

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



*“Courage is the most important of all the virtues because without courage, you can't practice any other virtue consistently.”*

— Maya Angelou

# THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

June 5, 2022

Pentecost & Confirmation Sunday

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

*Veni Creator Spiritus*

plainchant/Robert Lau

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: When the day of Pentecost had come  
they were all together in one place.  
And suddenly from heaven there came a sound  
like the rush of a violent wind,  
and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.  
Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them,  
and a tongue rested on each of them.  
All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit.

All: **Come, Holy Spirit, blow us away.  
Fill the hearts of your faithful people,  
and kindle in us the fire of your love.**

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

Spirit of wind and fire, of the forces that move and change us, alight upon us as you did the apostles centuries ago. For all of the ways you speak to us – in rushing wind, in dancing flames, in words we understand, and in all that transcends language, we give thanks. Move, swirl, and dance among us. Remind us that you are always present: encouraging, luring, and inspiring us to be the loving people you created us to be. Stir us during this hour to walk humbly, embrace love, and do justice in our unjust and fragmented world. 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.**

## THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

### INVITATION

#### Confirmand

Zachary Elmer  
Phoebe Handwerk  
Ella Normandin  
Audrey Pyles  
Declan Pyles

#### Mentor

Bridget Thompson  
Kathleen Cashins  
Linda Donaldson  
Sara Phelps  
Dave Hagerstrom

### QUESTIONS OF COMMITMENT

#### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (compiled from the reflections of the confirmands)

We believe in you, oh God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify...

You created everything, watch over us, have a plan for us, and are all around us. You are a safe place to take our joys and our worries, and you move the world toward kindness.

Through your son Jesus, the man of Nazareth and our savior, you gave us a role model and connection to you. Through his life and death, Jesus taught us how to live selflessly, righteously, and lovingly.

We feel your presence all around us through the Holy Spirit. We recognize the Spirit in the people who love us, in small moments of beauty and kindness, and in big miracles.

You call us into your church to be a community, learn, ask questions, pray, find acceptance and peace, and grow closer to you.

You promise to always be there for us, listen when we talk with you, forgive us when we make mistakes, protect us and those we love during hard times, and celebrate with us during great times.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

### LAYING ON OF HANDS

#### CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT AND WELCOME (in unison)

We welcome you with joy in the common mission and life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as together we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of Jesus' ministry in the world.

### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION and THANKSGIVING

### GREETING AND PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES

#### \*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

"In the last days it will be, God declares,  
 that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
 and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
 and your young men shall see visions,  
 and your old men shall dream dreams.  
 Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
 in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
 and they shall prophesy.  
 And I will show portents in the heaven above  
 and signs on the earth below,  
 blood, and fire, and smoky mist.  
 The sun shall be turned to darkness  
 and the moon to blood,  
 before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.  
 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

SERMON

"That Pentecost Feeling"

ANTHEM

*Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove*  
 Sara Phelps, soprano  
 Michael Havay, piano

Joe Cox and Jody Lindh

## 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 RESPONSE

## INVITATION TO OUR OFFERING

## OFFERTORY MUSIC

*Holy Spirit, Light Our Darkness*

Robert J. Powell

## \*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)

Spirit of life, your vision for the world is more wonderful than anything we can imagine. May these gifts be a blessing that, and may that blessing multiply out to every place. Breathe in us again this day, that our whole lives may be an offering for your glory. 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

*Communion at CCA is open to anyone who would like to partake. When you receive the bread, eat at your own pace, symbolizing our individual relationship with God. When you receive the juice, drink with the whole congregation, symbolizing our communion as the Body of Christ. The bread is gluten, egg, and dairy free and the juice is non-alcoholic, so that there may be no barriers to Christ's table.*

ORGAN MEDITATION

*Consecrate My Life to Thee, O Lord*

John Dykes/Mark Roberts

*Prelude on "Trentham"*

Robert Jackson/David Lasky

COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison)

Spirit of Christ, you have blessed our tables and our lives. May the eating of this Bread and the drinking of this Cup give us courage to speak and act with love, not only in church sanctuaries, but out in your precious world. Wrap your hopeful presence around all whose bodies, spirits and hearts need healing, and may we become your compassionate and safe refuge for all. Amen.

\*HYMN

*On Pentecost They Gathered*

No. 128

\*COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

\*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

\*POSTLUDE

*Voluntary for a Festival*

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.*

*Portions of the liturgy have been adapted from  
the Rev. David Beswick, posted on the Re-Worship website.*

# 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 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

Sara L. Phelps

Michael Havay

Russ Demarest

Doug Topliffe

Ministers to the World

Associate Pastor

Director of Music

Organist/Accompanist

Deacon in Charge

Videographer

\*\*\*\*\*

Rev. Maureen R. Frescott

Wendy Valeri

Gretchen Davis

Senior Pastor

Bell Choir Director

Interim Children's Coordinator

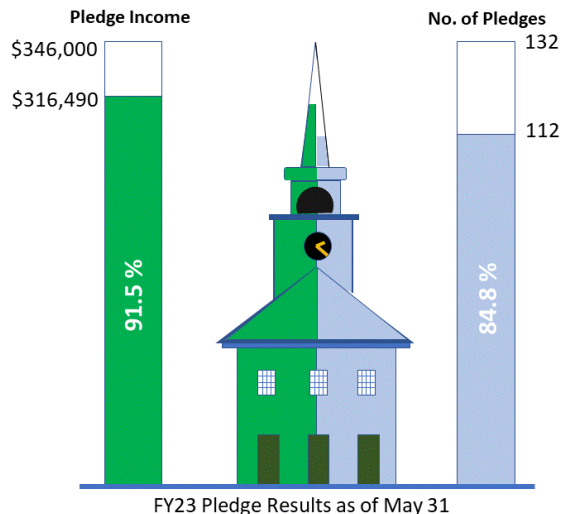
**NEXT SUNDAY is Children's Sunday:** Join us as we celebrate this past year's church school program. After worship, we have an ice cream social in the community room, along with a slide show from the Capital Campaign showing the projects over the last four years.

**STEPPING STONES:** On Monday, June 13, the Woman's Association will host a guest speaker, Kathy Farland, the Executive Director of *Stepping Stones*, an agency which serves homeless youths in Nashua. ([www.steppingstonesnh.org](http://www.steppingstonesnh.org))

The program will take place in the church vestry beginning at 10:15 a.m. All interested church members are welcome to attend.

**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!

**GARDEN FLOWERS:** Fresh cut garden flowers are lovely for simple altar arrangements during the summer. If you can provide a bouquet of cut flowers, or can simply contribute flowers for a bouquet, please contact Sue Stout or Andrea in the church office to schedule a Sunday. Thank you for sharing your flower gardens!





**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 second 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.

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

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** is currently looking for donations for our upcoming week of fun and adventure! If you would like to donate much needed items for our VBS please check out our Amazon Wish List at [www.ccamherst.org/sos/](http://www.ccamherst.org/sos/). Donations can be bought locally or online and should be delivered or dropped off to the church by August 7.

## Our Church Calendar

**June 5—11, 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
	11:15 a.m.	Parents Group
	11:30 a.m.	Small Group Ministry
	4:00 p.m.	Senior High Youth Group
Monday	10:00 a.m.	WA Workshop
Tuesday	1:30 p.m.	Small Group Ministry
	5:00 p.m.	Church Council
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting
	4:00 p.m.	Communications
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Congregational Care
Saturday	2:00 p.m.	Memorial Service for Carolyn Mitchell

### 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, June 5, 2022*

***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.*