

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



*“Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless
until it finds its rest in thee.”*

– Augustine of Hippo, Confessions

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

July 18, 2021

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

"O Rest in the Lord," from Elijah

Felix Mendelssohn/
arr. Ernest A. Dicks

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

One: In the darkest valley,

Many: at the banquet table;

One: in the hard work of life,

Many: in the moments of ease;

One: in our day-to-day reality,

Many: at times like this -

One: this time we've set aside -

Many: for worship, for listening, for paying attention;

One: with every step we take,

Many: our cups overflow,

One: and goodness and mercy follow us,

Many: all the days of our lives.

Let us pray:

God of green pastures and still waters
through light and shadow
you lead us and we follow,
through the ins and outs
the ups and downs
of these days,
when our hearts are hurting,
when our spirits are rejoicing,
when we can barely put one foot
in front of the other
still you beckon us on...

when we stumble you support 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,
and we follow,
may we never
walk alone...

May we feel your Spirit walking beside us now, O God, 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

O Day of God, Draw Nigh
verses 1, 3 & 5

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, 'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves.

Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the market-places, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

SERMON

"No Rest for the Weary"

ANTHEM

Morning Has Broken
Wendy Valeri, handbells
Michael Havay, piano

arr. Jason W. Krug

JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO OUR OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

God of love, you abide with us; you provide for all our needs and guide us in your ways. Out of gratitude for your care we bring our gifts before you. Use them for your work of your church, that all may feast at the table of abundance, walk without fear, and drink deeply from the cup of compassion. May our gifts reflect our trust in the Shepherd's care. May our offerings show our willingness to love as you love. Amen.

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

A Charge to Keep I Have

Lowell Mason/
arr. Dan R. Edwards

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

The Lectionary texts for the next two weeks are:



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

August 1: 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a and Psalm 51:1-12
Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 and Psalm 78:23-29
Ephesians 4:1-16
John 6:24-35

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](#), 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 Joanna Harader
and posted on Spacious Faith. <https://spaciousfaith.com/>
and by Sally at Eternal Echoes.
http://sallysjourney.typepad.com/sallys_journey/*

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

Bill Swift

Ministers to the World

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Director of Music

Organist/Accompanist

Bell Choir Director

Liturgist

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: Calling all veggies! 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))

This week’s Church School Reading: This week’s lesson is from the book of Mark 6:30-34,53-56 and Ephesians 2:11-22. When the disciples were with Jesus on the shore of Gennesaret, they saw many people helped by Jesus kindness. We as a church, can spread this kindness where ever we go. This is why the church is far more than just a building, but a community or family of people who are showing faith to all they meet. Think of ways you can show kindness this week, especially to someone who you just met.

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 OPEN 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. 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 18—24, 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
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	Men’s Fellowship

Sunday, July 18, 2021