

The Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
Amherst, New Hampshire



*“Everybody can be great. Because anybody can serve. You don’t have to have a college degree to serve. You don’t have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve. You don’t have to know about Plato and Aristotle to serve. You don’t have to know Einstein’s theory of relativity to serve. You don’t have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.”*

—Martin Luther King, Jr.

# THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
Amherst, New Hampshire

October 22, 2017

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost  
Mission Sunday

10:00 AM

*Let us be gathered in silence so that we and those who enter with us  
may pause, pray and prepare to worship God.*

PRELUDE

*Grand Chorus from the Oratorio "Joshua"*

G. F. Handel/  
Frank Honey

GREETING AND WELCOME

Members and visitors are asked to sign the Friendship Register and to use a nametag.

NOTICES OF PARISH LIFE

INTROIT

Chancel Choir

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We are a community of faith, created by the love of God.

People: **We are people who have been set free by a word of grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ.**

Leader: We have come not to parade our own goodness but to praise our awesome God.

People: **We have come not to boast of what we have done but to proclaim the redeeming work of Jesus Christ in and through us.**

All: **With all our being, we will praise you, O God, and tell of all your kindness toward us. With all of our doing, we will serve you, O God, and show how your love is transforming the world.**

\*HYMN

*Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*

No. 430

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION and THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

O God, you have spoken to men and women of old through dreams and visions, yet too often we rely on reason and tradition alone. Deepen our faith, fill us with vision, lead us into the future, and enable us to serve you with a deeper understanding of your nature, through the power of your Holy Spirit. Hear us now as we pray the way Jesus taught us: **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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI (Tune #579)

Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and Holy Spirit, One;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen, Amen.

ANTHEM

*Gonna Rise Up Singing*  
Youth Choir

Don Besig

CHILDREN'S TIME—The SHYG shares experiences from their mission trip to Kentucky.

\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of God be with you. AND ALSO WITH YOU.

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 96:1-4  
James 2:14-17

Page 519  
Page 1055

HOMILY

"Do and Tell!"

\*HYMN

*Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed*

insert

CELEBRATING OUR OUTREACH AND MISSION PARTNERS

CROP Walk, the Women's Prison, and Anne-Marie House

Gene Heighton

FISH (Friends in Service Helping)

Marge Ball, or her designated representative

\*HYMN

*Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult*  
(Tune: GALILEE)

Jesus calls us, o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;  
Day by day that voice still calls us, saying, "Christian, follow me."

Jesus calls us! By your mercies, Savior, may we hear your call,  
Give our hearts to your obedience, serve and love you best of all.

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

Chancel Choir

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Along with our offering collected this morning, we dedicate the generous contributions of those who give monthly or electronically. All of our offerings support the work and witness of Jesus Christ here in this place and in the wider world. Each is given to the glory of God in faithful appreciation for many received blessings. Thanks be to God!*

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*Lord, Here Am I*  
Chancel Choir

John Ness Beck

\*DOXOLOGY (Tune: *From All That Dwell Below the Skies*)

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Yoked with you, O Jesus, there is no wisdom we cannot learn, no burden we cannot shoulder. We find wisdom, rest, and strength in your nearness. Thus we come to you, bearing our gifts for your service, and with fresh devotion we would love as you have loved us. Amen.

\*HYMN

*O for a World*

No. 386

\*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

\*COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

Chancel Choir

\*POSTLUDE

*Exaltation*

James Mansfield

(\*Indicates that those who are able may stand.)

*Portions of today's liturgy are adapted from Bread for the Journey, edited by Ruth C. Duck, and from All the Seasons of Mercy, by Diane Karay.*



**THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AMHERST**  
A Welcoming, Open and Affirming Congregation  
of the United Church of Christ



**“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey,  
you are welcome here.”**

*We, the members of the Congregational Church of Amherst, New Hampshire, United Church of Christ, believe God’s Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ call us to love all our neighbors as we would want to be loved. We are called to be as one body, seeking to walk together in the full life and ministry of our church.*

*We welcome each individual as a child of God. As covenant members of Christ’s church, we celebrate God’s love for people of all races and ethnic backgrounds, all mental and physical abilities, all socioeconomic backgrounds, all sexual orientations, all gender identities and gender expressions, and all of the other diverse attributes woven into the fabric of humankind.*

*With God’s grace, we invite all to share in the life and leadership, ministry and fellowship, worship and sacraments, responsibilities and blessings of our church.*

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us this morning. Our membership is open to all those who choose to walk with us in our witness. **The next new member orientation will be held October 25.** New members will be formally received on Sunday, November 5. Please speak with any of our deacons or pastors should you have any questions regarding our church or our membership.

