

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



*“Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that.
Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that.”*

— Martin Luther King Jr.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

May 15, 2022

Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:00 a.m.

Creative Worship—Be the Light

GATHERING CHIMES

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

GREETING AND NOTICES OF PARISH LIFE

PRELUDE

Prelude on "Shout On!" (I Know That My Redeemer Lives)

David Lasky

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We are called to be the salt of the earth.

Many: Preserving what is good, adding flavor to God's creation.

One: We are called to be the light of the world.

Many: Shedding love on all that we meet, bringing new vision to old traditions.

One: Come, let us be the salt of the earth,
the light of the world.

**Many: Come, let us love one another
and serve with the love of God.**

**All: Let us join together in our love of God
to worship and follow Jesus.**

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

Creator God, there is no part of life that you do not touch. You draw us in to your unending circle of love, adding flavor and vision to our lives. Help us to bring light into all the shadows of life, spreading hope for a better, more just world. Help us to bring salt into the blandness of life, encouraging vitality and joy by daring to hope for the future that you promise us: A future in which all your children will know themselves loved and valued and treasured, created in your image, bringing you glory forever. We pray all this in the name of 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

Matthew 5:13-16

'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

SERMON

"Be the Light (and the Salt)"

ANTHEM

Every Time I Feel the Spirit
Chancel Choir

William Dawson

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

Jesus Paid It All

John T. Grape/James Pethel

*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)

Holy God, accept this offering and the intent with which it was given. May it draw attention to you, to the richness you bring to all life and the abundance you share, inspiring us to go and do likewise – to share our gifts with the world. Amen.

*HYMN

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy

No. 430

*COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

*POSTLUDE

Festive Fanfare

James Mansfield

(*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.*

COVID-19 Protocols as of 4/2/22

Thank you for your ongoing patience as we navigate gathering as a community during this time of uncertainty. Here are the guidelines for in-person worship and using the church building:

- 1. Masking is optional throughout the church including worship, fellowship hour, church meetings, etc.*
- 2. Social distancing is optional in worship. Those who still prefer to keep a social distance while seated in the pews are encouraged to use the "Social Distancing Cards" (found at the back of the sanctuary) to create personal space.*
- 3. Friendship Registers are passed at the beginning of worship. We are no longer taking names at the door of the sanctuary.*
- 4. Offering plates are passed during worship.*
- 5. The Passing of the Peace will remain as it has been most recently: hug the one you're with and wave or share the "peace" sign with those around you.*
- 6. The choir is singing during worship, and we have reintroduced hymns to the service.*
- 7. During communion, bread and juice will be passed by the deacons throughout the congregation.*

If you have any questions about our COVID-19 protocols, please do not hesitate to reach out to a member of our reopening team or one of the pastors.

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. 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. Katherine R. Kennedy

Sara L. Phelps

Michael Havay

Sally Hooper

Fran Baddeley

Jack and Patricia Buben

Andrea Cyr

Ministers to the World

Associate Pastor

Director of Music

Organist/Accompanist

Deacon in Charge

Liturgist

Ushers

Videographer

Rev. Maureen R. Frescott

Wendy Valeri

Gretchen Davis

Senior Pastor

Bell Choir Director

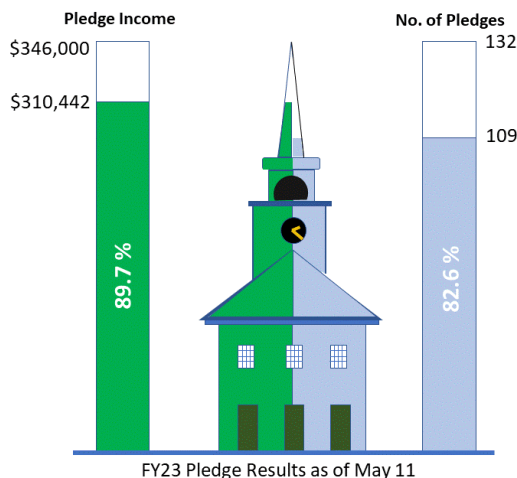
Interim Children's Coordinator

ANNUAL MEETING TODAY: After the worship service, please join us in the community room for the Annual Meeting, starting at 11:00 a.m. All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting; childcare will be provided. Copies of the 2021-2022 Annual Report can be found on the table in the narthex.

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!

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!

FAITH PROMISE: Our 2022-2023 fiscal year **Stewardship Campaign** is underway. As of Wednesday, May 11, we have received pledges from 109 families, totaling \$310,442. 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, 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.

LAWN MOWING TEAM: Our beautiful lawn needs attention! If you are able to be a part of the 'mowing team' please sign up either through our website or by contacting Tim Wiegand. It doesn’t take long and we would be most appreciative of your hard work! We will send you specific instructions in a confirmation email. Thank you!

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 April 30, 2022)

	YTD <u>Actual</u>	YTD <u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$350,939	\$368,146	\$(17,207)
Expenses	\$369,919	\$373,009	\$ (3,090)
Net Income	\$ (18,979)	\$ (4,863)	\$(14,116)

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 15, 2022

Our Church Calendar

May 15—21, 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.	Annual Meeting
	2:00 p.m.	Middle High Youth Group
	4:00 p.m.	Senior High Youth Group
Monday	10:00 a.m.	Woman's Association Board
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Christian Ed
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir
	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir