



SILENT MEDITATION

Amen

When will I ever learn to say *Amen*,
Really assent at last to anything?
For now my hesitations always bring
Some reservation in their trail, and then
Each reservation brings new hesitations;
All my intended *amens* just collapse
In an evasive mumble: *well, perhaps*,
Let me consider all the implications . . .

But you can read my heart, I hear you say:
For once be present to me, I am here,
Breathe in the perfect love that casts out fear
Open your heart and let your yea be yea.
Oh bring me to that brink, that moment when
I see your full-eyed love and say *Amen*.

Malcolm Guite

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Office Hours: Monday -Thursday 8-4,
Friday 8-12

All people are welcome here



~ WORSHIP SERVICE ~ OCTOBER 11, 2026 ~ TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES AND SMART WATCHES DURING THE SERVICE

NURSERY CARE AND CHURCH SCHOOL

Babies and children are invited, welcomed, and encouraged in our worship services. Worship bags filled with activities are available in the narthex for use during the service, and a rocker is located at the back of the sanctuary for parents with babies and toddlers. A small nursery area downstairs in the Vestry, with a livestream of the service, is also available for parents who wish to stay with their children. Children in Pre-K through grade 7 are invited to join us downstairs for church school following the children's message.

PRELUDE *Shehechianu*

Craig Taubman

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Al Lindsey

ENTER THE FLAME & THE WORD

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God!

People: The skies proclaim God's handiwork.

Leader: The day pronounces God's glory without a sound,

People: the night expounds God's knowledge without a word,

Leader: and yet their voice goes out through all the earth.

**People: Let us join our voices with the voice of creation
in declaring God's glory!**

***HYMN #58** *Many and Great, O God*

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Al Lindsey

**God of justice and mercy, we confess
that we put ourselves first
and trust in things that will not last.**

**We desire the evil and scorn the good;
we gather up power and wealth
and push aside the needy in our way.**

O Lord, be gracious to us.

**Teach us to love your justice
and share in your mercy.**

**Help us to seek the treasure
of heavenly life with you;
through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Beloved, hear the good news: Jesus Christ came to stand in the breach to reconcile us to God. We are forgiven and freed!

People: Amen.

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 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.

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Leader: Since God has made us the blessed community, the Church, let us greet one another with the peace and joy of Christ. The peace and joy of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

RESPONSE #35 *Gloria Patri

CHOIR ANTHEM *Sing a New Song*

Michael Haydn

PRAYER OF PASTORAL CARE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our response:

God of mercy: **be gracious to us.**

HYMN #659 *What Does the Lord Require for Praise

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON Genesis 1:1-19, Psalm 19, John 1: 1-8

Elizabeth Karet

SERMON Genesis, Joni Mitchell, the Odyssey, and Steven Sondheim: a timeless message.

Rabbi Michael Cohen

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Kol Nidre*

***DOXOLOGY #46**



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Max Bruch

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***CLOSING HYMN #436** *Shalom to You Now*

***BENEDICTION**

Leader: May God, the first and the last, the beginning and the end, the Alpha and the Omega, be with you now and forever.

People: Amen.

POSTLUDE *Invention # 4*

J.S. Bach

The flowers this morning were given by Dotty Thompson
In loving memory of family and friends.

Our thanks to today's coffee hour hosts, our choir;
scripture reader, Elizabeth Karet;
liturgist, Al Lindsey;

acolyte and beadle, Alden and Everett Smith
guest speaker, Rabbi Michael Cohen;
deacons and ushers, Mary True, David McAneny, and Marietta and Karl White;
tech crew, Chris Lima, Patrick Honan, Puck Bell, and Jade Lilith-Streeter.

PRAYER LIST: Our prayer list is a network of love and faith in the power of prayer. We receive these names from members and friends of our church who hold these individuals up in their own prayer life for God's healing and strength upon them.

