

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



*"Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life."*

—Philippians 4:6-7, *The Message*

# THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

October 11, 2020

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

Carl G. Gläser/  
setting by Jason D. Payne  
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GREETING AND NOTICES OF PARISH LIFE

CALL TO WORSHIP and PRAYER OF INVOCATION (based on Psalm 23) and THE LORD'S PRAYER

When we pass through troubled waters,  
God is there with us.  
When we suffer and feel hopeless,  
God is there with us.  
When we are joyful and celebratory,  
God is there with us.  
Whether we feel triumphant or defeated,  
God is there with us, always.  
Come, let us worship together with Emmanuel,  
God with us.

**Let us pray:**

Creating God,  
through light and shadow  
We are led, We follow,  
through the ins and outs  
the ups and downs  
of these days,  
when our heart is failing,  
when our spirit rejoices,  
when we can barely put one foot  
in front of the other  
still you beckon us on...  
when we stumble you reach out to catch us,

when we can go no further  
you carry us,  
through light and shadow,  
in death's dark vale,  
and on the mountain peaks  
you lead us,  
through tangled webs,  
on rocky ground,  
on smoother paths,  
through light and shadow  
you lead us,  
We follow,  
may we never  
walk alone...

God in Community, Holy in One,  
we pray to you now, as 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.**

#### CHILDREN'S TIME

#### THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

#### HYMN

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

No. 288

#### THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Philippians 4:1-9

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

SERMON

“Turn Your Worry into Prayer”

ANTHEM

*The Call*

Sara Phelps, soprano  
Michael Havay, piano

Ralph Vaughn Williams  
(Hal Leonard Publishing)

JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

For life sustaining gifts that we so often take for granted – for shelter, food, and warmth; for your steadfast love that awakens us and rescues us from our wandering ways; for your word that guides and heals us – we give you thanks, gracious God. As we invest a part of all you entrust to us to further the ministries of this church, may we show others the immeasurable riches of your grace. Make this church a beacon of hope for our community and our world. Amen.

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

*Sortie*

George Blake  
(©2010 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

***The Lectionary texts for the next two weeks are:***



October 18: Exodus 33:12-23  
Psalm 99  
*Or* Isaiah 45:1-7  
Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13)  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10  
Matthew 22:15-22

October 25: Deuteronomy 34:1-12  
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
*Or* Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18  
Psalm 1  
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8  
Matthew 22:34-46



**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.

Here’s how to reach us: by telephone 673-3231, or by email [info@ccamherst.org](mailto:info@ccamherst.org). If we are unavailable by phone, please feel free to leave a message 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](https://www.facebook.com/ccamherst).

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

*Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service  
obtained from One License with license #A-731944.*

*Portions of our liturgy are adapted from Eternal Echoes  
[http://sallysjourney.typepad.com/sallys\\_journey/](http://sallysjourney.typepad.com/sallys_journey/)  
and Rev. Mindi at [http://rev-o-lution.org/2011/10/23/worship-  
resources-for-october-30-2011-and-all-saints-day/](http://rev-o-lution.org/2011/10/23/worship-resources-for-october-30-2011-and-all-saints-day/)*

## PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Members and Friends of The Congregational Church

Rev. Maureen R. Frescott

Rev. Katherine R. Kennedy

Sara L. Phelps

Michael Havay

Tom Werst

Ministers to the World

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Director of Music

Organist/Accompanist

Liturgist

**THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are given in celebration of the birth of Netaniah Marie Dart born in June. The Darts are feeling blessed to have this beautiful, healthy baby girl in their lives, and for the outpouring of support they have experienced from our church family as well as extended family and friends. Wishing everyone good health and safety during these times and looking forward to being together again soon!

**END 68 HOURS OF HUNGER** is now working with very small groups of volunteers to continue their important work of packaging and providing food bags for students. Packing is done inside with just your group. If you are interested in this hands-on mission opportunity, please reach out to Nancy Protzmann ([uvmcats84@gmail.com](mailto:uvmcats84@gmail.com) or 603-321-7099) for more details on how you can help, or visit the SOS section on our website: <https://www.ccamherst.org/sos/>

**SHARE FOOD PANTRY** requests for October include canned fruit, flour, sugar, boxed cake mixes and baking supplies, coffee, tea, juice, and granola. Donations should be brought directly to the SHARE Center in Milford; if you are unsure where, please call their office at 673-9898. Many thanks for your continuing support!

**CREATIVE WORSHIP NEXT WEEK:** We'll come together as the community of Christ to worship God with special music, interactive liturgy and an engaging message. Our worship theme is *Care for the Poor*, and it coincides with our annual Mission Sunday where we lift up the many ways we serve our neighbors near and far. We hope you can join us online!

### Our Church Calendar

**October 11—17, 2020**

Most events are taking place virtually,  
please check your email for the links.

Today	10:00 a.m.	Worship—Facebook
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship
Monday	10:00 a.m.	Woman's Association
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Men's Fellowship
	7:00 p.m.	Diaconate
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
	4:00 p.m.	Communications Team
	5:00 p.m.	Reopening Team
Thursday	2:30 p.m.	Prayerful Playgroup
Friday	4:00 p.m.	Food Drive-By
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Food Drive-By

**REOPENING INFORMATION AVAILABLE:** Our ad hoc Reopening Team has been hard at work thinking through and putting in place plans for our congregation to regather in person for worship and small group meetings.

