

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



*“Don't tell me what you believe in. I'll observe how you behave  
and I will make my own determination.”*

—Alex Trebek

# THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

July 11, 2021

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

*Galliarda*

Iouri Grichetchkine

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

One: In the beginning...  
the dance began to move and swirl.

**Many: In the beginning, in the darkness,  
the dance cast forth bright light.**

One: In the beginning, the earth burst forth with wondrous things,

**Many: Creatures of all sorts, mountains and hills,  
vast seas and rivers, valleys and desert areas.**

One: And the Lord of the Dance saw that it was good

**Many: And blessed it all.**

One: In our beginning, God blessed us.

**Many: And the dance went on,  
through our lives, into all that we have done.**

One: Sometimes the dance we do is slow and plodding;

**Many: At other times it is sprightly and fast.**

One: Yet in the midst of it all,  
the Lord of the Dance is with us.

**All: This dance, called Life, is everywhere—  
in the light and in the dark,  
in places of hope and of sorrow,  
in us as we come together to worship our God!**

Let us pray:

How shall we dance for you, O God?  
We shall live lives of hope and peace,  
bringing the good news of Jesus,  
leaning into all that he taught us,

so that others may see our joy  
and join the dance with us.  
Praise be to you, O God, the Lord of the Dance,  
the Lord of Creation, the Lord of Life!

May we feel your Spirit moving and dancing among us now, 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

*When the Morning Stars Together*  
verses 1, 3 & 4

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. David and all the people with him set out and went from Baale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the Lord of hosts who is enthroned on the cherubim. They carried the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were driving the new cart with the ark of God; and Ahio went in front of the ark. David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the Lord with all their might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals.

It was told King David, "The Lord has blessed the household of Obed-edom and all that belongs to him, because of the ark of God." So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with rejoicing; and when those who bore the ark of the Lord had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling. David danced before the Lord with all his might; David was girded with a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the Lord with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet. As the ark of the Lord came into the city of David, Michal daughter of Saul looked out of the window, and saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord; and she despised him in her heart. They brought in the ark of the Lord, and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being before the Lord. When David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord of hosts, and distributed food among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people went back to their homes.

SERMON

"Lord of the Dance"

ANTHEM

*The Gift of Love*  
Chancel Choir

arr. Hal Hopson

JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO OUR OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Accept our offering of praise and our offering of ourselves, O God, along with our contributions towards our church's mission. You have given us life and guidance for living. We rejoice in the opportunity to receive and share all that you have given us. May the ministry we offer and the dance that we do together, reflect the joy we feel as recipients of your love and grace. Amen.

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

*Jubilant Jig*

Iouri Grichetchkine

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

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



July 18: 2 Samuel 7:1-14a and Psalm 89:20-37  
Jeremiah 23:1-6 and Psalm 23  
Ephesians 2:11-22  
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 25: 2 Samuel 11:1-15 and Psalm 14  
2 Kings 4:42-44 and Psalm 145:10-18  
Ephesians 3:14-21  
John 6:1-21

# 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](mailto: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](#), and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

***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 the liturgy have been adapted from Nancy C. Townley,  
and posted on the Ministry Matters website.:*

[Ministry Matters™ | Christian Resources for Church Leaders](#)

## PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Members and Friends of The Congregational Church

Rev. Maureen R. Frescott

Rev. Katherine R. Kennedy

Sara Phelps

Michael Havay

Terri Behm

Wendy Valeri

Ministers to the World

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Director of Music, Soloist

Organist/Accompanist

Liturgist

Bell Choir Director

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**SEEKING HOSTS/HOSTESSES for In-Person Fellowship:**

As we continue to open up with more opportunities for in-person connection, we are excited to offer the option to enjoy a cold water or lemonade in the Memorial Garden following our church service. This will be held weather permitting each Sunday throughout the summer months unless our re-opening approach changes. This said we are looking for volunteers to host now through September 5. If you are interested please contact Meredith Dart via cell or text at 603-305-9065, or email [Andrea in the church office](#).

**SHARE FOOD PANTRY** requests for July include pancake mix and syrup, condiments, cooking sauces and seasonings, cooking oil, 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!

**WANTED—NURSERY COORDINATOR:** We are looking for someone who can provide consistent, quality care for young children in the nursery during Sunday morning worship services. The hours are 9:30—11:30 a.m. starting on Rally Day, September 12. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older. For more information, please speak with Pastor Maureen, Pastor Kate, Sue Werst, or leave a message on the church office voice mail (673-3231, ext. 0) and we will be back in touch with you.

### Financial Summary

(as of May 31, 2021)

	YTD <u>Actual</u>	YTD <u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$398,233	\$374,827	\$ 23,406
Expenses	\$370,379	\$391,127	\$( 20,748)
Net Income	\$ 27,854	\$(16,300)	\$ 44,154

*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).*

**CHURCH SCHOOL:** Church school families are invited to participate in the Little Free Farm Stand: “Grow and Give.” Drop off vegetables on any Sunday before noon at the back door of the church. For more information for how you can participate as a family please visit [farmstand - Congregational Church of Amherst, NH \(ccamherst.org\)](http://farmstand - Congregational Church of Amherst, NH (ccamherst.org))

**Today’s Church School Lesson:** This week’s lesson is from 2 Samuel 6: 1-5, 12-19. In this lesson King David has his chosen people carrying God’s Ark and is all excited with dancing and singing to celebrate. As we enjoy a time of summer, with more relaxed schedules and more time to play, remember to cherish these special times with family and friends, as part of the beautiful world of God we are all surrounded with.

**LOOKING FOR HANDS-ON SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES but don’t have a lot of time?** Here are some great opportunities! Visit our [SOS page](#) for a full listing:

**Our Little Free Farmstand** is now ready for produce, volunteers, and shoppers! We are looking for farmstand 'Greeters' - those folks who will help setup, staff, and put away the farmstand on Sunday afternoons. Shifts are 12:00-2:30pm and 2:00-4:30pm. Visit [farmstand - Congregational Church of Amherst, NH \(ccamherst.org\)](http://farmstand - Congregational Church of Amherst, NH (ccamherst.org)) and use the SignUp Genius link or contact [Terri Behm](#).

**Lawn Mowing:** It's that time of year when the church lawn is beautiful but does require attention! We are looking for folks to sign up to mow the lawn - many hands make light work! We will need help now through the end of October so pick a slot and smell that freshly cut grass! Visit <https://www.ccamherst.org/sos/> and use the SignUp Genius link. Details will be sent in a confirmation email.

Questions? Contact [Tim Wiegand](#).

### **Our Church Calendar**

**July 11—17, 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	9:00 a.m.	Worship—Sanctuary
	10:00 a.m.	Recorded Worship—Online
	10:00 a.m.	Fellowship—Memorial Garden
	10:15 a.m.	Summer Book Group—Memorial Garden
Monday	10:00 a.m.	Woman’s Association—Memorial Garden
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Men’s Fellowship

*Sunday, July 11, 2021*