Worship Notes:

- **Nursery Care** is provided for children ages two and under at the beginning of worship.
- **Church School** is available for children in preschool through grade 4 immediately following Children’s Time.
- **Joys and Concerns** may be written on the cards found in the pew racks. Cards will be collected by one of the pastors during the middle hymn and shared during the Prayers of the People.
- **Nametags** – Please remember to wear your nametag each Sunday, so that we may all greet our neighbors. If you do not have a permanent nametag, temporary nametags may be found inside the friendship registers. If you are in need of a new, permanent nametag, please see one of the deacons.
- **Fellowship** – Please join us in the community room following worship to welcome visitors and friends.
- **Emergencies** – In the event of an emergency, please remain seated until instructions have been given. An emergency plan is in place for the children in the nursery and in the church school.

The church office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Here’s how to reach us: by telephone 673-3231, or by email [andrea@ccamherst.org](mailto:andrea@ccamherst.org). If we are unavailable by phone, please feel free to leave a message using the personal directory, and we will get back to you as soon as we can. Visit our church’s website at [www.ccamherst.org](http://www.ccamherst.org), and follow us on Facebook at Facebook.com/ccamherst.

***Grounded in God’s Love—Serving Neighbors Near and Far—Welcoming to All***

## PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Members and Friends of The Congregational Church

Richard G. Leavitt

Maureen R. Frescott

Sara L. Phelps

Michael Havay

Sally Bowkett

Terri Behm, Ken D'Ambrosio & Isabella D'Ambrosio

Carol and Tedd Landon

Judi Dunbar

Marilyn Gibson

Laura Green

Fellowship Host

Wendy Valeri

Ministers to the World

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Director of Music

Organist/Accompanist

Deacon In Charge

Greeters

Ushers

Liturgist

Church School Coordinator

Nursery Coordinator

Gretchen Davis

\*\*\*\*\*

Handbell Choir Director

### **CELEBRATE MISSION SUNDAY WITH US!**

After worship today please help us assemble 24 emergency bucket kits—we have the supplies, you help with the assembly. Thank you, and thank you to everyone that has donated supplies, bucket kits and hygiene kits. We will give you an update on our final counts next week.

### **CHURCH SCHOOL:** Next Sunday, **October 29**,

during worship the children in grade 3 will receive their *Spark* Bible. If you have not been contacted by Marilyn Gibson, our Church School Coordinator, for your child to receive a Bible on that day, please notify her at [mgibson@ccamherst.org](mailto:mgibson@ccamherst.org) or in the office at 673-3231, ext. 20. If your child is in grades 4 through 7 and has not yet received a Bible, please do the same.

**SHARE FOOD PANTRY** requests for October include toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, and bar soap. Donations can be left in the SHARE cupboard in the narthex or in the container by the community room entrance. Many thanks for your continuing support!

### **GROWING OUR GIFTS UPDATE:**

A wide variety of products and services offered by participants in the Growing Our Gifts fundraiser will be on display during Fellowship time after the service again this morning. You can support the project by purchasing these goods and services -- and it's not too late to undertake a project of your own! More information is available downstairs and on the church website.

**THE CHURCH SCHOOL** is most thankful to our teachers and volunteers during the fall term. We are looking forward to the winter term, beginning on December 3. It is our goal to nurture our children through bible stories as well as missions. However, we do need your help. We invite others to help teach, there are lessons provided and support from all who participate. Likewise, to ensure the safety of all children during church school there is a need for assistants. Two sets of eyes and ears helps to keep all safe. If you are curious and or interested, contact Marilyn Gibson, Church School Coordinator, at 673-3231 x 20, or at [mgibson@ccamherst.org](mailto:mgibson@ccamherst.org).

**RAFFLE BASKET WORKSHOP:** In preparation for the Woman's Association Holiday Fair in November, there will be a workshop to assemble the raffle baskets on Tuesday, **October 24**, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the vestry.

