

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



“If you listen, you will hear what your heart would love to say.”

—John O’Donahue

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

July 24, 2022

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m.

GATHERING CHIMES

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

GREETING AND NOTICES OF PARISH LIFE

PRELUDE

*Prelude on "Evan"
(Lord, In Thy Presence, Here We Meet)*

William H. Havergal/
arr. Gerald Peterson

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Welcome to worship this day.

Many: We have come seeking peace and hope.

One: This is the house of the Lord. In it you will find what you seek.

Many: Help us to open our hearts to God's words and will for us.

One: Ask for God's help - it will be given to you.

Many: Praise be to God who loves and cares for us. AMEN.

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

Lord God, this week has been a gift and a challenge, a blessing, and a burden. Some things have happened just as we planned them, and other things were unwelcome surprises. We have responded to some difficulties with love and others with impatience. We have at times been graceful and kind, and at other times, turned our backs on those in need. We have been joyful, relaxed, organized. We have been stressed, pulled, pushed, tossed. Give us peace, Gracious Lord. Help us to slow down so that we can receive your healing word of love. Remind us that we stand in need of forgiveness, and then having received such love, we are to love and serve others. Teach us to pray for courage and strength; teach us how to be good disciples for you. In Christ's Name, we pray these words...

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 11:1-13

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.'

And he said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him." And he answers from within, "Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything." I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

'So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

SERMON

"Communion With God"

ANTHEM

The Call

Ralph Vaughn Williams

Sara Phelps, soloist

Michael Havay, piano

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

Where Charity and Love Prevail

Plainsong/
arr. Mark Roberts

*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)
Before you, O God, we offer our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service. We lay our gifts before you in praise and thanksgiving for your many blessings. May these offerings continue the transforming work of your Spirit in and through our congregation. Amen.

*HYMN *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* No. 343

*COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

*POSTLUDE *Trumpet Tune on "Lyons" (O Worship the King)* Joseph M. Kraus/
arr. Stephen L. Aber

(*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 today's service were adapted from
Worship Resources at Ministrymatters.com.*

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 memorial garden, weather permitting, following worship to welcome visitors and friends and enjoy refreshments.
- 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. Charlotte E. Y. Bell

Sara L. Phelps

Michael Havay

Sally Hooper

Peter Labombarde

Beth Secor

Patricia Bodan

Ministers to the World

Guest Pastor

Director of Music

Organist/Accompanist

Deacon in Charge

Liturgist

Usher

Videographer

Rev. Maureen R. Frescott

Rev. Katherine R. Kennedy

Wendy Valeri

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Bell Choir Director

THE CHURCH IN THE VILLAGE, the historical booklet containing columns written by Anne Krantz, is still available for purchase. They are being sold for \$15 (cash or check made out to the church), and can also be obtained from Sue Spiess or Kay Steeves, or ordered through the church website.

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!

SHARE FOOD PANTRY requests for July include pancake mix and syrup, condiments, cooking sauces and seasonings, cooking oils, jelly, and cold cereal. 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!

THE ROSE ON THE ALTAR is in celebration of the birth of Callum Noah Kennedy, son of Pastor Kate and her husband Rufy Kennedy. Callum was born on July 16.

Financial Summary

(as of May 31, 2022)

	YTD	YTD	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$374,956	\$396,688	\$(21,736)
Expenses	\$398,141	\$403,561	\$ (5,420)
Net Income	\$ (23,184)	\$ (6,873)	\$(16,311)

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 (Treasurer), Doug Topliffe and Todd Whitney.



Don't forget to register for Vacation Bible School 2022

Discovery on Adventure Island: Quest for God's Great Light!

Our island adventure will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on August 15-19. VBS is open to children from preschool to rising 5th grade. We will have daily snacks, crafts, science, games, songs, Bible stories, and more! Cost is \$25 per child with a family maximum of \$60.

But that's not all. Parents with infants and toddlers are invited to come join the fun in their own Parent and Me class.

You can sign up online at www.myvbs.org/CCAmherst. Once registration and payment are complete each family will receive their very own music CD!

For more information about Discovery on Adventure Island VBS contact Gretchen Davis at churchschool@ccamherst.org or visit our church's website at www.ccamherst.org



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.

Sunday, July 24, 2022