

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



*"I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I--  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference."*

—Robert Frost

# THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

April 23, 2023

Third Sunday of Easter

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

*Thine Be the Glory*

G.F. Handel/Lani Smith

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.*

Leader: We are God's household, crafted by the Architect of creation:

**People: our hearts a shelter for the outcast; our hands open to the stranger.**

Leader: We are God's people, created in the divine image:

**People: to tell others of God's love, to offer mercy as freely as we have received it.**

Leader: We are God's children, called to give of ourselves:

**People: chosen to serve the lost and lonely, gifted to minister to a hurting world.**

Leader: We are followers of Christ, commissioned to serve in his name:

**People: we are an Easter people, believing that through us,  
God makes all things new!**

### \*HYMN

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

No. 150

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

*The congregation may be seated.*

Wondrous God,  
you are present with us when we do not know it,  
you value us when we do not value ourselves,  
you plant in us the seed of your word,  
even when the soil of our hearts is unyielding.  
Open our eyes to recognizing you here.  
May we sense your presence next to us.

May we hear your voice.  
May we know your touch.  
May we see you in our neighbor and the stranger,  
and in the beauty all around us.  
May your love emerge deep within each of us,  
transforming our thoughts and deeds  
and all our relationships.

We pray in the name of the Risen Jesus who taught us to say:

**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**

*Abide With Me, 'Tis Eventide*  
Michael Havay, piano

Harrison Millard/  
Rachel P. Mohlman

**THE SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

SERMON

"The Road Less Traveled By"

\*HYMN

*Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?*

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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.*

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT and OFFERING INVITATION

Dave Hagerstrom

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*Saw Ye My Savior?*

Ellen Jane Lorenz

\*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 hospitality of your good earth, for the people you have given us to love, for the tasks you have called us to do, we give thanks, gracious God. Our offerings are a measure of our faith and evidence of our gratitude. We dedicate ourselves with our gifts, that your reign of light may be realized in the places where we live and work and far beyond our personal reach. Amen.

\*HYMN

*We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight*

No. 399

\*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

\*COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

*I Know That My Redeemer Lives*

John Hatton/  
Michael Burkhardt

*(\*Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.)*

# Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

539

Richard Gillard, 1977; alt.

Rom. 12:9-18; Col. 1:24-29

1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as Christ to you?  
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - elers on the road;  
3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shad - ow of your fear;  
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.  
5 When we sing to God in heav - en we shall find such har - mo - ny,

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant, too.  
We are here to help each oth - er go the mile and bear the load.  
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.  
I will share your joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.  
Born of all we've known to - geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

(repeat stanza 1)

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The system ends with a repeat sign and the instruction "(repeat stanza 1)".

Richard Gillard was born in England and later made his home in New Zealand. Largely self-taught, Gillard has described his musical style as "folk." This is the best known of his many songs in the United States.

Tune: SERVANT SONG 8.7.8.7.  
Richard Gillard, 1977  
Arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham, 1977; adapt.

# 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 this week due to school vacations. We resume next Sunday.
- 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. 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 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](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 WORSHIP SERVICE

Members and Friends of The Congregational Church

Rev. Maureen R. Frescott

Rev. Katherine R. Kennedy

Michael Havay

Gail Wiegand

Peter Labombarde

Alvin and Heidi Fortune

Deb Boczenowski

Patricia Bodan

Ministers to the World

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Organist/Accompanist

Deacon in Charge

Liturgist

Ushers

Greeter

Videographer

**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, May 3 or Thursday, May 11 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom 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](mailto:andrea@ccamherst.org) or 673-3231, or contact Pastor Maureen at [pastormaureen@ccamherst.org](mailto:pastormaureen@ccamherst.org).

**ANNUAL MEETING:** Save the date! This year's annual meeting will be on Sunday, May 21 after worship. All members are encouraged to attend; child care will be available.

**LEVI SUNDAY IS MAY 7:** Wear your work clothes to church and join us after worship for our annual spring cleaning day. We have our usual spring projects such as yard clean up, spreading mulch and sweeping/cleaning the parking lot. We also have some fallen trees that need taking care of, the front walk needs weeding, and the parsonage picket fence could use a paint touch up. Bring your own tools for the jobs you want to tackle. Many hands make light work!

