



Holy Spirit and Fire with Baptismal Font

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Payson Park Church

We are Growing with God, for the Good of the World.

Sunday, May 17, 2026 10:30am

Congregational - United Church of Christ

365 Belmont Street, Belmont, Massachusetts 02478

www.paysonpark.org 617/484-1542

Serving Watertown, Waltham, Belmont, Arlington, Cambridge, and beyond

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Gathering for Worship

*We are a Community of
DOUBTERS, SEEKERS, & BELIEVERS
Pursuing HOPE in our world.*

Prepare for Worship

Zoom participants - as you check in, practice using your Mute Button, and finding your Chat Box.

Greeting you today: *Linda Knight*

Prelude

Prelude in B major, op. 2 no. 2

Alexander Scriabin, (1872-1915)

Greeting

Pastor Eric

Welcome to all listening in or watching, whether near or far away.

We are growing with God. **For the Good of the World.**
For the Good of the World. **We are growing with God.**

Hymn

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

led by our choir

Words & Music below

Call to Worship

led by Pam Curtis

Leader: God spoke their word and revealed the Good News in Jesus, the Christ.

People: **We gather to hear that word again and proclaim the joyful promises of God to all nations.**

Leader: By singing God's glorious hope to all peoples,

All: **We become one living body, God's incarnate presence on the earth.**

Confession

led by Lorraine Clifford

Leader: Forgive us, God, for religion without passion and relationships that lack compassion.

People: **Take away the divisive attitudes that separate us from individuals and groups who are different from us.**

Leader: Release us from jealousy and iniquity and self-serving comparisons.

All: **Help us to see ourselves as you intend us to be, through Christ.**

Period of Silent Confession

Assurance of Grace

given by YCOM Jenny Lane

Leader: God loves us and hears our prayers.

People: **God is waiting to flood our lives with healing and hope.**

Leader: We are reconciled to one another and to our own best selves.

All: **Let us live in gentleness and reverence, as a people released from guilt and shame.**

Invitation to Light Seekers

Light Seekers is our Sunday school time that's just right for every age, from our littlest learners to our youth mentors! If you'd like to come, please meet us at the back of the church, and we'll head upstairs together for lots of learning and fun!

Receiving God's Word

Christian Greek Scripture Lesson Acts 17:22-31

read by Chip Gaysunas

Message

“From One World to Another”

given by Ministerial Associate the Rev. Bill Ragan

Prayers of the People

led by Pastor Eric

People will be invited to say a one sentence prayer if you desire.

If in-person, please raise your hand. If on Zoom, please raise your hand or type in the Chat box.

Candles Prayer

People will be invited to come forward and light a candle, and speak a name, a prayer request, or be in silence. We will also light a candle for each prayer offered online.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader: God, our Creator Parent, Loving Father, Caring Mother, we pray to you, saying-
People: **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.**

Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also, with you.

Announcements

Responding to God's Grace

Call to Generosity & Prayer

- www.PaysonPark.org to support the ministry of Payson Park Church
- Deacon's Fund, *an emergency fund to help those in need*
- Belmont-Watertown Welcome Circle – *help resettle Ukrainian refugees locally*
- Monika Foundation - *help resettle Haitian refugees*
- UCC Global H.O.P.E. - (Disaster Response to Wildfires, Earthquake relief, & more)

Choir Anthem

“King of Glory, King of Peace”

J.S. Bach, arr. By W.H. Harris

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.**

Sending

Hymn

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

led by our choir

Words & Music below

Benediction

Postlude

“Crown Him With Many Crowns”

arr. By Phillip Keveren

We are grateful for our flowers

provided today by You Got Flowers.

www.YouGotFlowers.org



You Got Flowers



Fellowship after Worship

We are grateful for today's hosts.

Melissa and Michael Mitchell

We thank! Please check the schedule posted in the Kitchen & outside the Office. Please look for your spot. Let Lynda know at Office@PaysonPark.org if you need to update your assigned Fellowship Hosting date. Thank you!

If you or someone you know would like to use space(s) in the church for an event, please contact the Office Manager via email at office@paysonpark.org or via phone at 617-484-1542.

