

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



*"I decided to fly through the air and live in the sunlight
and enjoy life as much as I could."*

—Evel Knievel

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

May 16, 2021

Children's Sunday

10:00 a.m.

Creative Worship - "Enjoy This Life!"

PRELUDE

Tell Me the Story of Jesus

John R. Sweney/
arr. Mary McDonald

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jolene Davis, Julia Bortolotto, Julia Greer,
Evan Greer, Abbey Endres, Nick Endres, Grace Riley

For cookies and ice-cream,
We thank God!

For friends and family,
We thank God!

For snowballs and hedgehogs,
We thank God!

For soccer and cartoons,
We thank God!

For puppies and kittens,
We thank God!

For sunshine and rain,
We thank God!

For all of the things that make life awesome,
Big and small,
Common and rare,
We thank God, who made it all!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION and THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison) Xander Batey, Oliver Normandin
Dear God, thank you for all the things that make life fun and joyful. Sometimes, when we get stressed about being good and achieving success, we can forget that you made life to be enjoyed! Help us to stop and smell the roses. Help us to be grateful for all the things, big and small, that bring beauty, happiness, and love to our days. May we focus on these things during worship today, and 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.

2020 BIBLE RECIPIENT READINGS Owen Davis, Nicholas Riley, Mya Stewart, Nathan Theriault

CHILDREN'S TIME

Horton Center Staff

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

HYMN

He's Got the Whole World In His Hands

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalms 118:24

Stella Theriault

"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

John 16:24

Jack Bortolotto

"Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete."

Ecclesiastes 8:15-17

Eric Davis

"So I commend enjoyment because there's nothing better for people to do under the sun but to eat, drink, and be glad. This is what will accompany them in their hard work, during the lifetime that God gives under the sun."

Matthew 6:25-26

Maya Gascoyne

"Do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet God feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"

Romans 15:13

Charlie Curtis

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Ecclesiastes 11:9
"You who are young, be happy while you are young, and let your heart give you joy in the days of your youth."
Adelia Curtis

Psalms 16:11
"You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."
Audrey Pyles

Philippians 4:6-7
"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."
Ella Normandin

Ecclesiastes 3:12-13
"So I concluded there is nothing better than to be happy and enjoy ourselves as long as we can. And people should eat and drink and enjoy the fruits of their labor, for these are gifts from God."
Declan Pyles

SERMON "Enjoy This Life"

ANTHEM *Jesus Loves Me* William Bradbury/
Wendy Valeri, hand bells arr. Richard Mickelson
Michael Havay, piano

JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO OUR OFFERING

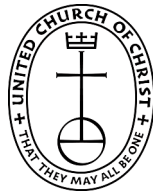
PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)
Let us "Be the Church" by giving back a portion of what God has entrusted to us. May our sharing of earthly and spiritual resources reflect our love of God. May this treasure help us to protect the environment, care for the poor, forgive often, reject racism, fight for the powerless, embrace diversity, and enjoy this one precious life. Amen.

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AMHERST, NH, UCC



**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. 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.

The church office is reachable by telephone 673-3231, or by email info@ccamherst.org. 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, and follow us on Facebook.com/ccamherst and Instagram.com/ccamherstnh

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.*

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

Wendy Valeri

Church School Children

Middle High Youth Group

Horton Center Staff

Ministers to the World

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Director of Music

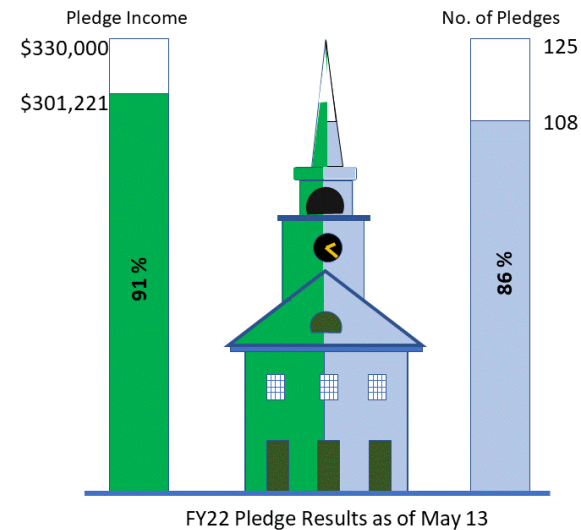
Organist/Accompanist

Bell Choir Director

TODAY IS LEVI SUNDAY: Come by after morning worship and help us clean up our grounds. No inside work is planned—all work is outdoors. Projects include cleaning the parking lot of sand, cleaning church and parsonage flower beds and garden areas, general grounds clean up, spreading bark mulch, repairing rear fence (between parking lot and playground). Bring tools for the jobs you'd like to help with. Many hands make light work!

