

**South Church in Andover  
United Church of Christ  
Order of Worship**

February 14, 2009

10:30

Valentine's Day Weekend  
President's Day Weekend

MEDITATION: *I am a rose of Sharon, a lily of the valleys.*  
(Song of Solomon 2:1)

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PRELUDE Adagio Molto from Sonata No. 3 Alexander  
Guilmant

OPENING PSALM (118:24)  
THIS is the day that the LORD has made!  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

WELCOME  
Introduction of visitors and guests  
Announcements  
Exchange of Peace  
The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

INTROIT The Call  
Palestrina

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP Bridget  
Healey

Thus says the LORD, who created you and who formed you:  
**Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.**

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
**and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;**  
When you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
**and the flame shall not consume you.**

For I am the LORD your God, your Savior.  
**You are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you.**

\*HYMN *God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand* # 262  
Red

INVOCATION and THE LORD'S PRAYER The Reverend Jonathan  
Drury

**Loving God, Author of Love, whom the bible says is love itself, this is a weekend when we think about love, when we remember those whom we have loved and who love us. *I love you more than yesterday, less than tomorrow, and we have said. We give you thanks for the love we have known and pray, in moments of worship, that we might grow too in our love for you. May we look forward to the morrow when we shall love you even more. This we pray in the name of your beloved Son, who taught his followers to pray, saying Our Father... (depts).***

PRAYER RESPONSE

*I Will Get Up*

I will get up and praise the Lord. I will get up and I will sing.

I will get up and I will sing, sing, sing. I will get up and praise the Lord.

**This is the day that our God has made. We will rejoice and be glad!**

**This is the day when we will be glad. This is the day that God has made!**

SCRIPTURE

**1 John 4:7-16**

Deacon, Andi

Larsen

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

MUSIC FROM THE CHILDREN  
Choirs

*Pass is On*

Carol and Treble

(Children are invited to go to Church School)

SCRIPTURE

**Song of Solomon 2:1-16**

Deacon, Andi

Larsen

I am a rose of Sharon, a lily of the valleys. As a lily among brambles, so is my love among maidens.

As an apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among young men. With great delight I sat in his shadow, and his fruit was sweet to my taste. He brought me to the banqueting house, and his intention toward me was love. Sustain me with raisins, refresh me with apples; for I am faint with love. O that his left hand were under my head, and that his right hand embraced me! I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, by the gazelles or the wild does: do not stir up or awaken love until it is ready!

The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills. My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice. My beloved speaks and says to me: "Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away. O my dove, in the clefts of the rock, in the covert of the cliff, let me see your face, let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely. Catch us the foxes, the little foxes, that ruin the vineyards— for our vineyards are in blossom." My beloved is mine and I am his; he pastures his flock among the lilies.

MESSAGE **A love letter to you, part one** The Rev. John  
Zehring

\*HYMN *O Perfect Love*  
# 465 Red

MESSAGE **A love letter to you, part two** John  
Zehring

MUSICAL RESPONSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE  
Intercessory Prayers John  
Zehring

When invited, you are welcome to request prayers. Please speak  
loud enough for all to hear so that we may lift up your request in our  
prayers.

Morning Prayer The Rev. Jonathan  
Drury

Prayer Response

**Hear our prayer, O God, Hear our prayer, O God.  
Incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.**

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS IN THANKSGIVING Jonathan  
Drury

INVITATION

OFFERTORY

Hopson

*The Gift of Love*

arr. Hal

Sarah Spollett, soprano

\*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God, all creatures here below,  
Praise God, above ye heav'nly host,  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

led by Andi

Larsen

**Gracious God, bless these gifts, that they may be signs of your hope to a  
world in need. Bless our lives, that we may be a light in the world and may  
lift a burden for another. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

\*HYMN

*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

# 367

Red

(Choir will sing through once, then all sing)

\*BENEDICTION

John

Zehring

\*RESPONSE

*Threefold Amen*

\*POSTLUDE

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\* All who are able, please stand

SOUTH CHURCH IN ANDOVER is an Open and Affirming Congregation  
of the United Church of Christ.