Upcoming Dates

- Sat May 16 10am – 4pm Belmont Town Day
- Thu May 21 10am weekly Zoom Bible Study
- Fri May 22 5pm weekly Children's Choir rehearsal
- Sat May 23 Every two weeks we make sandwiches for The Outdoor Church.
Please contact [Pam Curtis](mailto:pambcurtis@gmail.com) if you can help. pambcurtis@gmail.com
- Sun May 24 Day of Pentecost – Please wear Red as a sign of the Holy Spirit
Also please tell Pastor Eric if you can read 1 sentence in a foreign language!
- Mon May 25 Memorial Day
- Tue May 26 We prepare home-cooked meals for the hungry of Bristol Lodge, Waltham.
Please contact [Cynthia Lasker](mailto:laskercynthia@gmail.com) if you can help. laskercynthia@gmail.com
- Sun May 31 guest preacher, Rev. Marc Fredette, Chaplains on the Way, Waltham
1pm Belmont Pride Parade, beginning at the Town Green
- Fri June 5 6pm "First Fridays" worship – featuring the Children's Choir.
. . . . with 6:30pm Dinner for Families, provided by the church.
- Sun June 7 Christian Education Appreciation Sunday
- Sun June 14 Adult Choir last Sunday before Summer Break

Payson Park Church – Congregational - United Church of Christ –

www.PaysonPark.org 365 Belmont Street Office@paysonpark.org

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Rev. Bill Ragan, Ministerial Associate:

MinAssoc@paysonpark.org

Pastor Eric Wefald:

PastorEric@paysonpark.org



Mothers Are Amazing!

We celebrate mothers and the love and warmth they give everyday, with Church World Service Blanket Sunday on Mother's Day (May 10, 2026). Through the generosity of CWS partner organizations, congregations and individual supporters, our most vulnerable neighbors around the world can feel safe and keep warm with fresh linens and clean sleeping quarters.

CWS Mothers Day Blankets, May 10th, 2026

With Susan, Carla, & Hilandia

Donated by

Tom Best
 Lisa Clark
 Susan Clark
 Susan Clark
 Carla Coltharp
 Kyong Coltharp
 Pam Curtis
 Pam Curtis
 Dallman Thidemann Family
 Chip Gaysunas
 Kaska Gaysunas
 Susan Harper
 Susan Harper
 Kipruto Kirwa
 Leah Kosch
 Jane Marshall
 Melissa Mitchell
 Melissa Mitchell
 Hilandia Neuta
 Omar Roldon
 Patricia Pichette
 Patricia Pichette
 Bill Ragan
 Kate Rodriguez-Clark
 Kate Rodriguez-Clark
 Eric Wefald
 Eric Wefald
 Eric Wefald
 Mary Alice Wistman
 Mariia Yelizarova
 Grace Yuen

In Honor or Memory of

Fenton Best
 Josephine Clark
 Justine Harris
 Wanda Chapman
 Kyong Coltharp
 Nam Soon Yoon
 Liese Burke
 Dorothy Curtis
 Those who care for others
 Lorraine Gaysunas
 Hanna Staniecka
 Carolyn Harper
 Carrie Harper
 Emily Too
 Margie Kosch
 Martha V.L. Marshall
 India Mitchell
 Sandy Gillespie
 Elena Tunjo
 Sotera Davila
 Patrica DeMedeiros
 Ena Pichette
 Mary Irene Ragan
 Ana Maria Fernandez
 Tita Valenzuela
 Joan Wefald
 Walma Wefald
 Anna Teliska
 Janet J. George
 Iryna Dubko
 all mothers

**Confirmation of Fiona!
Sunday, April 26th, 2026**



**Blessing of our Marathon Runners Dave & Mariia
on April 19, 2026 for the Boston Marathon on April 20, 2026**



3D Printer shipped to Ukraine on April 30, 2026

Through the fundraiser **Run for Ukraine.**

Mariia presents the 3D printer to Lviv Hospital, May 11, 2026.

We have joined with many others in supporting Mariia Yelizarova's Boston Marathon fundraiser, to provide a 3D printer to a hospital in Lviv, Ukraine, to make prosthetic limbs for children who have lost their arms and legs in the war.

May God bless this 3D printer, to bring a measure of healing and wholeness to all who need it. Amen!

New Updated Church Directory

Coming soon!

As part of our new church directory,
We are adding a Birthday Table at the end.

