

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



*“So every day, I was surrounded by the beautiful, crying forth  
of the ideas of God—one of which was you.”*

—Mary Oliver

# THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

May 8, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Easter

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

*Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

Robert Williams/  
Anna Laura Page

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Are you lost?

**Many: Are you weary?**

One: Do you long for rest for your soul

**Many: and joy overflowing?**

One: Come!

**Many: Come and worship!**

One: Our God is like a hen who warms her eggs,

**Many: like a baker who turns flour and yeast into bread.**

One: Our God is like a shepherd who cares for us,

**Many: like a mother who feeds us at her table.**

One: Come!

**Many: Come let us worship God!**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION and THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

Holy God, we have come to worship you, you who loved us before we were yet born, who knows us even better than we know ourselves, whose presence never leaves us, and whose love never ceases. When we are overwhelmed by the gravity of the world, we can go to you to be calmed. When we are angry at the injustice of world, we can go to you to be buoyed for the fight. When we are overjoyed by the beauty of the world, we can go to you to celebrate. God of our lives, be with us in worship this day, as we bring our song, thought, and prayer to you. We pray this in the name of your Son, Jesus, 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.**

## CHILDREN'S TIME

### \*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

### THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 19: 23-30

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says,

"They divided my clothes among themselves,  
and for my clothing they cast lots."

And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfill the scripture), "I am thirsty." A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said, "It is finished." Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

### SERMON

"Let It Be"

Stephen Boczenowski

### ANTHEM

*For the Beauty of the Earth*  
Chancel Choir

John Rutter

### 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.*

### CHORAL RESPONSE

### SHARING OUR OFFERINGS

### OFFERTORY MUSIC

*I Danced in the Morning (Simple Gifts)*

J. Wayne Kerr

### \*DOXOLOGY (Tune: *From All That Dwell Below the Skies*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Amen.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

We give you thanks, O Lord, with all our heart. You have provided everything we need in your steadfast love. Now make us generous of hand, heart, and mind, as you are. Receive these offerings as our response to your great faithfulness, for the praise of Jesus' name. Amen.

\*HYMN

*All Creatures of Our God and King*  
verses 1-3 only

No. 455

\*COMMISSION AND BLESSING

\*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

\*POSTLUDE

*Christ the Lord is Risen Today (Llanfair)*

Robert J. Powell

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

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

# 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.
- Please remember to wear your nametag each Sunday, so that we may all greet our neighbors. If you do not have a permanent nametag, temporary nametags may be found inside the friendship registers. If you are in need of a new, permanent nametag, please see one of the deacons.
- Please join us in the community room for a time of fellowship after the worship service. Coffee and beverages are offered.
- 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](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 at [www.ccamherst.org](http://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. Katherine R. Kennedy

Stephen Boczenowski

Sara L. Phelps

Michael Havay

John Swanson

Art and Vicky Leknes

Mark Baddeley

Patricia Bodan

\*\*\*\*\*

Rev. Maureen R. Frescott

Wendy Valeri

Gretchen Davis

Ministers to the World

Associate Pastor

Lay Preacher

Director of Music

Organist/Accompanist

Deacon in Charge

Ushers

Liturgist

Videographer

Senior Pastor

Bell Choir Director

Interim Children's Coordinator

**CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING:** In accordance with the By-laws of the Congregational Church of Amherst, NH United Church of Christ, the call for the Annual Meeting is hereby made for Sunday morning, May 15, 2022, immediately following worship services.

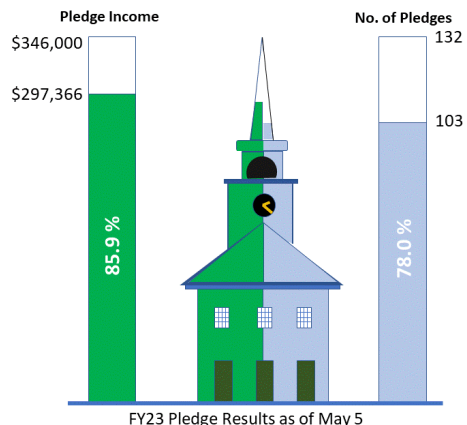
The meeting will be held in the community room at the church and also via Zoom. The items to be discussed and voted upon are as follows:

1. To hear and act upon the 2022-2023 church budget as presented.
2. To hear and act upon the Nominating Committee report.
3. To hear and act upon such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Your officers and council members look forward to your attendance and input at this important meeting. Childcare will be provided.

