

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



*“Joy is the infallible sign of the presence of God.”*

—Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

# THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

November 17, 2019

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING CHIMES

*Let us be gathered in silence so that we may prepare to worship.*

GREETING AND NOTICES OF PARISH LIFE

PRELUDE

*The World Abounds with God's Free Grace*

G. F. Handel/  
Lani Smith

INTROIT

Chancel Choir

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Our God is making all things new.

Many: **A new heaven**  
**A new earth**  
**A new way of thinking**  
**A new way of being.**

One: Our God is making all things new.

Many: **Inviting us into new experiences**  
**New encounters**  
**New challenges**  
**New joys.**

One: Our God is making all things new.

Many: **Renewing our minds**  
**Renewing our spirits**  
**Renewing our world**  
**by calling us to live out the**  
**commandment of love.**

One: Our God is making all things new.

Many: **Let us rejoice in song!**

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

Renewing God, you have created us and you sustain us. We come with gratitude in our hearts for these moments when we can ease the pace of our lives and listen for your voice. Create a spirit within us that truly draws us toward you and toward one another: a deep spirit, perceptive, gentle, and bold. Clear our minds, open our hearts, and touch us with your presence and your power. We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray to you using these words: **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.

CHILDREN'S TIME

OUR COVENANT WITH NEW MEMBERS

Invitation to the New Members:

Shayna Appel    Heather Elmer    Tom Elmer    Ali Wysor    Adam Wysor

Questions of Commitment

\*United Church of Christ Statement of Faith

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,  
God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God,  
and to your deeds we testify:  
You call the worlds into being,  
create persons in your own image,  
and set before each one the ways of life and death.  
You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.  
You judge people and nations by your righteous will,  
declared through prophets and apostles.  
In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior,  
you have come to us, and shared our common lot,  
conquering sin and death, and reconciling the world to yourself.  
You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,  
creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,  
binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues and races.

You call us into your church  
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,  
to be your servants in the service of others,  
to proclaim the gospel to all the world, and resist the powers of evil,  
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,  
to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you  
forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,  
courage in the struggle for justice and peace,  
your presence in trial and rejoicing,  
and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

\*Congregational Covenant and Welcome (in unison)

We welcome you with joy in the common mission and life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as together we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of Jesus' ministry in the world.

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

\*Greeting and Presentation of Certificates

\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

ANTHEM

*A Joyful Thanksgiving*  
Bell Choir

Anna Laura Page

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 65:17-25

For I am about to create new heavens  
and a new earth;  
the former things shall not be remembered  
or come to mind.  
But be glad and rejoice forever  
in what I am creating;  
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy,  
and its people as a delight.  
I will rejoice in Jerusalem,  
and delight in my people;  
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,  
or the cry of distress.

No more shall there be in it  
an infant that lives but a few days,  
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;  
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,  
and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.  
They shall build houses and inhabit them;  
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.  
They shall not build and another inhabit;  
they shall not plant and another eat;  
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,  
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.  
They shall not labor in vain,  
or bear children for calamity;  
for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord-  
and their descendants as well.  
Before they call I will answer,  
while they are yet speaking I will hear.  
The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,  
the lion shall eat straw like the ox;  
but the serpent-its food shall be dust!  
They shall not hurt or destroy  
on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

SERMON

“Creating Joy”

\*HYMN

*In the Bulb There Is a Flower*

inside back pages

*You are invited to write your joys and concerns on the prayer cards in the pews, and pass to the minister to be lifted in prayer at this time.*

JOYS AND CONCERNS 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

*As a Song Among the Trees*  
Chancel Choir

Joseph M. Martin

\*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)  
Receive from us, O God, the best we have to give. All we have comes from you. We return a portion of the gifts you have given us with joy, to accomplish the work we intend to do together in your name. We bring ourselves as well, to be blessed by you, so that while we are apart our words and deeds will continue to be a significant offering to the world. Amen.