Anyone who would like to contribute a raffle basket or add to the chocolate or wine baskets may do so. Please bring your items to the basket workshop (or just come to help). Baskets and decorating supplies will be provided, and light refreshments will be served.

Questions? Contact Maureen Minner at [maureen.minner@gmail.com](mailto:maureen.minner@gmail.com).

**LEVI SATURDAY:** The Trustees of the Facility will hold our annual Levi Saturday fall clean up on **November 4** from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Join with other church members for fellowship, comradery and a feeling of pride in sprucing up the church and outside grounds. John Swanson will lead our efforts and publish a list of tasks to be completed so you can select your own project and come prepared with the appropriate tools. Many hands make light work!

**HOLIDAY FAIR:** The annual Woman's Association's **Holiday Fair on Saturday, November 18**, promises to be the biggest and best yet! We have been knitting, sorting treasures, making crafts and working on birch bark house ornaments since last fair.

But there is still time to donate **treasures** including old silver, antique glassware, vases and décor, art or mid-century modern items. **Jewelry** is a big seller, so sort through drawers and boxes for pieces you don't wear or want.

We always welcome donations from work-at-home crafters and artisans, quilters, sewers, woodworkers, potters, etc.

Leave your labeled donations with your name in the vestry workrooms, or in the office with Andrea.

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING?** Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Congregational Church of Amherst (UCC) is cordially invited to attend an orientation session scheduled for Wednesday, **October 25** at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor. You are welcome whether you've already decided you want to join, or you just want to find out more about our church. Those who decide to join will be formally welcomed into our congregation on November 5, New Member Sunday. For more information or to sign up for the orientation session, please contact Andrea at 673-3231 or [andrea@ccamherst.org](mailto:andrea@ccamherst.org). Also, feel free to talk with either pastor or any deacon (green name tag folks). We look forward to hearing from you.

**HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREAT** in the village is Tuesday, **October 31**, and once again our church will participate by greeting folks and handing out candy. Since the village is visited by thousands of witches and pirates, we will need **LOTS** of candy to hand out. **Your donations will be appreciated.** There will be a collection box in the church entry starting early October.

We also need some people to help hand out the candy. Please come and join in the fun. Coffee will be available.

Questions? Contact Liz MacMillan Stewart at [liz@macstewart.net](mailto:liz@macstewart.net).

**VETERAN'S DAY DISPLAY:** Our church has a very rich and patriotic history. When we talk with our veterans, we realize how much we have contributed to that history.

Veteran's Day is November 11 and this year we would like to recognize the day by displaying all the varied military hats (enlisted, warrant officer and officer) of those who served. Hats will be on display in the church narthex on Sunday, **November 12**.

Anyone who would like to participate in this display, please contact John Swanson at [swanjohnny@comcast.net](mailto:swanjohnny@comcast.net).

*Sunday, October 22, 2017*

## ***World Day of Peace***

Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21 September. The General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples.

The theme for 2017 is “Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for All.”

The theme honours the spirit of TOGETHER, a global initiative that promotes respect, safety and dignity for everyone forced to flee their homes in search of a better life. TOGETHER unites the organizations of the United Nations System, the 193 Member States of the United Nations, the private sector, civil society, academic institutions and individual citizens in a global partnership in support of diversity, non-discrimination and acceptance of refugees and migrants. It was initiated during the United Nations Summit for Refugees and Migrants on 19 September 2016.

“In times of insecurity, communities that look different become convenient scapegoats,” said United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres. “We must resist cynical efforts to divide communities and portray neighbours as ‘the other’. Discrimination diminishes us all. It prevents people — and societies — from achieving their full potential.” He added, “Together, let us stand up against bigotry and for human rights. Together, let us build bridges. Together, let us transform fear into hope.”

This year, the International Day of Peace will focus on engaging and mobilizing people throughout the world to show support for refugees and migrants. Its messages will be shared with communities hosting refugees and migrants as well as people concerned that refugees and migrants may bring physical and economic insecurity to their lives.

The Day will highlight solidarity with refugees and migrants and showcase the shared benefits of migration to economies and nations, while also acknowledging legitimate concerns of host communities. Ultimately, it will be about bringing people together and reminding them of their common humanity.

We here in Amherst join with people around the world seeking to assist the flooded, forlorn and forgotten with our donations to Church World Service and Our Church’s Wider Mission.

