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

"The Gospel is for us a beckoning, a summons, always associated with transitive verbs like "leave," "come," "go," "follow" – the gospel is for us a movement, a pioneering adventure, leaving behind it a pathway along which institutions are constructed, renewed, replaced, and so on."

– Brian McLaren, *A New Kind of Christianity*

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

February 6, 2022 **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany** **10:00 a.m.**

GATHERING CHIMES
Let us be gathered in silence so that we may prepare to worship.

GREETING AND NOTICES OF PARISH LIFE

PRELUDE *Softly and Tenderly, Jesus is Calling* Will L. Thompson/ arr. Dale Wood

*CALL TO WORSHIP
One: Still Speaking God, wanderer of seashores and sidewalks,
Many: You call us.
One: Inviting us to sail out of our safe harbors,
Many: into the uncharted waters of faith,
One: to wander off from our predictable paths,
Many: to follow in the unpredictable footsteps of Jesus,
One: to leave the comfort of our homes and churches,
Many: and accompany you into the uncomfortable places we often avoid.
One: As we wander, with our sometimes chaotic, constantly uncertain lives,
Many: speak to us, Spirit of Love:
One: of that hope which is our anchor;
Many: of that peace which is our rock;
One: of that grace which is our refuge.
All: Hear us as we worship - in our words, prayers, and song!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION and THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)
Holy One,
You are the God who makes extravagant promises.
We relish your great promises of fidelity and presence,
Even when it comes in the midst of a hard, deep call.

You are the God who calls people like us,
and the long list of ordinary and extraordinary people before us,
who trusted the promise enough to follow.

So we give you thanks that you are a calling God,
who calls us to new places, dangerous places, unexpected places.
We pray that we may be among those who believe your promises
enough to respond to your call.

We pray in the name of the one who embodied your promise,
who lived your call, and who taught us to pray, saying.

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.

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 5:1-11

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

SERMON "Call Waiting"

ANTHEM *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*
Sara Phelps, soprano
Michael Havay, organ

JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYER
If you have a prayer to share, fill out a prayer card in your pew and place it in the "Joys and Concerns" plate at the back of the sanctuary. Ushers will bring the cards forward to the pastor during the Anthem.

ORGAN PRAYER RESPONSE

INVITATION TO OUR OFFERING

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)
Great Giving God, you call us to leave behind what holds us back and to follow you into something new. Sometimes we find your call challenging. We are comfortable where we are. May this act of giving be a gesture of our trust and our willingness to follow wherever you lead. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION
We welcome all people to join in receiving this sacrament. Children may participate at the discretion of their parents.

COMMUNION PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BREAKING OF THE BREAD, POURING OF THE CUP

CONSECRATING PRAYER

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP
The bread will be available at the door at the beginning of the service, and the juice will be served in the pews during Communion. The bread is gluten, dairy, and egg free. We will be invited to eat the bread and drink the juice together. After receiving communion, please return the empty wrappers and communion cups to the holders on the back of the pew.

Organ Meditation	*Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult*	William H. Jude/ arr. Dale Wood

COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (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	*Duke Street (Forth in Thy Name, O Lord)*	John Hatton/ arr. Wilbur Held

(*Indicates that those who are able may stand.)

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.

Worship Notes:

- Church school is available for children Pre-K through grade 7.
- Our church nursery is open, but not currently staffed, and is available when parents with young children feel the need for a quiet, safe space to go to during worship. A monitor is available to watch and listen to the service.
- Joys and Concerns may be written on the cards found on the small table as you entered the sanctuary. You are also welcome to submit your prayer request through our website in advance of the worship service.
- Offering plates can be found at the front and the rear of the sanctuary.
- Please join us in the community room for a time of fellowship after the worship service. Coffee and beverages are offered, and masks are required when not consuming beverages.
- In the event of an emergency, please remain seated until instructions have been given. An emergency plan is in place for the children in the church school.

