

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



*“The difficult thing is that vulnerability is the first thing I
look for in you and the last thing I’m willing to show you.
In you, it’s courage and daring. In me, it’s weakness.”*

- Brene Brown

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

August 8, 2021

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

I've Been in the Storm So Long

arr. David Kidwell

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

One: Ever Creating God, we gather to worship you,
as we seek to be renewed and restored, again.

**Many: God, you are our Quiet-Centre -
listen to our hopeful music and song this day.**

One: Healing God, we come together in our brokenness,
to call on you in your mercy, to make us whole again.

**Many: God, you are the One who makes us whole -
listen to our hopeful words and prayers this day.**

One: Foundational God, we come to praise and thank you!
In the depths of your Holy Being we find peace and inspiration.

**Many: God, you are our Beginning and our End -
we hope always in you.**

Let us pray:

Holy God, Creator of Life,
you call us out of our dark places,
offering us the grace of new life.
When we are fearful,
when we feel vulnerable,
when we see nothing but hopelessness,
you surprise us with the breath of your Spirit.
Call us out of our complacency and routines,
set us free from our self-imposed constraints,
and fill us with your Spirit of hope, joy, compassion, and peace.

May we feel your Spirit moving 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

O for a Closer Walk with God
verses 1, 2 and 4

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Kings 19:4-8

But Elijah went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

SERMON

"In Our Weakest Moments"

ANTHEM

For the Beauty of the Earth
Chancel Choir

John Rutter

JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYER

INVITATION TO OUR OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

As we offer our gifts and lives in this moment,
may we become imitators of you, Gracious God,
who holds nothing back from us,
but is generous and gracious with all that is yours.
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Epilogue

Gilbert Martin

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

*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 Rev. Nancy J.,
posted on her "wonderings through life and other such nonsense"*

<http://ruminari.wordpress.com/> ;

Thom Schuman, posted on Lectionary Liturgies.

<http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca>

*and © 2012 Joan Stott - "The Timeless Psalms" RCL Psalm Year B,
used with permission.*

The Lectionary texts for the next two weeks are:



August 15: 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14 and Psalm 111
Proverbs 9:1-6 and Psalm 34:9-14
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

August 22: 1 Kings 8:(1, 6, 10-11), 22-30, 41-43
and Psalm 84
Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18 and Psalm 34:15-22
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69

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

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

Meredith Dart

Wendy Valeri

Ministers to the World

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Director of Music

Organist/Accompanist

Liturgist

Bell Choir Director

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.

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 August include toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorants, shampoo and conditioner, bar soap, feminine hygiene products, diapers and wipes. 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!

Financial Summary

(as of June 30, 2021)

	YTD <u>Actual</u>	YTD <u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$67,695	\$75,290	\$(7,595)
Expenses	\$32,684	\$35,287	\$(2,603)
Net Income	\$35,011	\$40,003	\$(4,992)

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).

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 \(ccamherst.org\)](#) 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

August 8—14, 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
	7:00 p.m.	Diaconate
	7:00 p.m.	Trustees of the Facility
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting

Sunday, August 8, 2021 recorded