-23

↑ **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**

Postludio

Oreste Ravanello (1871 - 1938)

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



This Week at Edwards Church

Today 5/24

11:15 AM Worship Planning (Edwards Room)

3:00 PM North Hadley Installation (243 River Dr, Hadley, MA 01035)

Monday 5/25

Memorial Day Church Offices Closed

6:00 PM Meditation Group (Edwards Room)

Tuesday 5/26

Spire Submission Deadline

10:00 AM Pastor Open Office Hours

3:00 PM Tuesday Tea (Edwards Room)

7:00 PM Gamblers Anonymous (Addis Hall)

Wednesday 5/27

11:00 AM Bible Study (Zoom)

7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous (Addis Hall)

Thursday 5/28

6:30 PM Alcoholics Anonymous (Addis Hall)

7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Friday 5/29

7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous (Addis Hall)

Sunday 5/31

10:00 AM Worship – Honor Graduates (Sanctuary)

11:15 AM Care Circle Luncheon (Addis Hall)

Looking Ahead 6/7

10:00 AM Ecumenical Pride Service at First Churches (129 Main Street)

3:00 PM Youth Service Project with Cathedral in the Night (First Churches)

Announcements

Upcoming Installations

Our Congregation is allowed to have four delegates and any number of visitors attend these events. Delegates must be church members.

Hampshire Association Installations:

- TODAY May 24th, 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 11:15 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.

Rev. Geary Away

Rev. Geary will be away from Wednesday, May 27th through Saturday, May 30th. If you need assistance, please feel free to reach out to the church office at 413-584-5500 or info@edwardschurchnorthampton.org. Thank you!

Music at the Crossroads: Valley Jazz Voices Friday, June 5th at 7:00 PM

Directed by Jeff Olmsted, VJV performs a rich and diverse repertoire in four-part harmony, drawing from swing, bebop, cool, Brazilian and pop-inspired jazz arrangements. Based in Northampton, Valley Jazz Voices is the longest-running community jazz vocal ensemble in Western Mass.

Donation: \$10 – \$30

100% of donations benefit Tapestry Health, a local, community-based health organization providing sexual and reproductive healthcare, harm reduction services, WIC food and nutrition support, telehealth, and mobile health services. Edwards Church produces and fully funds the Music at the Crossroads series to benefit local non-profit organizations. Learn more: www.valleyjazzvoices.org



Meditation Group

All are welcome to 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: Matthew 28:16-20; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

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:

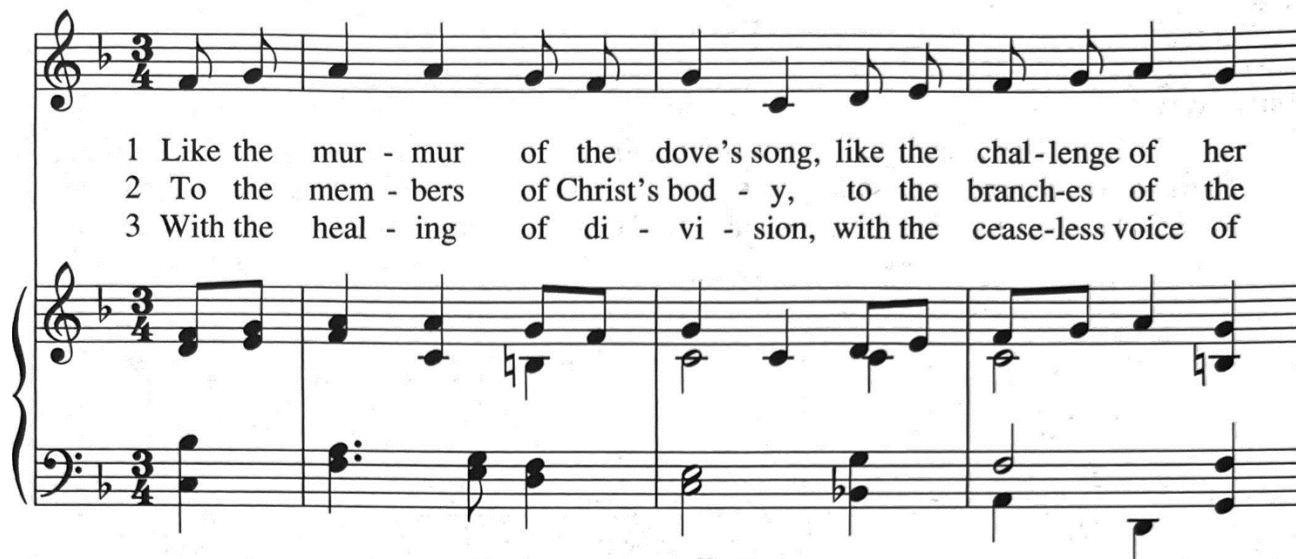
Rick Aponte	Carla Bee	Marjorie E. Tauer
Evelyn Blakesly	Larry Hansmeier	Audrey Easter
Molly McGovern	Janie Thurber	Marc Abel
Phyllis Rogers	Eleanor Dietrich	

Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

270

Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1982

Isa. 38:14; Rom. 8:26; 12:4-5; John 15:1-5



1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the chal - lenge of her
2 To the mem - bers of Christ's bod - y, to the branch - es of the
3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the cease - less voice of



flight, like the vig - or of the wind's rush, like the
Vine, to the church in faith as - sem - bled, to our
prayer, with the power to love and wit - ness, with the



new flame's ea - ger might:
midst as gift and sign: Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.
peace be - yond com - pare:

Carl P. Daw, Jr., wrote this text for The Hymnal 1982 (Episcopal), and expressly for the tune Bridegroom. Born and educated in England, composer Peter Cutts has served as music director for churches in Massachusetts and on the faculty of Andover Newton Theological School.

Tune: BRIDEGROOM 8.7.8.7.6.
Peter Cutts, 1969

Slowly

1 There's a sweet, sweet Spir - it in this place, and I
2 There are bless - ings you can - not re - ceive till you

know that it's the Spir - it of the Lord; there are
know that Spir - it's full - ness and be - lieve; you're the

sweet ex - pres - sions on each face, and I
one to prof - it when you say, "I am

to Refrain

know they feel the pres - ence of the Lord.
going to stay with Je - sus all the way."

This is one of the most popular gospel songs from the corpus of African-American songwriters who emerged during the golden age of gospel (1930-1969). Although this era was dominated by the Baptists, Doris Akers had Methodist roots.

Tune: SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT
9.11.9.11. with refrain
Doris Akers, 1962

Refrain

Sweet Ho - ly Spir - it, sweet heav-en-ly Dove, stay right here

with us, fill-ing us with your love; And for these bless-ings we

lift our hearts in praise. With-out a doubt we'll know that we have

been re - vived when we shall leave this place.

B#311 Cont.

send us forth with power en-dued.	Help us, God,	be re - newed.
let our hearts with love be stirred.	Help us, God,	know your word.
seek your guid - ance ev - ery day.	Teach us, God,	how to pray.
grace we must be mind-ful of:	Teach us, God,	how to love.

*Matt. 5:13-16; Luke 11:1-4; Mark 12:28-34**Kenneth L. Cober, 1960; alt.*

1 Re - new your church, its min - is - tries re - store: both to serve
 2 Teach us your word, re - veal its truth di - vine; on our path
 3 Teach us to pray, for you are ev - er near; your still voice
 4 Teach us to love, with strength of heart and mind, each and all—

and a - dore. Make us a - gain as salt through-out the land,
 let it shine. Tell of your works, your might - y acts of grace;
 let us hear. Our souls are rest - less till they rest in you;
 hu - man-kind! Break down old walls of prej - u - dice and hate;

and as light from a stand. 'Mid som - ber shad - ows
 from each page show your face. As you have sent your
 this is life, full and true. Be - fore your pres - ence
 leave us not to our fate. As you have loved and

of the night, where greed and ha - tred spread their blight, O
 Christ to save, in love to tri - umph o'er the grave, O
 keep us still that we may find for us your will And
 given your life to end hos - til - i - ty and strife, Your

Kenneth L. Cober grew up in Puerto Rico, the son of missionary parents. Cober has served churches in many states and has written several books about church education.

Tune: ALL IS WELL 10.6.10.6.8.8.8.6.
Traditional English melody