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING,** as part of Our Churches Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. OGHs also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response. You can donate online on our church website (please put OGHs in the memo line) or use the pew envelopes, or send a check to Andrea with OGHs in the memo line. Thank you for your caring and generous donations!

*Permission to podcast/stream the music  
in this service obtained from One License  
with license #A-731944.*

## WA GOOD STUFF SALE on April 28 & 29:

This event is both a modest fundraiser for the Woman's Association's charities and a service to the community. It enables church members and others in the community to recycle no longer needed clothing and household items, and it provides these items at very low prices, enabling local community members, including many low-income residents, to shop to meet family needs. The WA is still accepting donations (see the website or any WA member for information on what can be donated).

During the days leading up to the sale (April 25-27), help will be needed with sorting of donated clothing and setting up the Community Room. Help is needed at the sale, particularly on Friday, April 28. Help will also be needed on Saturday at noon to bag leftover items and transport leftovers to Goodwill and to the Ecosmith Recycling container.

Please contact Sally Bowkett (603-673-7409 or [sbb46@hotmail.com](mailto:sbb46@hotmail.com)) or Alicia Wight (603-345-0155) to volunteer to help or with any questions.

## AMHERST TOWN-WIDE CLEAN UP DAY:

Join us as CCA participates in the Amherst Town-Wide Clean-Up Day on Saturday, May 6 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.! Our assigned clean-up location is Horace Greeley Rd. (beginning at Austin Rd). Meet at the church to carpool or meet us there. Trash bags and gloves will be provided by the town at the church and on-site. Filled bags will be dropped off on the town green. CCA is proud to be a co-sponsor this year and all are welcome to participate!

**SHARE FOOD PANTRY** requests for April 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!



## Kentucky Derby Social

Wear your favorite derby hat/attire and join us on Saturday, **May 6** at 5:30 p.m. for this fun annual event, hosted by Sue and Bruce Manchester along with the Fellowship team. All generations are welcome and if weather cooperates we will have bubbles and yard games for the kiddos. This is a potluck style event: last names A-L please bring a side dish or a salad; M-Z please bring an appetizer or dessert. BYOB.

Please RSVP to Meredith Dart: email [meredith.dart@astellas.com](mailto:meredith.dart@astellas.com), or via text or call (603) 305-9065.

## Our Church Calendar

**April 23—29, 2023**

Some events are taking place virtually.

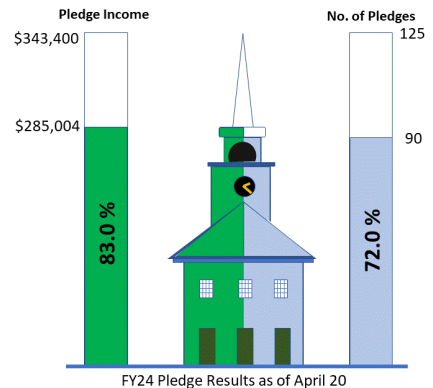
Links are sent out directly by email, and a list of recurring meetings with their links can be found in the member section of our website.

Today	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship
Monday	10:00 a.m.	WA Workshop
	7:00 p.m.	World Service
Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	Memorial Service for Jim Miller
	7:00 p.m.	Racial Justice Group
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir
Friday	4:00 p.m.	Good Stuff Sale
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Good Stuff Sale



# Updated Results of Our Faith Promise Stewardship Campaign

Our 2023-2024 fiscal year **Stewardship Campaign** is underway. Thank you to all that have responded so far. To those who are still considering your pledge, you can email your intents to Andrea at [andrea@ccamherst.org](mailto:andrea@ccamherst.org), mail in your pledge intentions, call Andrea (673-3231) or go to the church website <https://www.ccamherst.org/stewardship-pledge/>.