\*HYMN *Restless Weaver* inside back pages  
verses 1, 2 & 4 only

\*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

\*COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE Chancel Choir

\*POSTLUDE *Trumpet Tune on "Let All Things Now Living"* Michael Helman

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

<b><i>The Lectionary texts for the next two weeks are:</i></b>	
November 24:	Jeremiah 23:1-6 Luke 1:68-79
OR	Jeremiah 23:1-6 Psalm 46 Colossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43
December 1: <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:36-44



**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. 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 Pre-K through grade 7 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  
 Maureen R. Frescott  
 Katherine R. Kennedy  
 Sara L. Phelps  
 Michael Havay  
 Wendy Valeri  
 Colleen Cushing  
 Todd and Jen Whitney  
 Art and Vicky Leknes  
 Camille Davis  
 Marilyn Gibson  
 Heather Stone  
 Leona Hendrickson, Nadine Obermiller  
 Sue Werst  
 Gretchen Davis  
 Dave Hagerstrom  
 Hamilton and Liz MacMillan Stewart

Ministers to the World  
 Senior Pastor  
 Associate Pastor  
 Director of Music  
 Organist/Accompanist  
 Bell Choir Director  
 Deacon In Charge  
 Greeters  
 Ushers  
 Liturgist  
 Church School Coordinator  
 Nursery Coordinator  
 Pre-K/K Church School Teacher  
 Grades 1-2 Church School Teacher  
 Grades 3-4 Church School Teacher  
 Grades 5-7 Church School Teacher  
 Fellowship Hosts

**SUCCESS TODAY:** Stop by the Community Room after church today to start your holiday shopping! Cards are immediately available for Amazon, CVS, Dunkin Donuts, Home Depot, iTunes, Lowe's, Michael's, Panera, Pizza Hut, Shaw's, Starbuck's, Subway, Marshall's/TJ Maxx/HomeGoods, and Walmart. Supplies are limited, but we are also happy to accept orders for these cards or MANY others. These make great gifts, stocking stuffers, or use them yourself to do your shopping. Every purchase helps our church. Thanks for your support!

**SOS:** The nursery is in need of a changing table. If anyone has one to donate, it would be much appreciated.

**SHARE FOOD PANTRY** requests for November include pancake mix and syrup, condiments, cooking sauces and seasonings, cooking oils, jelly, and cold cereal. 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!

**RAFFLE TICKETS** for the eight lovely gift baskets will be on sale in the community room during Fellowship Time today. The drawings for the basket winners will take place at the WA's Holiday Fair on Nov. 23.

### Financial Summary (as of October 31, 2019)

	YTD <u>Budget</u>	YTD <u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$176,968	\$170,598	\$ 6,370
Expenses	\$158,132	\$167,651	\$( 9,519)
Net Income	\$ 18,836	\$ 2,947	\$15,889

*Numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole dollar; as such, some columns may not appear to total correctly.*

*We hope you are finding this information helpful. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to anyone on the Finance Team: Gail Agans (chair), Paul Spiess, Doug Topliffe, Todd Whitney and Tim Wiegand (Treasurer).*



**CHURCH SCHOOL:** Today's lesson, *Ten Men Healed* (Luke 17: 15-16), tells us that Jesus healed ten men, yet only one gave thanks. Our church school children will become familiar with the story and are encouraged to share their ideas. With Thanksgiving upon us, our church school teachers will weave the story with our traditional celebration. Teachers today are Ms. Lee and Nadine Obermiller with grades Pre-K/K, Sue Werst with grades 1/2, and Gretchen Davis with grades 3/4. Dave Hagerstrom will be with grades 5, 6 and 7, continuing travels through the world with the New Testament.

**Thanksgiving Luncheon at Mill Apartments:** On December 1, children will go to the Mill Apartments, a senior citizen residence in Milford, NH. Children in grades Pre-K through 7 will prepare the meal of turkey soup, sandwiches and cookies during church school time. At the conclusion of worship, children will travel to the complex with teachers. Several adults are needed to help children prepare food in the kitchen and community room, as well as go to the apartments and help serve the meal. Please contact Marilyn at [mgibson@ccamherst.org](mailto:mgibson@ccamherst.org).