We ask you please follow the QR Code here,
And type in your birth **Month** and birth **Day**.

Thank you!
And Happy Birthday!



Birthday Table

Appeal for Deacons' Fund

Aid for people of Payson Park Church who need assistance with food, heat, housing, or other needs.



Due to pressing needs in 2026,
our Deacons' Fund needs to be refreshed.

Please use the QR code here,
or go to the GIVE page on our website.
Thank you for your generosity!



First Fridays



September thru June

6 PM COME-AS-YOU-ARE WORSHIP

6:30 PM DINNER FOR FAMILIES



CHILDREN'S CHOIR SINGS!
FAMILY DINNER IS PROVIDED



COME AND JOIN US!



Find out more at
www.PaysonPark.org

305 BELMONT STREET, BELMONT
EVERYONE IS WELCOME



*Won't you be my
penpal?*



Letters of Light: A Penpal Ministry

Our youngest members, The Lightseekers, are seeking mentors to become pen pals as they grow in mind, body & spirit.

If you're interested in connecting & want to learn more, click the QR code below or ask our Youth & Community Minister Jenny for more details.



Payson Park Church
Sunday School

Light Seekers

Every Sunday
Our way
10:30am during
worship

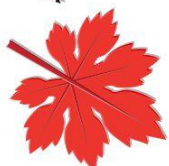
The Seekers Table
is an emerging,
welcoming
middle school
group

The Seekers Table
Payson Park
Church
Youth Group



2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

ENROLLMENT



Admission: 15 Months to 5 Years Old

PAYSON PARK PRESCHOOL

PROGRAM FEATURES :

- School Hours:
8:00 AM to 5:30 PM
- Child Care Vouchers
Accepted
- Variety of Enrichment
Programs
- Spacious Gym Area
- A Large Stage Designed
for Performances
- Experienced and
Talented Teachers
- Community Events



CONTACT NOW



 preschooldirector@paysonpark.org



Celebrate Belmont LGBTQ+ Alliance's 25th anniversary with us!

BELMONT PRIDE PARADE



SUNDAY, MAY 31st
1 PM

All are welcome!

TOWN GREEN
404 CONCORD AVENUE
ARRIVE @ 12:45 PM
Parade, Live Music,
Kids' Activities,
Community Organizations,
Cake & Ice Cream, and more!



Cosponsored with



PLYMOUTH
Congregational Church



FOR MORE INFO OR TO DONATE: WWW.BELMONTLGBTQ.COM/



LITTLE WHEELS, BIG DREAMS

TRIKE-A-THON



Friday
May 29

PAYSON PARK PRESCHOOL
FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2026

FRIDAY **AT PAYSON RD** **9AM -**
MAY 29 **RAIN LOCATION: GYM** **NOON**



CHARITY EVENT FOR PAYSON PARK PRESCHOOL

PRESCHOOLDIRECTOR@PAYSONPARK.ORG

Little Wheels, Big Dreams

Support our Little Wheels, Big Dreams Trike-a-Thon!

Your donation helps improve Payson Park Preschool through playground enhancements, classroom materials, flooring upgrades, and future school needs. Thank you for supporting our children and community!

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

1. Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
 2. Our God is nev - er far a - way, but through all grief dis -
 3. Then all my glad - some way a - long, I sing a - loud your
 4. Let all who name Christ's ho - ly name give God all praise and