*Patricia Ansdell*  
*Mark & Fran Baddeley*  
*Cynthia Baker*  
*Alison Batey*  
*Ken & Charlotte Bell*  
*Steve & Deb Boczenowski*  
*Patricia Bodan*  
*Jessica & Joao Bortolotto*  
*Sally Bowkett*  
*Jack & Pat Buben*  
*Carole Byatt*  
*Claire Choiniere*  
*Robert & Sydney Conti*  
*Colleen Cushing*  
*Obadiah & Meredith Dart*  
*Camille Davis*  
*Tyler & Gretchen Davis*  
*Russell & Sandra Demarest*  
*Susan Deschenes & Fred Dyke*  
*Cynthia Dokmo*  
*Judi Dunbar*  
*William & Joan Dunn*  
*Greg & Jennifer Eccleston*  
*Stephen Egbertson*  
*Joan Egbertson*  
*Alvin & Heidi Fortune*  
*Maureen Frescott*  
*Andre & Nancy Gagnon*  
*Edith Gambee*  
*Sheryl Gottwald*  
*Patricia Harris*

*Michael Havay*  
*Leona Hendrickson*  
*John & Linda Herrin*  
*Scott & Sally Hewett*  
*Susan & Don Holden*  
*Roger & Sally Hooper*  
*Kelly & Stephen Isaacs*  
*Kathy Johnson*  
*Wilene Knight*  
*Rosmarie Krosch*  
*Peter & Irene Labombarde*  
*Keith & Gail Lammers*  
*Linda Lannin*  
*Arthur & Victoria Leknes*  
*Elizabeth Levesque*  
*Donald & Carol Lyon*  
*Heather MacDonald & William Dallas*  
*Elizabeth MacMillan & Hamilton Stewart*  
*Bruce & Susan Manchester*  
*Ingrid Michaelis*  
*Gail Miller and Lee Bowley*  
*Howell Mitchell*  
*Avis Moller*  
*Mary Moore*  
*Judy Peterson*  
*David & Sara Phelps*  
*David & Joan Poltack*  
*Nancy & Daniel Protzmann*  
*Chris & Gretchen Pyles*

*Craig & Katherine Richardson*  
*Anne Riehl*  
*Travis & Larissa Riley*  
*Robert Rowe*  
*Susan Ruggiero*  
*Carol St. Jean*  
*Vic & Carolin Sanchez*  
*Paul & Maggie Schellenberg*  
*Kelly & Casey Schmidt*  
*Beth Secor*  
*Emil & Kathryn Skoglund*  
*Paul & Susan Spiess*  
*Richard & Kathleen Steeves*  
*Sean & Ann Stevenson*  
*Richard & Susan Stout*  
*Audrey & Marshall Strickland*  
*John & Anita Swanson*  
*William Swift*  
*Kate & Keith Thompson*  
*Holly Tonnesen*  
*Jean Tonnesen*  
*Douglas & Adrienne Topliffe*  
*Sally & Michael Varanka*  
*Charles & Rolinda Vars*  
*Martha Warren*  
*Thomas & Susan Werst*  
*Todd & Jennifer Whitney*  
*Tim & Gail Wiegand*  
*Alicia Wight*  
*Ken & Barbara Wolfe*  
*Jodi Woroski & Gwenael Busnel*

## Congregational Church of Amherst Fundraiser



Ecosmith Recyclers Inc. and Congregational Church are proud to partner in hosting a fundraising clothing and shoe drive.

Raise money to support your local church by donating new or used articles of clothing, pairs of shoes, and household textiles.



# CLOTHING & SHOE DRIVE

### WHAT TO DONATE

- Shirts
- Jeans
- Pants
- Shorts
- Sweaters
- Jackets
- Socks
- Dresses
- Skirts
- Bed linen
- Purses
- Backpacks
- Hats
- Scarves
- Belts
- Sneakers
- Sandals
- Dress Shoes
- Boots
- Towels