**FAIR HELPERS NEEDED:** The Woman's Association needs a few people with strong backs to help set up tables in the vestry and community room for the upcoming Holiday Fair. Set up will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 21 and shouldn't take more than half an hour.

Those with a flair for design are welcome to help decorate Christmas wreaths on Monday, November 18 at 10:00 a.m. in the vestry.

Sales help from 9:00-2:00 and clean-up help, beginning at 2:00, are also needed on Fair Day, Saturday, Nov. 23.

All help will be greatly appreciated. Contact Adrienne Topliffe with any questions at [abtopliffe@comcast.net](mailto:abtopliffe@comcast.net) or 673-7436.

## *Christmas Concert*

Sunday, December 8

At 3:00 p.m.



Featuring the Chancel Choir  
and the Bell Choir

Sara L. Phelps, *Director of Music*  
Michael Havay, *Organist/Accompanist*  
Wendy Valeri, *Bell Choir Director*

**CALLING ALL BAKERS!** The bakery area of the Holiday Fair needs YOU! Contributions of homemade pies, coffee cakes, special cookies, breads, candies, cakes, candied nuts, preserves or whatever specialty you may have are needed and welcomed. The fair is just before the holidays when baked goods are always wanted. Pies, coffee cakes and giftable items seem to be the most desired. Cute bags, boxes or other containers always help items fly off the shelves.

There will be a team ready to help dress up the goodies on Friday afternoon before the fair. Please bring your baked items to the vestry on November 22 between 1:00 and 5:00 p.m. if at all possible. A label with the name of the item is also very helpful, as is information on whether it contains nuts or is gluten free.

You may receive a phone call before the fair to help you decide what you might contribute. Your participation is crucial in making this a success – thank you in advance!

Amherst Congregational Church  
11 Church St.

# Holiday Fair

Nov. 23 - 9:00 - 2:00

Lunch

Fresh Balsam Wreaths



Birch Bark Ornaments



Raffle Baskets



Gifts



Bakery



Knits



Jewelry



Cabot  
Cheese



Silent Auction



Treasures

## *Celebrate the Season of Giving*

The Christmas season is just around the corner and the World Service team is working with the following organizations to ensure all in our community experience the joy of the holidays. There are many ways for you to help!

**SHARE TREE:** We will have a SHARE TREE with the following stars to choose from:

**SHARE kids:** Each SHARE child star will have a child's name and *just one gift listed*. By listing one gift on each star, there will be multiple stars for each child. This will give us all the opportunity to take multiple stars and still stay within our gifting allowance!

**SHARE families:** We will have individual stars that have one family gift listed – these are typically family games, gift cards, etc. Each star will have one family and *one gift listed*.



**CRESTWOOD TREE:** Crestwood Center, a skilled nursing facility in Milford, has again provided us names of residents and items they are interested in receiving for the holidays. We will have stars with this information available on the Crestwood Tree.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS JOY:** We will again participate in Bethany Christian Services' *Operation Christmas Joy* drive, which provides \$25 gift cards to meet the Christmas wish lists of children in foster care statewide. We have pre-purchased the gifts cards from the *SUCCESS* program which helps out two causes! BCS is an organization that helps children and families in crisis find adoptive and foster families, short-term-crisis care, and so much more. Visit the Christmas Gift Drive table to purchase these gift cards.

Whether you can provide for an individual child, teen, senior or a whole family, there is a way for everyone to participate. Sign ups for gift giving will be on Sundays, November 10, 17, 24 and December 1. All gifts are due back to the church no later than Sunday, December 8. We hope you will join in the fun of this popular holiday season celebration of sharing.

For more information please contact Carolyn Mitchell [carolynvmitchell@gmail.com](mailto:carolynvmitchell@gmail.com) or Nancy Protzmann [uvmcats84@gmail.com](mailto:uvmcats84@gmail.com).