IT'S TIME TO BUILD! It is **FINALLY** here! Our long postponed, long awaited **Sleep in Heavenly Peace Build Day!** You all have been so generous in your donations that we are now able to fund the building of 6 sets of bunk beds. We will be building the beds in the back parking lot on **Saturday, May 22 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. (rain date Sunday, May 23, 1:00-5:00pm)** There is a job for everybody, and kids are most welcome! Don't worry if you don't have any experience - most of us don't! There will be a variety of stations, and the SHP crew will be guiding us in everything we do. Visit [SOS - Congregational Church of Amherst, NH \(ccamherst.org\)](https://www.ccamherst.org) for more information and to sign up to help. Questions? Contact Terri Behm terri.behm@gmail.com

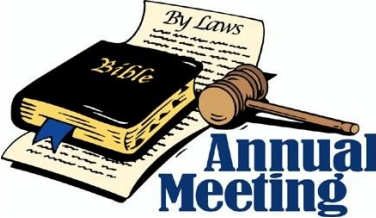
FAITH PROMISE: Our new fiscal year **Stewardship Campaign** is ongoing. As of Thursday, May 13, we have received pledges from 108 families, totaling \$301,221. Thanks to all that have responded so far. To those who are still considering your pledge, you can email your intents to Andrea at andrea@ccamherst.org, mail in your pledge intentions, call Andrea (673-3231) or go to the church website <https://www.ccamherst.org/stewardship-pledge/>.



LITTLE FREE FARMSTAND ~ “Grow & Give”

We are thrilled to provide more information about this exciting initiative. This summer, we are partnering with **SHARE** in Milford to make fresh produce and eggs readily available to the community. We invite local growers from Amherst and Milford (and surrounding towns) to share their excess produce on Sunday mornings. Families will come partake of the farm stand on Sunday afternoons, and anything not taken will go to the SHARE food pantry for their clients to select from during the week. Please visit [farmstand – Congregational Church of Amherst, NH \(ccamherst.org\)](http://farmstand - Congregational Church of Amherst, NH (ccamherst.org)) for more information and to sign up to help.

FISHER CATS BASEBALL: The church Men’s Group is organizing another informal night out. Join us for a Fisher Cats baseball game at Northeast Delta Dental Stadium in Manchester on **Wednesday, June 16** at 6:35 p.m. Families and friends are welcome. Tickets cost \$12. (If the group purchase exceeds 20, ticket cost is reduced to \$9. The ticket and food special is \$11.25 which includes a large drink, hot dog and chips). Unless the state guidance changes we will be sitting in our own socially distanced pod. Contact Roger Hooper at Rhooper673@aol.com for tickets or with questions.



Annual Meeting


Sunday, May 23 after worship

Annual reports now available on the table in the narthex.

THANK YOU FROM THE DIACONATE to those who were able to contribute for the Easter baskets for those in need in our local communities. Appreciation from those that were able to enjoy a holiday meal or just to help make ends meet in a stressful time. The generous outreach to those in need from our church congregation is always gratefully appreciated!

SHARE FOOD PANTRY requests for May include canned ham, canned meats, side dishes (seasoned pasta mix, Hamburger Helper, etc.), ravioli and Beef-a-Roni. 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!

The Lectionary texts for the next two weeks are:



May 23: Acts 2:1-21 or *Ezekiel 37:1-14*
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:22-27 or *Acts 2:1-21*
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

May 30: Isaiah 6:1-8 and Psalm 29
Romans 8:12-17
John 3:1-17



EVERYONE COULD WIN \$\$\$!

Too good to be true? NO! It's simple!

PURCHASE A RAFFLE TICKET!

- 10 cash prizes range from \$500 - \$5,000. Yes, you could win \$5,000!
- Ticket price is \$20 - *\$10 comes straight back to the church!*
- Drawing Friday June 18th – you do not need to be in attendance to win!
- Bonus: each ticket comes with lots of coupons!

PURCHASE A RAFFLE TICKET!

Helpful tips for purchasing:

1. To receive the coupons, ensure when you purchase your tickets you choose 'YES' on the 'Include Local Coupons' dropdown option.
2. When you proceed through the checkout process, the payment button will say 'PROCEED TO PAYPAL'. Click on this button and you will then be directed to a screen where you can either pay by PAYPAL, Credit, or Debit Card.

This is a fundraising effort of the [Milford Rotary Club](#) in conjunction with their [100 Holes of Golf in One Day](#) charity tournament. Local organizations that sell tickets receive \$10 for each ticket for their own organization. Each year this event raises considerable funds that are distributed to local, regional, and international community and non-profit organizations, and are used to provide \$30,000 in scholarships to area students.

Please contact [Sally Hooper](#) (603-321-1143) for questions or more details.

Sunday, May 16, 2021

Our Church Calendar

May 16 -22, 2021

Many events are taking place virtually.
Links are sent out directly by email, and a list
of recurring meetings with their links can be found
in the member section of our website.

Today	10:00 a.m.	Worship—Sanctuary
	10:00 a.m.	Worship—Online
	11:30 a.m.	Church School Celebration
	11:30 a.m.	Levi Sunday
Monday	10:00 a.m.	Woman's Association
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Men's Fellowship
	7:00 p.m.	New Member Info
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	<i>A New Look at the Old Testament</i>
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Prayerful Playgroup
Saturday	1:00 p.m.	Sleep In Heavenly Peace Build Day