PLEASE BAG SHOES AND CLOTHING  
SEPARATELY

### WHEN

**April 28<sup>th</sup> through May 12<sup>th</sup>**

### WHERE

**Meeting Place Plaza**

**199 Route 101, Amherst, NH**

### CONTACT

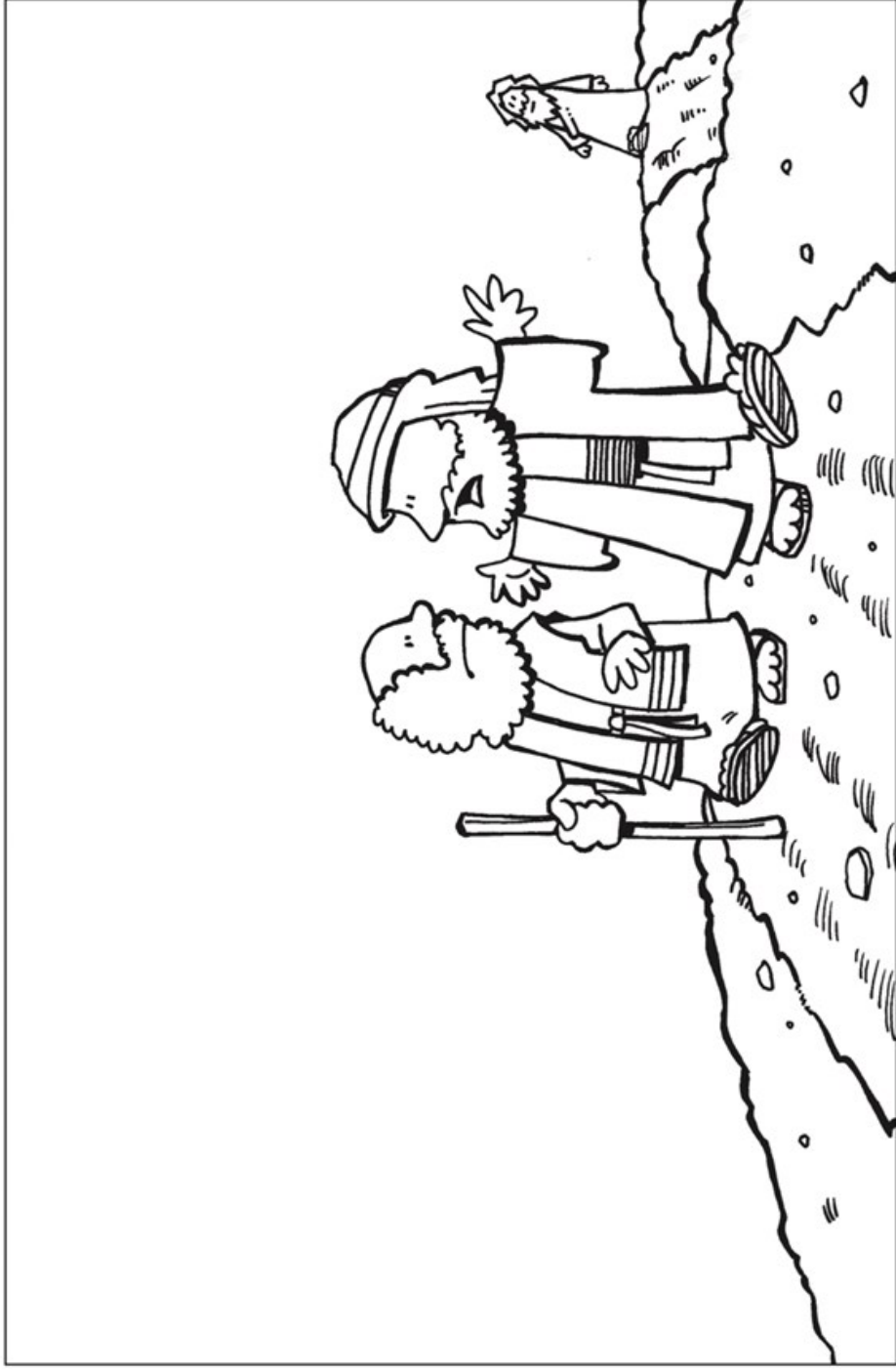
**Colleen Cushing**

**colleencushing54@gmail.com**

All collected material is destined for export to less advantaged persons in developing nations around the world.

**info@ecosmithrecyclers.com • 11 Byam Road, New Boston, NH 03070 • 603-647-1088**

# The Road to Emmaus



Three days after Jesus died, Cleopas and his friend were slowly walking down the road.  
After a while, a stranger began to walk along with them.

*Sunday, April 23, 2023*