



**First United Methodist Church
of Southbridge**

Sometimes, God uses difficult
people, like sandpaper, to rub
the rough edges off us.

Joel Osteen

“Who are your sandpaper people?”

Sunday, September 20, 2020

THANK YOU
for joining us in
worship today!



**First United Methodist Church
of Southbridge**

449 Main Street, Southbridge, MA 01550

508-764-6501

fumcsouthbridge.org

fumcsouthbridge@gmail.com

Pastor Sabina Terrades

pastorsabinaterrades@gmail.com

(508-450-1614)

Masks and social distancing are mandatory!

Due to the Covid-19 virus, there will be no coffee hour after worship
until further notice.

A handicapped-accessible, multi-gender restroom is located in next to the kitchen.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE GOSPEL

“When people hurt you over and over, think of them like sand paper. They may scratch and hurt you a bit, but in the end, you end up polished and they end up useless.”

Chris Colfer

Please read aloud words marked in “**Bold**” print.

*indicates that you might stand as able

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*OPENING SONG

“Easter People Raise Your Voices ”

Hymnal #304

Easter people raise your voices
 Sounds of heaven in earth should ring
 Christ has brought us Heaven's choices
 Heavenly music let it ring
 Alleluia alleluia

Easter people let us sing
 Fear of death can no more stop us
 From our pressing here below
 For our Lord empowered us
 To triumph over every foe
 Alleluia alleluia

On to victory now we go
 Every day to us is Easter
 With its resurrection song
 Even when life overwhelms us
 Easter people sing this song:
 Alleluia alleluia
 Everlasting Sunday song.

*GATHERING PRAYER (in unison)

Here we are Lord! We come from the busy-ness of our daily lives from the hubbub of our work and play from the hue and cry of the world around us, we come to worship you. In this hour, we long to meet you, to feel your

presence surrounding us, enveloping us, loving us. We long to settle into silence, laying aside our worries and our cares, aware of your presence around us, before us, behind us, within us. Come, Lord Jesus.

DRAWING NEAR TO GOD

SPECIAL MUSIC

Bob Briere

PREPARING TO PRAY

Sharing of Prayers, Joys and Concerns

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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 then is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

SPECIAL MUSIC

Bob Briere

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Proverbs 15:1-7

A soft answer turns away wrath,
 but a harsh word stirs up anger.
 The tongue of the wise commends knowledge,
 but the mouths of fools pour out folly.
 The eyes of the Lord are in every place,
 keeping watch on the evil and the good.
 A gentle tongue is a tree of life,
 but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.
 A fool despises his father's instruction,
 but whoever heeds reproof is prudent.
 In the house of the righteous there is much treasure,
 but trouble befalls the income of the wicked.
 The lips of the wise spread knowledge;
 not so the hearts of fools.

Reader: This is the Word of God for people of God

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 7:1-5 (“The Message” translation)

“Don’t pick on people, jump on their failures, criticize their faults— unless, of course, you want the same treatment. That critical spirit has a way of boomeranging. It’s easy to see a smudge on your neighbor’s face and be oblivious to the ugly sneer on your own. Do you have the nerve to say, ‘Let me wash your face for you,’ when your own face is distorted by contempt? It’s this whole traveling road-show mentality all over again, playing a holier-than-thou part instead of just living your part. Wipe that ugly sneer off your own face, and you might be fit to offer a washcloth to your neighbor.

Reader: This is the Word of God for people of God

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Who are your sandpaper people”

Pastor Sabina

HYMN

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

#402

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;
 Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
 In my heart, in my heart,
 Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart;
 Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
 In my heart, in my heart,
 Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart;
 Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
 In my heart, in my heart,
 Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart;
 Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart,
 Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

RESPONDING TO GOD WITH OUR GIFTS & TITHES

OFFERTORY

Pastor: As forgiven and reconciled people, Let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Special Music during offering

Bob Briere

***DOXOLOGY**

UMH #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 praise him, all creatures here below;
 praise him above, ye heavenly host;
 praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
 Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: Bountiful God, you have lavished your finest gifts on each one of us. We thank you for the many ways in which you have blessed our lives--with love, hope, friends, our church, and so many other things that we cherish. Help us be a blessing for others--that they may come to know you and rejoice in your love. Give us hearts of courage and confidence to step out into the world in service, bringing hope where there is doubt, peace where there is strife, love where there is discord. These things we pray in Jesus' Name, AMEN.

CLOSING SONG

“Standing on the Promises”

Hymnal #374

Standing on the promises of Christ my king,
 through eternal ages let his praises ring;
 glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
 standing on the promises of God.

Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
 standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
by the living Word of God I shall prevail,
standing on the promises of God.

Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,
bound to him eternally by love's strong cord,
overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,
standing on the promises of God.

Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
listening every moment to the Spirit's call,
resting in my Savior as my all in all,
standing on the promises of God.

Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

***THE BENEDICTION**

Week of September 21, 2020

Confidential Prayer requests should be sent to
Pastor Sabina at
pastorsabinaterrades@gmail.com

FOR THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH, its
member and mission

For those who seek God or a deeper
knowledge of Him

FOR THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH,
its members and its mission

FOR THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF SOUTHBRIDGE, its members
and its mission.

For our new ministries

FOR THE WELFARE OF THE WORLD

For peace, justice, goodwill among nations,
the well-being of all people, our nation, and
all in authority.

For justice for people of all races and nations.

For peace on our nation's streets

For those serving in the armed forces.

For all those affected by the Covid 19
Pandemic.

For all the children and teachers heading back
to school.

FOR THOSE WHO SUFFER, or are in need
or trouble

For the poor, the sick, the addicts, people
suffering from mental or physical illness, the
homeless, the refugees, the unemployed, the
shut-ins, the hungry, the oppressed and those
in prison.

For the families of the departed.

For our homeless and needy ministry.

For racism and violence to end in our country
and the world.

For our shut-ins: **Dick Harwood** and **Phyllis
Olszta**.

For **Christine's** unborn grand-baby and her
parents: Strength and discernment to
prepare for the birth.

For **Nancy**, who is ailing after a stroke and for
her son, Ron

IN THANKSGIVING FOR:

- * **Viewpoint Church** for catering our Mon-
day free meals.
- * The **Charlton City Methodist Church**
Bread Ministry for their donations.
- * **Worcester Fellowship** volunteers for their
donations of money, gift cards, cooked
meals and food supplies.
- * **Faith Fellowship and Pastor Dave**
- * **Arruda** for their donations of clothing and
food.
- * Our amazing volunteers.



Office Hours:
By appointment

New Sermon Series! Starting next Sunday,
9/27: "Unlikely Superheroes: When God uses
broken people and sinners to do his work".

Weekly Schedule:

Sunday: 10am: Worship service live on
Facebook and at the church (outdoors weather
-permitting, inside if rain)

Monday: 5pm: Free meal to-go

Wednesday: 3:30pm: Coffee with the Pastor
at the church

Friday:

1pm to 6pm: New Hope Closet. 5pm: Free
meal to-go

Saturday:

10am to 2pm: New Hope Closet

ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE

Sunday, October 18, 6pm-7pm

Join us for a live Zoom meeting with our Dis-
trict Superintendent, Megan Stowe, as we dis-
cuss the business and ministries of the church
for 2020 and vote on several items. We will
meet in the hall and watch on the large TV.