

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



*“Hello, sun in my face. Hello you who made the morning
and spread it over the fields... Watch, now,
how I start the day in happiness, in kindness.”*

— Mary Oliver

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

June 26, 2022

Third Sunday after Pentecost

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

Let All Things Their Creator Bless

Alfred Fedak

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: How do we follow the Lord?

Many: By doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with God.

One: How do we follow Jesus?

Many: By putting down our nets—our own plans, agendas, and biases—and taking up the call of Jesus.

One: How do we follow the Spirit?

Many: By looking for the fruits of the Spirit within ourselves;

One: fruits like love, joy, peace, patience,

Many: kindness, generosity, faithfulness, and gentleness.

One: This is how we know we are being guided by God:

Many: When we can see the fruits of our service in our lives and the lives of others.

All: Let us worship our God, who teaches us how to live life fully and faithfully.

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

Holy and loving God, help us to center our hearts and minds for worship this morning. We come together as people who want to love you with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength. But every day there are so many other things that clamor for our attention. We can be distracted by our worries, and swayed by jealousy or anger. We can be weighed down by bitterness, and susceptible to the things that numb our pain. We yearn to hear your voice above all the other voices. We long to live with clarity and focus. And so, we ask that you make yourself known to us. Help us to recognize the presence of the Holy, here in worship and in every moment of our lives. Help us to become the people you want us to be. May your Spirit move 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.

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

SERMON

"Fruits of the Spirit"

ANTHEM

How Great Thou Art
Jean and Jim Gottwald, vocalists

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

SHARING OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Canticle of Faith

Fenton Groden

*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)
Loving God, may these gifts that we offer today be seeds that grow the fruits of your Spirit. Take them and plant them in the fertile soil of your vision for a healthy, thriving world. May they grow deep roots in our community, and produce a great harvest for the coming of your kingdom. We pray this in Jesus's name, amen.

*HYMN *For the Beauty of the Earth* No. 473

*COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

*POSTLUDE *Trumpet Tune on "Laudate Dominum"* C. Herbert H. Parry/
arr. David Lasky

(*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 on break for the summer. Young children are welcome to choose an activity from our **"A Child in Church" Basket** to bring to the pew with their families.
- 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.

The church office is available 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

Rev. Charlotte E. Y. Bell

Sara L. Phelps

Michael Havay

Russ Demarest

Linda Lannin, Bill Swift

Paul Schellenberg

Ministers to the World

Associate Pastor

Guest Preacher

Director of Music

Organist/Accompanist

Deacon in Charge

Ushers

Videographer

Rev. Maureen R. Frescott

Wendy Valeri

Gretchen Davis

Senior Pastor

Bell Choir Director

Interim Children's Coordinator

SUMMER WORSHIP TIME: A reminder, during the months of July and August our Sunday worship services begin at 9:00 a.m.

JULY 4 HELP WANTED: The Fellowship Team is looking for volunteers to donate unfrosted cookies, 2 per baggie. We especially need volunteers on July 4, 9:00 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. to pass out brochures and cookies as well as face painters/temporary tattoo applicators. Shifts start at 9:00, 10:15, and 11:30 so not a huge commitment! Youth welcome! Set up at 8:00 a.m. and take down help also needed. For details and to sign up please contact Carol at carollandon@gmail.com or text/call 603-494-7734 or contact Sue Werst 603-759-5344.

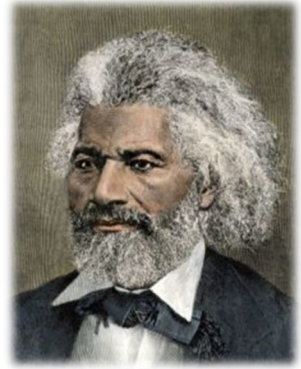
GARDEN FLOWERS: Fresh cut garden flowers are lovely for simple altar arrangements during the summer. If you can provide a bouquet of cut flowers, or can simply contribute flowers for a bouquet, please contact Sue Stout or Andrea in the church office to schedule a Sunday. Thank you for sharing your flower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

THE CHURCH IN THE VILLAGE, the historical booklet containing columns written by Anne Krantz, will be on sale after the service today and next Sunday - and also at the church table at the Amherst July 4th festivities. They are being sold for \$15 (cash or check made out to the church). They can also be obtained from Sue Spiess or Kay Steeves or ordered through the church website.

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!

Frederick Douglass Speech Event

Friday, July 1 at 12:00 p.m.



On July 5, 1852, Frederick Douglass, an abolitionist and heroic orator for liberty, delivered one of his most famous speeches in which he asked, “What to the slave is your Fourth of July?” In addressing an Independence Day observance in Rochester, New York, his speech was an indictment of an American idealism that ignored and accepted the inhuman treatment of enslaved African Americans as part of the country’s identity and economy. Ironically, even though Douglass’ words spoke directly to this moment in history, they still ring with an unsettling power today.

On Friday, July 1, 2022, CCA’s Racial Justice Group is hosting a reading of Douglass’ historic protest speech. The reading will take place on the steps of the church opposite the Village Green. Come and listen to part or all of the speech and then join us for refreshments and discussion in the Memorial Garden. The reading will begin at 12:00 noon.

Sunday, June 26, 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.