*All gifts are due back to the church no later than end of worship Sunday, December 8.*

**If your gifts include any gift cards we encourage you to buy those from our SUCCESS program – this benefits the gift recipient AND CCA ☺**

If you can get gift receipts please include those in an envelope with your returned item(s).

**CRESTWOOD Gift Returns:** gifts should be returned unwrapped in a gift bag with the original tag attached to the bag.

**SHARE Gift Returns:**

**Children's Gifts:** should be unwrapped but with wrapping paper or gift bag included and original tag included.

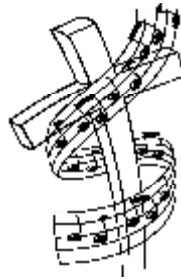
**Family Gifts:** should be wrapped and have the original label and inventory of item(s) attached (inventory list can be created by cutting off the info below). Family gift cards can be placed in an envelope with the family number on the outside of the envelope.

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### **Family Gift Inventory**

Family #:

List of item(s) purchased:



## *You hear them sing every Sunday!*

There are 28 singers who provide music each week and we are grateful for their commitment to our music program.

Come hear our Christmas Concert at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 8, which will include our Bell Choir under the direction of Wendy Valeri. The Chancel Choir is under the direction of Sara Phelps and our organist/accompanist is Michael Havay.

### **Chancel Choir Members**

Sopranos:	Tish Ansdell, Camille Davis, Leona Hendickson, Heather MacDonald, Jean Rogers, Kathy Skoglund, Joan Stone	Tenors:	Richard Affolter, Mark Baddeley, Dave Deysher, Dave Phelps, Sally Small
Altos:	Margi Bagley, Jana Howe, Carolyn Mitchell, Kathe Richardson, Beth Secor, Sue Stout, Sue Werst	Bass:	Jim Gottwald, Scott Hewett, Skip Skoglund, Ed Obermiller, Tom Werst

## **Breakfast with Santa** **Saturday, December 7**

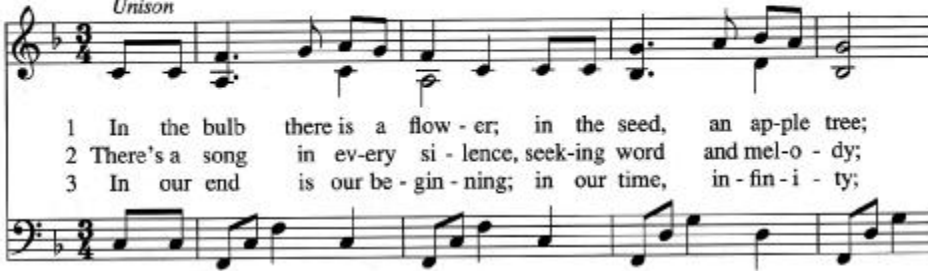


Breakfast With Santa takes place at the church on Saturday, December 7 during the morning. Mr. & Mrs. Claus will be present to meet the children and have a photo opportunity. To register for the event go to [ccamherst.org/BWS/](http://ccamherst.org/BWS/). This is a fund raising event for our church and tickets are \$10.00 (infants free). A delicious hot breakfast, age appropriate crafts, Santa's Book Shop, games and a professional photo are all part of the event.

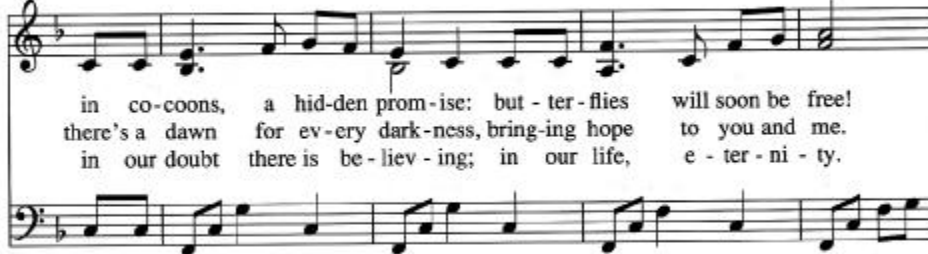
Church members are encouraged to help for this event with food donations. Please contact Anita Swanson if you can donate (673-7612 or [neetoswanson@comcast.net](mailto:neetoswanson@comcast.net)). We request you check in with Anita first rather than just bring items so we don't waste any food with overload. Needs: Breakfast Casseroles, Eggs, Juices- orange or apple, large box Cheerios and Cinnamon Toast Crunch, Fruit: grapes, melon, blueberries, strawberries.