Are you wondering where things stand? Through the **members** section on our **website**, we have a page dedicated to communicating with our church family on both current policies and procedures for use of the building during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the progress of our ad hoc Reopening Team. Documents will be posted as they are made available. If you have any questions or concerns about any of this information, please reach out to any member of the team: Pastor Maureen Frescott, Jessica Greer, Pastor Kate Kennedy, Keith Lammers, Susan Manchester, Kathy Skoglund, Paul Spiess, Kate Thompson, Doug Topliffe, Sue Werst, Tom Werst.

**ONLINE ACCESS TO WEEKLY BULLETIN:** If you would like to download or print the weekly Sunday bulletin prior to the sermon, you can view it on the website prior to watching the sermon. It is available the Friday afternoon prior to the Sunday online worship. <https://www.ccamherst.org/weekly-bulletin/>

<b>Financial Summary</b> (as of September 30, 2020)			
	YTD	YTD	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$177,173	\$138,276	\$38,897
Expenses	\$121,258	\$130,732	\$( 9,475)
Net Income	\$ 55,915	\$ 7,543	\$48,372

*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: Keith Lammers, Paul Spiess, Doug Topliffe, Todd Whitney and Tim Wiegand (Treasurer).*

Adult Ed Series

## A NEW Look at the OLD Testament



Wednesday, October 21  
10:00—11:30 a.m. on Zoom

Is the OLD Testament still relevant today? Who wrote it and why? From the Creation story to the Exodus, the poetry of the Psalms, and the suffering of Job, the Old Testament is familiar yet mysterious to many of us. We'll take a NEW look at the OLD Testament through this 2019 video lecture series produced by the Great Courses. These dynamic lectures give us a new look at this seminal text with a fresh perspective, rich visual aids and fascinating examination of the original context, shedding light on one of the world's most beloved books.

We'll watch the video together as a group and then have a discussion facilitated by Pastor Maureen. This series has 24 episodes, which we'll watch from October to June, meeting every first and third Wednesday. All are welcome! Please RSVP to [pastormaureen@ccamherst.org](mailto:pastormaureen@ccamherst.org) to receive the Zoom link, or access the link on our church website in the Members Section under "Wednesday Adult Ed."

**NEIGHBORS IN NEED** is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice. Grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities. For more information visit the Neighbors in Need UCC Special Offering Page: <http://www.ucc.org/nin>.



## Special Opportunities for Service

**End 68 Hours of Hunger Drive-By Food Drive:** Friday, Oct. 16 from 4 to 6 p.m., and Saturday, Oct. 17 from 9 to 11 a.m. in front of the church. Collection items include oatmeal packets, canned pasta, cereal (not mini size please), stove top stuffing, canned vegetables, individually wrapped snacks (granola bars, single serving bags of crackers, chips, or cookies, etc.) For more information contact Nancy Protzmann.

**Virtual CROP Walk:** Tie on your sneakers and walk or contribute to the CCA **Virtual CROP Walk**, Oct. 1-31. Walk individually or with family and friends and support the hungry. For details, visit <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/nashuanh/Team/View/139841/Congregational-Church-of-Amherst>, or contact Craig Richardson for more information.

**Neighbors In Need:** This is a special UCC mission offering during the month of October that supports ministries of justice. Grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities.

**Good with Instagram or Twitter?** We are hoping to expand our social media presence by starting a church Instagram and possibly Twitter account. This should be a low time commitment and something easily done from wherever you choose! If interested please contact Kay Steeves or Jeanne Neverisky.

**This is just a short list—there are many more opportunities for both special requests and ongoing needs. Visit our website for more information:**

<https://www.ccamherst.org/sos/>



*Sunday, October 11, 2020*

# ***Our Faith Our Vote Our Voice***

Once upon a time neither politics nor religion were considered fit topics for dinner table conversation. To a degree, that is still true, from the pulpit anyway. However, the UCC Justice and Witness Ministry has made available a resource packet with many suggestions (and a few no-nos) for UCC congregations to adopt as the November election draws closer.

The packet is pretty well all-encompassing. Here are a few of the recommendations:

- For people of faith, the public arena we know as “politics” represents much more than the partisan politicking we see in the news. It is a means by which we live out the commandment to love our neighbor as ourselves.
- There are no restrictions on educating church members about election-year issues and promoting discussion of public policy.
- Discussion of the position of political candidates is appropriate so long as the discussion does not involve the endorsement of, or opposition to, any particular candidates position.
- As people of faith participating in the public square, we are called to a higher standard of engagement and interaction with our neighbors. Our faith provides us with spiritual resources to take conversation to a different level. We can choose respect and hope over animosity and insult.

To find out more, obtain Our Faith Our Vote Resource Packet from the UCC, online <https://www.ucc.org/ourfaithourvote> , or from Justice and Witness Ministries, 100 Maryland Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002.