The church office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 to 1:00 p.m., and available Monday through Friday by telephone 673-3231 and 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	Ministers to the World
Rev. Maureen R. Frescott	Senior Pastor
Rev. Katherine R. Kennedy	Associate Pastor
Sara L. Phelps	Director of Music
Michael Havay	Organist/Accompanist
Sue Ruggiero	Deacon in Charge
Patricia Bodan	Videographer

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Wendy Valeri	Bell Choir Director
Gretchen Davis	Interim Children's Coordinator

THE ROSE ON THE ALTAR is for Ada Jay Katherine Colrich, born January 24 to Sarah Richardson and John Colpitts. She is the granddaughter of Kathe and Craig Richardson.

LOOSE CHANGE OFFERING: For the next few weeks, Church School will be exploring and learning all about Heifer International (www.heifer.org). Heifer is an organization that provides livestock and environmentally sound agricultural training to improve the lives of those who struggle daily. They work in over 21 countries around the world and in the United States.

In the coming weeks the children will be participating in a coin collection challenge. Coins will be collected through February 20 and the donation will go towards buying livestock for families in need. If you or your family are interested in participating please contact Gretchen Davis at churchschool@ccamherst.org.

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-731944.

Portions of the liturgy are adapted from Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth: Prayers of Walter Brueggemann.

Financial Summary
(as of December 31, 2021)

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference
Income	$242,121	$251,476	$(9,355)
Expenses	$238,073	$236,352	$ 1,722
Net Income	$ 4,048	$ 15,124	$(11,077)

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).

HOME STARTER BATHROOM KIT DRIVE: Last May, with your generosity, we were able to assemble 20 essential bathroom kits for our Home Starter program but over the holidays we delivered our last kit. Individuals who are transitioning into their own living space often have very few possessions. Imagine moving into an apartment with nothing more than a few changes of clothes and other small things! The World Service team is hosting another 'Bathroom Kit Drive' during through Feb 20th. You can purchase items at a store of your choice, or use our Amazon Bathroom Kit List.

For more information visit https://www.ccamherst.org/homestarter/ or https://www.ccamherst.org/sos/.

SHARE FOOD PANTRY requests for February include canned fruit, flour, sugar, boxed cake mixes and baking supplies, coffee and tea, juice, and granola. 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!

DONATED ALTAR FLOWERS WELCOME: Flowers can be given to remember a loved one or to celebrate a special occasion. The donor arranges with a local florist to have their chosen flowers delivered, or can create their own arrangement and deliver it on Saturday. After the service they may take the flowers home or donate them to someone in need of some cheer. There are many openings in the coming months. Contact Andrea in the church office to schedule a Sunday.

The Lectionary texts for the next two weeks are:

February 13 Luke 6:17-26
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 20 Luke 15:1-3, 11-32
Creative Worship—Lead with Love
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

BEWARE OF FALLING SNOW AND ICE: It is that time of year again when we must remind everyone that snow and ice may fall from our roof at any time. Please use caution when in our driveway, and do not walk too close to the building.

CHURCH CLOSINGS DUE TO BAD WEATHER: As many know, New England weather is ever changing and at times can be quite unpredictable. In the case of bad weather and the need to cancel an in-person worship service, we will post an announcement on WMUR Channel 9 television, and on our website and Facebook page.

Of course, that doesn't mean you will miss out on Sunday morning worship. Our live streamed service will still be available for folks to tune to at 10:00 a.m. on our Facebook page, and we will continue to upload the recorded service by noon.

Our Church Calendar

February 6—12, 2022

Some 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	9:50 a.m.	Church School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship—Sanctuary
	11:30 a.m.	Small Group Ministry
Monday	10:00 a.m.	Woman's Association—Vestry
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Diaconate
	7:00 p.m.	Trustees of the Facility
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting
	4:00 p.m.	Communications
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir

Sunday, February 6, 2022