Natalie Sleeth, 1985

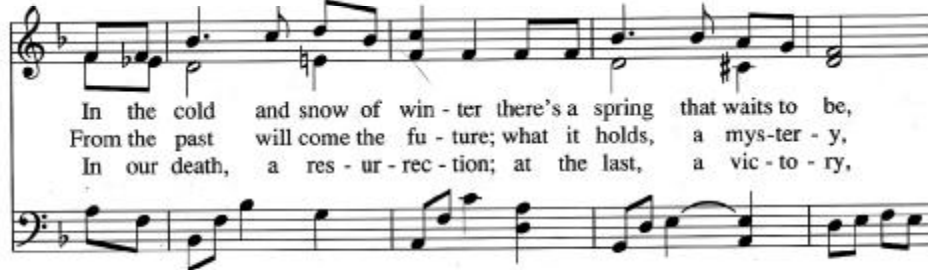
*Unison*



1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;  
 2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;  
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;



in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!  
 there's a dawn for ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.  
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.



In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,  
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,  
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,



un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.  
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.  
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

*Natalie Sleeth composed her "Hymn of Promise" first as a choral anthem and then adapted it to this version for congregational singing. It was dedicated to her husband, Ronald Sleeth, who died shortly after she completed it.*

Tune: PROMISE 8.7.8.7.D.  
 Natalie Sleeth, 1985

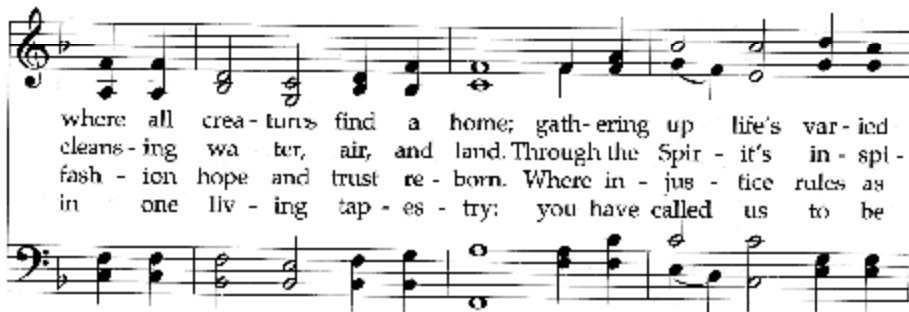
## Restless Weaver



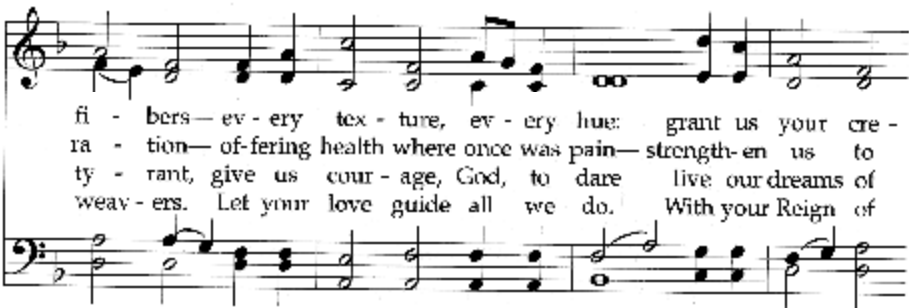
1. Rest - less Weav - er, ev - er spin - ning threads of jus - tice  
 2. Where earth's frag - ile web is rav - eling help us mend each  
 3. When our vio - lent lust for pow - er ends in lives a -  
 4. Rest - less Weav - er, still con - ceiv - ing new life—now and