IMMEDIATE NEEDS PRAYER CONCERNS: Carol Nielson; Fran Wilwol; Andy Longacre; Alice Leary; Tim Velie; Flora Gallup; Marian Perkins; Joe and Norma Will; Tommy and Tracie Salmon; Sylvie; Katherine Buchmayr; Betsy Olson; Jennifer Salmon; Cindy O'Leary; Stephen and Maria Cummins; Gretchen Lima; Oliver Fox Buckner; Ann Troumbley; Cathy Condon; Mark Cassidy; Jimmy Weiss; Jeff Duel; Robin Hoag; Damon Wilder; Howard Day; Robby Littlewood; Tom Drunsic; Jim Goodwin; Donna Tonic; in the Dorset Church, for our paving project; in the Vermont Conference, for the United Church of Dorset and East Rupert, and their pastor Rev. Dr. Mark McDonough.

LONG-TERM PRAYER CONCERNS: Staff Sargent Houston Wood and family; Larry Cochran; Marianne Bacon; Jonathan Dickinson; Sarah Faith Dickinson; George Bush; Norma O., Bill Auperlee, Craig, Jaxson, and Jacob Smith; Diane; Millie Holland; Michael Chambers; Patrick Denis; Dody Marcotte; Eric Parks; Kris; Kay Kwasniewski; Elizabeth LaBerge; Dottie Hinkle; Chip Wilson; Hazel Prouty; James Jankowski; Jameson Gray Pelton; Evelyn Tobin; Shelby Baughn; Cassia Duran; Rich; George Smith; Jack; Judy Dunn; Alan Wiegand; Steve and Val Smith.



Aldi's Bus Trip
Friday, October 23.
Meet at the Dorset Church
at 9:00 a.m.

THANK YOU

A big thank you goes out to Derry Dickinson for making the bread from other countries for World Communion Sunday. We hope you all were able to partake in these wonderful breads last weekend!

Communion Breads for World Communion Sunday:

1. Swedish Limpa (rye with orange rind, etc.)
2. Lebanese Flat Bread (covered with sesame seeds)
3. Sally Lunn (a bread from Bath England, developed in the late 1600's by a young Huguenot girl who managed to escape from France and death. Her name was Solange Loyer, which became Sally Lunn. It is based on a brioche recipe and she peddled it.)

THANK YOU CHURCH FAMILY!

What an amazing **Dorset Church Rummage Sale and Christian Education Café!**

Thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered, baked, cooked, served, cleaned up, and supported this wonderful weekend. **Many hands truly do make light work!**

The **C.E. Café raised \$2,050**. Your generosity helps support local, national, and international missions, as well as special Christian Education projects.

This year, we have already supported organizations including **Kids' Summer Lunch, Manchester Community Food Cupboard, Neighbor to Neighbor, Rupert Food Cupboard, Dorset Fire Department, The Kinder Way Animal & Farm Rescue, Kenyan Drylands, and Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Njoro, Kenya**. Another **\$2,000** will be donated in **December!**

Thank you for helping Dorset Church make a difference near and far!

Gretchen Lima, Paula Nassivera, Ann Honan



Join Us for Free Fall Yoga Classes
Registered Nurse and Registered Yoga Teacher Desiree Hensel will offer two free yoga classes this fall in the Pastoral Chapel.

Hatha Yoga, Saturdays, 8:30–9:30 AM, October 17 – November 21. This is a mixed—level practice with physical postures and breathwork. Please bring a mat and any props you enjoy using.

Chair Yoga for Brain Longevity, Thursdays, 9:00–9:50 AM, October 15 – November 19. This is a supportive, accessible class based on the Alzheimer's Research and Prevention Foundation curriculum, which includes seated and standing poses, the Kirtan Kriya meditation, and brief discussions on modifiable risk factors for cognitive decline.

Questions? Call 812-606-6078 or email henselnursinged@gmail.com.

