

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



*"We live in a world where bad stories are told, stories that teach us life doesn't mean anything and that humanity has no great purpose. It's a good calling, then, to speak a better story. How brightly a better story shines. How easily the world looks to it in wonder. How grateful we are to hear these stories, and how happy it makes us to repeat them."*

—Donald Miller, *A Million Miles in a Thousand Years*

# THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

November 1, 2020

All Saints—All Souls Day

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

*Blest Are They*

David Haas/arr. Mark Hayes  
(©1985, arrangement 2018 Gia Publications/  
Hope Publishing Co.)

GREETING AND NOTICES OF PARISH LIFE

CALL TO WORSHIP and PRAYER OF INVOCATION and THE LORD'S PRAYER

In all our weakness and strength,  
with our youth-filled spirits and aging bodies,  
we come to be your people, O God.

Strong in faith and eager with questions,  
singing our praise and whispering our prayers,  
we come to be your people, O God.

Filled with saintly determination  
yet mindful of our human limitations,  
we come to be your people, O God.

Made strong in your endless love for us,  
we know ourselves to be yours and  
we come to be your people, O God.  
May we truly become your people today.

**Let us pray:**

We remember, O God...  
The countless saints of history who have blazed a trail of courage through time.

We remember the tender touch of loved ones,  
the example of heroes, the healing words of comforters,  
the remarkable acts of fearless ones.

We remember the gentle strength of grandmothers,  
the loyalty of friends, the kindness of strangers,  
the sacrifice of parents, the joy of children.

We remember the supreme love of Jesus,  
the blessing of his Spirit,  
the reminder of his words and deeds.

We remember in every time and place the saints  
who have lived among us.

May your Spirit move among us now, O God, in this sanctuary and wherever we are gathered,  
as we pray the words that 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

*For All the Saints*

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

SERMON

“For All the Saints”

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Adagio from Flute Sonata in E minor*

J. S. Bach

Sue Werst, flute  
Michael Havay, piano

JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Generous God, you surround us with saints, even when we don't recognize or appreciate them. May your Spirit of wonder move in us in this time so that we might follow in the footsteps of those who have come before us, and those who live among us now. Make use of our gifts – of time, of talent, of treasure – to make our world a more loving, compassionate, and just place for all. For all the saints of every age, we give you our gratitude and praise. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BREAKING OF THE BREAD, POURING OF THE CUP

CONSECRATING PRAYER

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (in unison)

We give thanks, loving God, for the bond of this ritual and communal meal that links us to all who have called upon your name. May your wisdom grow within us. May your word inspire us. May the nourishment of this bread and cup strengthen us for the journey, as you send us out into the world as people of courage, compassion, and commitment. Amen.

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

*Song for All Saints*

Mary McDonald  
(©2016 Lorenz Publishing Co.)



**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 Seasons Online.  
[http://www.seasonsonline.ca/files/all-saints-day\\_cong-life\\_yr-a.pdf](http://www.seasonsonline.ca/files/all-saints-day_cong-life_yr-a.pdf)***

## PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Members and Friends of The Congregational Church

Rev. Maureen R. Frescott

Sara L. Phelps

Michael Havay

Nancy Protzmann

Sue Werst

Ministers to the World

Senior Pastor

Director of Music

Organist/Accompanist

Liturgist

Musician

### 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.

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

**LEVI SUNDAY** has been scheduled for **November 8**, 11:30 to 1:00 p.m. Many hands make light work!

**CHURCH SCHOOL:** To sign up for **Brown Bag Lessons**, go to the church school section on our website: <https://www.ccamherst.org/church-school/>. Use the Sign Up button to record your family name and the comments section should contain your email address.

### Our Church Calendar

November 1—7, 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
	12:00 p.m.	Small Group Ministry
Monday	10:00 a.m.	Woman's Association
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Men's Fellowship
	1:30 p.m.	Small Group Ministry
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Wednesday Morning Adult Ed
	6:00 p.m.	Church Council
Thursday	2:30 p.m.	Prayerful Playgroup
	5:00 p.m.	Reopening Team

## Christmas Gift Drives

The holiday season is fast approaching and the World Service team will be hosting our annual Christmas Gift drives again this year. Due to this crazy pandemic, all of the signups for our Christmas Drives will be virtual. There are several ways you can help, both with gift cards and personal shopping.



**SHARE:** Our first program is the SHARE Gift Drive for children (and some single adults). Last year SHARE served 422 children and many single adults through their Christmas drive – we are excited to help them again this year! SHARE is only requesting donations of gift cards this year, rather than specific gift items. The gift cards will then be used by the families to purchase the specific gifts. The World Service team has pre-purchased these gift cards through our SUCCESS program, to help both SHARE and the church at the same time! **This drive ends on November 12** to allow SHARE the time to get the gift cards to the families so they can do their own holiday shopping this year.

We also have several “hands on” drives that will be taking place starting in early November and will end in early December. These drives will provide you the opportunity to shop for specific gifts, either on-line or in stores of your choosing:

**Crestwood Nursing Home:** As we do every year, we will be purchasing gifts for residents from their wish lists.

**Operation Christmas Joy:** Bethany Christian Services is providing ‘Family Gift Boxes’ to foster families. We are hoping to fill 20 of these boxes for deserving foster kids and their families.

**Anne-Marie House:** We have a special item for each child currently being housed by Anne-Marie House. If you like purchasing something specific for a child, this is the drive for you!

Details can be found on our Christmas Gift Drive website page:

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

**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/>

**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/>

*Sunday, November 1, 2020*

***For All the Souls We've Lost  
Member Passings – 2010-2020***

Gwen Berry – January 28, 2020  
Jean Anderson – May 26, 2020  
Bruce Beckley – September 12, 2020

Richard Spargo – April 16, 2019  
David Sweeney – May 30, 2019  
Glen Whitehouse – September 5, 2019

Bruce Ullrich – March 9, 2018  
Bruce Fraser – April 16, 2018  
Helen Rowe – May 10, 2018  
Mel Reeve – September 13, 2018

Louise Marley – February 14, 2017  
Jane Hunt – March 13, 2017  
Herbert Campman – September 4, 2017  
Ruth Whaland – November 9, 2017

Marilyn McNamara – April 10, 2016  
Cele Clough – June 6, 2016  
Robert McCray – August 9, 2016  
Michael Ballou – September 21, 2016  
Len Peterson – December 21, 2016

Jed Barker – March 30, 2015  
Robert Blakeman – May 25, 2015  
Mary Watton – September 22, 2015

Marcia Barker – September 8, 2014  
John David – September 12, 2014  
Elizabeth Trombly – September 14, 2014  
Keith Hunt – September 23, 2014  
Betsy Austen – December 1, 2014

Clifford Balmer – May 2, 2013  
Jane Heineke – July 1, 2013  
John Ferraro – December 27, 2013

Carl Miller – March 16, 2012  
Roz Buchanan – April 1, 2012  
Bud Austen – June 20, 2012  
Elizabeth Ikerd – November 9, 2012

Peg Jones – February 21, 2011  
Jean Sweeney – March 17, 2011  
Nancy David – June 18, 2011

Arnold Johnson – April 8, 2010  
Marjorie Odell – November 30, 2010  
Lucy Ramsay – December 6, 2010