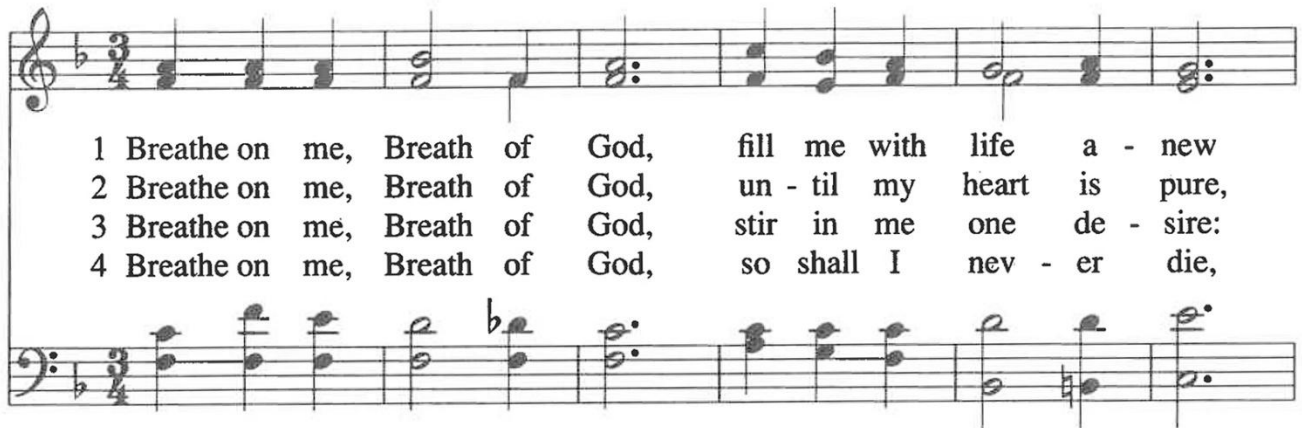
a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of
 tress - ing, an ev - er pres - ent help and stay, our peace and
 prais - es, that all may hear the grate - ful song my voice un -
 glo - ry; let all who own God's power pro - claim a - loud the

our sal - va - tion. With heal - ing balm my soul is filled and
 joy and bless - ing. As with a moth - er's ten - der hand, God
 wea - ried rais - es. Be joy - ful in the Lord, my heart, both
 won - drous sto - ry! Cast each false i - dol from its throne, for

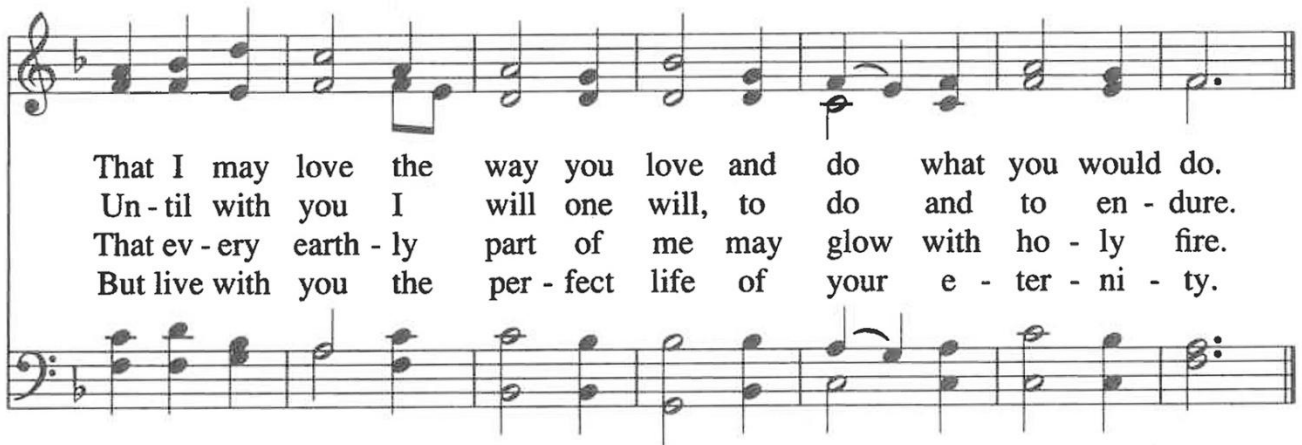
ev - ery faith - less mur - mur stilled: to God all praise and glo - ry.
 gent - ly leads the cho - sen band: to God all praise and glo - ry.
 soul and bod - y bear your part: to God all praise and glo - ry.
 Christ is Lord, and Christ a - lone: to God all praise and glo - ry.

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Edwin Hatch, 1886; alt.



1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, stir in me one de - sire:
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,



That I may love the way you love and do what you would do.
Un - til with you I will one will, to do and to en - dure.
That ev - ery earth - ly part of me may glow with ho - ly fire.
But live with you the per - fect life of your e - ter - ni - ty.

Between parish assignments in London, Edwin Hatch taught classics at Trinity College, Quebec, and lectured at Oxford. This hymn appeared in a leaflet, "Between Doubt and Prayer" (1878). Other hymns were published posthumously in Towards Fields of Light, London (1890).

Tune: TRENTHAM S.M.
Robert Jackson, 1894