Comfort Cub

I presented a Comfort Cub (a therapeutic weighted teddy bear) to the students in our Sunday school. The Comfort Cub is meant to provide immediate, tangible comfort to those experiencing trauma. I talked to them about how we all have sad times in our life and how prayer can help guide us through those times. The Comfort Cub will be available to any child or adult in our church as a prayer pal.

This Comfort Cub was a gift I received a year ago from Beverly King on the eighth anniversary of the Route 91 Mass Shooting in Las Vegas where my cousin's daughter, Sandy Casey (age 35), senselessly, randomly died at a concert she was attending. Beverly is a survivor of that night and has spent the last nine years dealing with her post traumatic stress. Becoming an ambassador for The Comfort Cub (<https://thecomfortcub.org>) is one of the ways she has chosen to pay it forward. Beverly has delivered bears all over our country, including most recently to NYC to distribute them to the families of victims at the 25th Memorial Anniversary of 9/11.

While our grief over the loss of our beloved Sandy changes, but never diminishes, as an educator of students with special needs she would be pleased that I have chosen to donate my bear to our children of the Dorset Church. While the children will know this teddy bear only as an addition to their classroom, I thought it was important for the adults to know the entire underlying story. And if you need a hug for any reason, don't hesitate to stop by. It wouldn't surprise me if this bear gets a name very soon in its new home surrounded by the love of our children.

♥ Linda O'Leary

Rising Unafraid: Dr. Bama Athreya on Advancing Gender Equality in a Hostile Landscape

PFLAG Dorset is honored to welcome Dr. Bama Athreya (she/her), Executive Director of ICRW Americas, as the featured speaker at its monthly meeting today at 2:00 p.m. at the Dorset Church. Dr. Athreya will offer an overview of the global fight for the rights of women and gender diverse people in today's changed and increasingly hostile landscape. This interactive conversation will give attendees practical options for advocacy. The talk is also available on Zoom. To register, please send a request to PFLAG.Dorset@gmail.com.

INQUIRERS CLASS

Rev. Mark is offering two classes for those who would like to join the church, and those who may not want to commit to becoming a member but want to learn more about the beliefs and ministries of the Dorset church. The first class, last Sunday, was designed to answer your questions about the history, beliefs, vision, and organizational structure of a congregational church, and how it is similar to or different from other denominations.

The second class will be **October 25** after worship and will feature several leaders of the church from the Cabinet, Deacons, and Trustees, who will speak about the many ministries of the church and help you find a place to participate. Do you like to sing? We can get you started with the choir. Want to learn more about Kid's Summer Lunch? We can connect you with the leaders of that ministry. Want to help offer hospitality for funeral lunches? We can get you signed up with our Hospitality Committee. Looking for a book study to help deepen your faith? We'll get you on the list for the next study.

If you would like to participate in the October 25 class, please contact the church office (802) 867-2260 or email officemanager@dorsetchurch.org to sign up.

SECOND HOUR UPDATE

*A series of four Second Hours will be presented on **Life Transition Planning (LTP)** over the next few months. These LTP sessions will present an opportunity for everyone in our church to understand how to plan for changes in our lives, no matter where on life's path we are. The Second Hours will begin on **October 18** with Reverend Mark introducing us to the importance of having a plan that includes health, legal, and financial considerations, and why it's important to include loved ones in the planning process. The **November 8** session will focus on health/medical care planning. Future sessions in January and March 2027 will focus on legal planning and financial organization*

There will be time in each Second Hour for questions and discussion.

The Dorset Group hosts an open meeting for Alcoholics Anonymous here at the Dorset Church in the vestry every Monday at 8:00pm.

All are welcome.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Cabinet, today @ 11:30

Deacons, today @ 11:30

PFLAG, today 2-4

Stewardship, October 16 @ 8:00

Hospitality, October 20 @ 10:00

**If you would like to
receive a daily
devotional, please go to
[https://www.
ucc.org/daily-devotional/](https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional/)**

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*Member of the Cabinet (A) Appointed