

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



*“Continue to speak out against all forms of injustice to
yourselves and others, and you will set a mighty example for
your children and for future generations.”*

— Bernice King

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

October 16, 2022

Nineteenth 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

*Fanfare Prelude on "St. Thomas"
(I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord)*

Aaron Williams/
Douglas E. Wagner

INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Please stand in body or in spirit.

One: We dare to dream of a world
in which hunger is unknown,
where everyone has a home,
and everyone has a place at the table.

**Many: We dare to dream of a world
in which greed is unknown,
where generosity is the norm,
and there is more than enough for all.**

One: We dare to dream of a world
in which bigotry is unknown,
where compassion is the first response,
and where love rules all hearts.

**All: We dare to dream.
We dare to pray.
We dare to believe.
We dare to let God lead the way!**

*HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

No. 263

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

The congregation may be seated.

God of love and grace,
we gather before you as your community
to offer our thanks and praise
and to proclaim your goodness and mercy.
Meet us here.
Breathe your Word into our souls;
Engrave your covenant upon our hearts -
 your hopes, your dreams,
 your vision, your peace -
that our hearts might beat
as one with yours.

We come to you in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray to you using 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.

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and Holy Spirit, One;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

ANTHEM

As a Song Among the Trees
Chancel Choir

Joseph Martin

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 18:1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

SERMON

“Someone’s Praying, Lord, Kumbaya”

*HYMN

Kum ba Yah

No. 338

JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYER

If you have a prayer to share, fill out a prayer card in your pew. Cards will be collected by one of the pastors during the hymn after the sermon, and will be shared during Joys and Concerns.

CHORAL RESPONSE

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

I Have No Help But Thee

James Langram/Lani Smith

*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)

For the abundance of your love and grace, which rescues and revives us, O God, we are most grateful. We present here practical expressions of thanksgiving – our time, our money, our energy, our talents - to extend your purposes in the world. May this offering scatter seeds of justice and mercy and kindness in life-changing ways. May we be good and loving neighbors to all. Amen.

*HYMN

Live Into Hope

No. 332

*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

*COMMISSION AND BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE

A Charge to Keep I Have

Lowell Mason/Dan R. Edwards

(*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 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 in the pews and 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. Maureen R. Frescott

Sara L. Phelps

Michael Havay

Russ Demarest

Kathy Skoglund

Tim Wiegand

Patricia Bodan

Ministers to the World

Senior Pastor

Director of Music

Organist/Accompanist

Deacon in Charge

Liturgist

Usher

Videographer

Rev. Katherine R. Kennedy

Wendy Valeri

Larissa Riley

Associate Pastor

Bell Choir Director

Church School Coordinator

NEW MEMBERS AND VISITORS INFO

SESSIONS: Are you NEW (or not-so-new) to our church and interested in learning more about our congregation? Are you interested in learning more about becoming a member? Do you want to know more about the UCC? If so, please join us for one of our info sessions on either Wednesday, October 26 or Thursday, November 3 at 7:00 p.m. to learn more about all of the above!

For those who've already joined our mailing list and/or inquired about becoming a member, you'll be hearing from us soon! If you've joined us for our in-person or online worship over the last year and are interested in attending one of our info sessions please reach out to Andrea in our church office at andrea@ccamherst.org or 673-3231, or contact Pastor Maureen at pastormaureen@ccamherst.org

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

LEVI SUNDAY is November 6 after worship: We have planned a number of outdoor activities, including raking and general lawn and grounds clean up. Please bring your own rake and tools to help accomplish the jobs you would like to help with. Many hands make light work!

Financial Summary

(as of September, 2022)

	YTD <u>Actual</u>	YTD <u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$142,642	\$150,976	\$ (8,334)
Expenses	\$142,931	\$145,147	\$ (2,216)
Net Income	\$ (289)	\$ 5,829	\$ (6,118)

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.

RAFFLE BASKET DONATIONS NEEDED:

Raffle baskets will once again be featured at the Woman's Association's Holiday Fair on November 19th. Items are needed to fill both the Chocolate Lovers and Made in NH baskets. Anyone who would like to help out by donating a quality chocolate item or a product crafted in NH, (we already have maple syrup), can leave their donation in either the church office or at the Monday Morning Workshop by November 6th. The baskets will be assembled on Monday, November 7th at 10:00 in the vestry. All are welcome to attend and help out with this project. Contact Alicia Wight at wightalicia@gmail.com or 603-345-0155 with any questions about Raffle Basket donations.

SEEKING CHURCH SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS:

Do you enjoy working with children? Consider becoming a volunteer for our Church School program. We are looking for adults that can volunteer 1-2 times per month during worship on Sundays to assist our Church School Coordinator and Christian Education team. Volunteers will NOT need to prepare lessons or manage a class on their own. Background checks are required and training will be provided. Please contact Larissa Riley with any questions.

WEDNESDAY MORNING ADULT ED

continues on October 19 with the series *Understanding the New Testament*. Why do we have four Gospels? Why do they contradict each other at times? What was the purpose of Paul's letters? What is the Book of Revelation really about? Over the next several months, we'll take a look at the New Testament through this 24-part video lecture series produced by the Great Courses. We'll watch the video together as a group and then have a discussion facilitated by Pastor Maureen. All are welcome, and more information can be found on our website and in the *Spire*.

Come Sing with Us!



Would you like to sing in our Youth Choir? This group, led by Mrs. Phelps, will meet in the vestry after church school on Sundays. Open to all ages! Grab a snack in the community room and come join us!

TRICK OR TREAT IS ON this year, and we will be handing out candy to all the trick-or-treaters in the village. **Candy donations needed**; please donate bags of fun-size treats by October 31. Thank you!

Our Church Calendar

October 16—22, 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
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship
	11:15 a.m.	Youth Choir
	11:15 a.m.	Christian Ed
	4:00 p.m.	Senior High Youth
Group		
Monday	10:00 a.m.	WA Workshop
	10:00 a.m.	Wednesday AM Adult Ed Series
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir
	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir
Saturday	11:00 a.m.	Memorial Service for Bruce Beckley

Sunday, October 16, 2022

Neighbors In Need helps make *A Just World for All* possible:

*"Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields,
which you kept back by fraud are crying out against you..."*

— James 5:4

Neighbors in Need is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion. Grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. In 2022, the Neighbors in Need "BEHOLD!" offering focuses on economic justice. With inflation impacting all of our households, we wanted to provide a way to discuss this topic through a faith lens. For more information visit our SOS page: <https://www.ccamherst.org/sos/>.

This appeal will run for the month of October. To donate, visit the Online Giving page on our website (in the Missions text box please type NIN) or send a check to the church office (11 Church St. Amherst NH 03031) with Neighbors In Need in the memo line.

COVID-19 Protocols (as of 4/2/2022)

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.