and sha - lom; dream - ing pat - terns of cre - a - tion  
 bro - ken strand. Bless our ur - gent, bold en - deav - ors  
 bused and torn, from com - pass - ion's stur - dy fab - ric  
 yet to be—bind - ing all your vast cre - a - tion



where all crea - tures find a home; gath - ering up life's var - ied  
 cleans - ing wa - ter, air, and land. Through the Spir - it's in - spli -  
 fash - ion hope and trust re - born. Where in - jus - tice rules as  
 in one liv - ing tap - es - try; you have called us to be



fi - bers—ev - ery tex - ture, ev - ery hue: grant us your cre -  
 ra - tion—of - fer - ing health where once was pain—strength - en us to  
 ty - rant, give us cour - age, God, to dare live our dreams of  
 weav - ers. Let your love guide all we do. With your Reign of

WORDS: O. I. Cricket Harrison, 1988, rev. 1993  
 MUSIC: Alt. B. F. White, 1844; harmon. Ronald A. Nelson, 1978

BEACH SPRING  
 87.87D

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 used by permission of Augsburg Fortress

6-70-74



a - tive vis - ion. With us weave your world a - new.  
 be the stew - ards of your world knit whole a - gain.  
 trans - for - ma - tion. Make our lives in - car - nate prayer.  
 Peace our pal - tern, we will weave your world a - new.

### Our Church Calendar November 17—23, 2019

Today	10:00 a.m. Worship 11:10 a.m. Fellowship—Community Room 11:30 a.m. Small Group Ministry—Youth Room 11:30 a.m. Christian Ed—Meeting Room 6:00 p.m. Senior High Youth Group—Youth Room
Monday	10:00 a.m. WA Workshop—Vestry
Tuesday	8:30 a.m. Men's Fellowship—Youth Room 10:00 a.m. WA Greens Arrangements Workshop—Vestry
Wednesday	10:00 a.m. <i>The Story of God</i> —Parlor 4:00 p.m. Communications Team—Parlor
Thursday	WA Holiday Fair Set Up 6:00 p.m. Confirmation Class—Youth Room 6:00 p.m. Bell Choir—Sanctuary 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir—Sanctuary
Friday	WA Holiday Fair Set Up
Saturday	9:00 a.m. WA Holiday Fair



*Sunday, November 17, 2019*

The Woman's Association  
***A Legacy of Giving***

The Woman's Association has been supporting our church and contributing to those in need outside of Amherst for over 150 years. Historical records show that in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, members sent clothing and money to Christian missionaries out West. The women also supported the church for decades by contributing money they had raised toward the pastor's salary, church insurance, and even paint for the church. \*

We have continued this legacy of giving into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. During the past year we fulfilled our annual \$12,000 pledge to the church and began paying our \$6,000 pledge to the Capital Campaign. We also gave a \$300 donation to the Senior High Youth Group for their mission trip and purchased 28 new pew Bibles in memory of deceased WA members. In addition to supporting the church financially, we also give monetary donations to charitable organizations. Over the past year we gave a total of \$1,850 to nine organizations, seven local ones: Bridges, Anne-Marie House, the "Blue Bus," SHARE, the Holiday Toy Store, Camp Allen, and Wreaths Across Amherst. We also made donations to UCC Disaster Relief and Heifer International, which serve people all over the world.

The WA is able to make these generous monetary gifts due to the success of our main fundraiser, the Holiday Fair. The fair, which began as the "Christmas Fair" about 60 years ago, remains a popular tradition in both the church and the Town of Amherst. Once again, the women of the WA have been preparing since last winter for this year's fair, scheduled for November 23. Please come and shop that day, knowing that the money raised will allow the Woman's Association to continue its legacy of giving.

***Adrienne Topliffe***, President & Treasurer

\*Information on the early WA is from the ***Abbreviated History of the Woman's Association***, written by WA Historian Claire Choiniere.