

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



*"Peace is not absence of conflict,
it is the ability to handle conflict by peaceful means."*

—Ronald Reagan

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

August 14, 2022

Tenth 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

I've Been in the Storm So Long

African-American spiritual/
arr. David Kidwell

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Please stand in body or in spirit.

One: The One who commands the clouds
calls us to be poured out for others.

**Many: May we be the waters of peace
which quench the fires of conflict.**

One: The One who creates mercy and hope,
longs for a world of fair play and grace.

**Many: May we allow compassion and
justice to be our constant companions.**

One: The One who is with us in every moment
composes a love-song for our hearts.

**Many: May we strive to sing this song
to everyone we meet.**

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

The congregation may be seated.

Gracious God,
in the weeds and thickets of the world,
you clear a place where we can plant.

Help us to plant your justice
which can bring hope to the hopeless.

Help us to plant your compassion
so we might receive even our enemies
in peace.

Brother Jesus and Sister Spirit:
you break up the stony ground of our hearts,
so grace might be planted.

Take us by the hand
and lead us through the trials of division;
So we might stand together
as one community of Creation.

May we feel your presence now, Calling God, 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

Luke 12:49-56

“I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain’; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat’; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

SERMON

“The Price of Peace”

ANTHEM

In The Garden
Sara Phelps, soloist
Michael Havay, organ

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

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

George C. Stebbins/
arr. James Southbridge

*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)

As you share your blessings with us, Gracious God, you show great faith that we will use them wisely and offer them generously to others. So, by faith, may our gifts bring food to the hungry, healing to the broken, hope to the despairing, and joy for all. This we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

*HYMN

In Christ There Is No East or West

No. 440

*COMMISSION AND BLESSING

*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

*POSTLUDE

A Mighty Fortress

Martin Luther/
arr. David Cherwien

(*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
Lectionary Liturgies, <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.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. Maureen R. Frescott

Sara L. Phelps

Michael Havay

Sue Ruggiero

Sally Hooper

Paul Schellenberg

Ministers to the World

Senior Pastor

Director of Music

Organist/Accompanist

Deacon in Charge

Liturgist

Videographer

Rev. Katherine R. Kennedy

Wendy Valeri

Larissa Riley

Associate Pastor

Bell Choir Director

Church School Coordinator

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is looking for some extra hands to help decorate the sanctuary. If you are available please stay after worship today to help hang palm trees, mountains, flowers, bamboo, waterfalls, lighthouses and much much more!! See Gretchen Davis for details.

END OF SUMMER PARTY: Save the date of Sunday, **August 28** and join us for some end of summer fun at the Dart family's lake house on Baboosic Lake in Amherst. The Darts will provide burgers, hot dogs and corn. Please bring a side dish, a salad, or a dessert, and your own beverages. Questions? Contact Meredith Dart (meredith.dart@astellas.com or 603-305-9066).

SHARE FOOD PANTRY requests for August include toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorants, shampoo and conditioner, bar soap, feminine hygiene products, diapers and wipes. 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!

DO YOU HAVE A GARDEN CART you are no longer using? Our gardener could use one in good condition. Please contact Sue Stout.

CLOTHING DONATIONS BEING ACCEPTED: The Woman's Association Good Stuff Sale (formerly Rummage Sale) is back! The September sale will feature clothing (for men, women and children), shoes, handbags, jewelry, and linens spread across two rooms. During August the WA is seeking donations of clothing and the other items included above, which can be dropped off in the designated area in the Vestry Sunday mornings, starting August 7, Monday mornings, August 22 and 29, or by arrangement with Sally Bowkett.

Clothing should be clean and in good condition. Please sort items and label bags to indicate whether they contain clothing for men, women, teens or children, linens, etc.

Questions? Contact Sally Bowkett at sbb46@hotmail.com or 603-801-9267, or Alicia Wight (wightalicia@gmail.com).



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



Our Church Calendar

August 14—20, 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	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:00 a.m.	Fellowship
Monday through Friday	9:00 a.m.	Vacation Bible School

Sunday, August 14, 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.