

The
CONGREGATIONAL



CHURCH of EASTON

The church on the hill

7th Sunday after the Epiphany

Reverend Blake Brown

February 23, 2025

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

****CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 66:1-2

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;
 ²sing the glory of his name;
 give to him glorious praise!

****UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Powerful God, before whom we are as nothing, we dare to approach you. Our individual potential is not hidden from you, and the faithfulness of your church is important to you. We have gathered with great expectations, seeking to have our strength renewed and our hope restored. Make yourself known among us as we unite in your praise. Amen.

****#283 NCH** *Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

****HYMN #6 PH** “O Worship the King, All Glorious Above” verses 1 - 4

**** Those who are able may stand.**

PH-Red Pilgrim Hymnal NCH-Black New Century Hymnal BH-Little Blue Hymnal

****UNISON CALL TO CONFESSION** (built around the Beatitudes)

O Lord Our God, we believe that You are the God of all Mercy and so we come before you to seek your forgiveness. It is difficult to recognize our own sin and painful to confess it to You. Yet we know that You know us better than we know ourselves and You urge us to bring our whole lives before You in prayer and confession. And so we do. Jesus told the crowd that the poor in spirit are blessed and they will inherit the kingdom of God. We confess that we are too often haughty and proud in spirit, thinking that we are better than others. Too often we treat others as less important than they are in Your sight. We are too concerned with defending our reputation, too slow to defend Your Name, and too quick to impugn the reputation of others. Help us to be poor in spirit and to find in You all that we need. Be gracious to us and let us know the depth of your forgiveness. We ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE Isaiah 1:18

****Response of Praise #513 PH** *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen.*

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

PRAYERS

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (debts)

HYMN #260 PH *"The Church's One Foundation"* all 4 verses

SCRIPTURES

Jeremiah 30:18-22

Revelation 1:9-20

SERMON "What is the church anyway?"

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

God asks us for an accounting of what we have done with the wealth entrusted to us. All that we have and all that we are belongs to God. May we give with thankfulness.

Gathering of the gifts with Offertory
Presentation of the gifts with praise

****Doxology:** #515 PH *Praise God from whom all blessing flow; Praise him all creatures here below; Praise him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

****UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Holy One, we thank you for the ways in which you have enfolded us in your love and called us by name to follow your son, Jesus. May these gifts and our lives be used to enfold others in your love. Amen.

****HYMN** #22 PH *"We Praise Thee, O God"* (same tune as #21) all 3 verses

****BENEDICTION** Revelation 4:9-11

****PASSING OF THE PEACE**

POSTLUDE

Please join us for coffee and fellowship across the street.

Confirming Deacon for February - *Jonathan Stock*
Offering - *Debbie Szegedi and Jonathan Stock*
Collectors - *Nathalie Taranto and Daisy Colonnese*
Coffee Hour - *Genevieve and James Waterbury*
Today's Flowers - *were provided by*
Genevieve and James Waterbury.
Church Office Hours - *Thursday from 10:00 to 1:00.*

“**Grace and peace** to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 1:7, NIV) Welcome to the Lord’s house for worship! If you are visiting, we invite you to sign our guest book, and we hope all will join us across the street for fellowship after worship.

Prayer List - Please keep our members and friends in your prayers, and especially at this time: *June Logie’s brother, Nick Chiaia, Rosie Cassatt and her family, Elizabeth Boyce and her family, Suzanne Lovejoy’s mother and family, the Waterbury Family, the family of Barbara Lee, and Richard McLaughlin.*

Please pray for all who mourn or need special prayers of intention, for our congregation, and for friends of our community. You may fill out a Prayer Request card, or call or email the church office to add or remove a name from the list. Thank you for your prayers.

Lenten Soup Suppers at 6:00 p.m. have been scheduled for Thursdays, March 6 & 20, & April 3.

There will be a short program with discussion. Please contact the Church Office to RSVP or see the March 6 Sign-up Sheet in the Church Hall.

There will be a Special Meeting of the Congregational Church of Easton on Sunday, March 9, following the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service.

St. Patrick’s Dinner at the Staples Academy, Saturday, March 15, from 4 to 8 p.m.

Dinner includes Corned Beef, Cabbage, Potatoes, Salad, Soda Bread, Dessert, Coffee/Tea.
Tickets: \$20 for Adults, \$10 for Seniors and Children under 12.

Next Food Kitchen will be Tuesday, March 18. Chicken, any style, or any main dish of your choosing, mac and cheese, or pasta, vegetables, fruit, rolls, and/or dessert. Food may be dropped off on the prior Sunday or Monday mornings, between 8:00 and 10:00 a.m., or no later than Tuesday, March 18, at 9:30 a.m. Please indicate that it is for the Food Kitchen. Food should *not* be warm or hot. Containers *cannot* be returned. The Sign-up Sheet is located in the Church Hall. For more information, contact Gen Waterbury (203) 981-9373, g.e.waterbury@gmail.com

HISTORY TALKS LECTURE - Easton Public Schools 1845-1959, Thursday, March 27, at 7 p.m. in the Church Hall of the Staples Academy

Join us for an illustrated talk by historians and award-winning journalists Elizabeth Boyce and Bruce Nelson as they lead guests through an engaging PowerPoint presentation of early images while hosting an open discussion about the history of Easton education from the town’s multiple one-room schoolhouses in 1845 to the opening of the Joel Barlow Junior and Senior High School in 1959.

Maundy Thursday Service with Communion will be on April 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday Church Hours for prayer, meditation, etc., will run from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please contact the Church Office to sign up for a 30 minute personal time slot.

Organist - Suzanne Lovejoy

Council Chair, Phillip Doremus

Deacon Chair, Nathalie Taranto

Sara Scoran, Sexton

Church Secretary, Katie Croarkin

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