Copies of the 2021-2022 Annual Report can be found on the table in the narthex.

**FAITH PROMISE:** Our 2022-2023 fiscal year **Stewardship Campaign** is underway. As of Thursday, May 5, we have received pledges from 103 families, totaling \$297,366. Thank you 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](mailto:andrea@ccamherst.org), mail in your pledge intentions, call Andrea (673-3231) or go to the church website <https://www.ccamherst.org/stewardship-pledge/>



**100 ENVELOPES—A SHYG FUNDRAISER!**

This year’s Senior High Youth Group Mission Trip is in Austin, TX. From June 19-24, our SHYG will be working with an organization called Reach Beyond Mission, serving those facing food insecurity and learning all about the injustice of food insecurity in our country.

**You can help!** With rising inflation, this year’s trip will be a little bit pricier than trips past. The SHYG’s 100 Envelopes fundraiser launches TODAY. In the community room, you will find a bulletin board display of envelopes numbered 1 to 100. Think about how much you’d like to donate to the SHYG mission trip, and grab an envelope (or a combination of envelopes) with that number on it! Want to give \$35, but envelope #35 is taken? Get creative and snag envelopes #32 and #3!

Thank you so much for your support!

**WOMAN’S ASSOCIATION’S Annual Meeting and Potluck Salad Luncheon:**

WA members and friends are invited to attend our celebration of Spring and the year’s accomplishments on Monday, May 23rd at 10:30 a.m. in the vestry. We especially extend this invitation to those who made a donation, helped sort rummage items, or shopped at our rummage sale or holiday on-line auction. Our success is due to your support.

The brief meeting portion of the morning will include Adrienne’s Annual Report and Installation of Officers, followed by a potluck of delicious salads and desserts.

Please contact Claire Choiniere at 603-554-1987 or Claire.choiniere@yahoo.com to sign up and prevent a duplication of dishes.

**SHARE FOOD PANTRY**

requests for May include canned ham, canned meats, side dishes (seasoned pasta mix, hamburger helper, etc.), ravioli & beefaroni. 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!

**LEVI SUNDAY IS MAY 22:** Join us after worship and help us clean up our grounds. Projects include cleaning the parking lot of sand, cleaning church and parsonage flower beds and garden areas, general grounds clean up, spreading bark mulch. Bring tools for the jobs you’d like to help with. Many hands make light work!

**NURSERY COORDINATOR NEEDED:**

The position of Nursery Coordinator was created to provide consistent, quality care to children in our nursery during worship. This person may also provide care before and after worship for children through secondnd grade whose parents are involved in choir, worship preparation, or adult education programs.

The Nursery Coordinator, as a part time employee of the church, will be on site from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. each Sunday of the normal church schedule (10:00 a.m. worship). The position will pay \$15.50/hour. This position will start on Rally Sunday, September 11, 2022.

Applicants for this position should be 18 years of age or older.

If you have any questions about the position, Sue Werst is the CE Ministry Coordinator and the point person for this position.

**Financial Summary**

(as of March 31, 2022)

	YTD	YTD	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$327,019	\$337,104	\$(10,085)
Expenses	\$336,440	\$339,956	\$ (3,517)
Net Income	\$ (9,421)	\$ (2,853)	\$ (6,568)

*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).*

*Sunday, May 8, 2022*

## **Our Church Calendar**

**May 8—14, 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	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship
Monday	10:00 a.m.	Woman's Association
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 Team
	6:00 p.m.	Budget & Finance Team
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir