

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



*“I play the notes as they are written,
but it is God who makes the music.”*

— Johann Sebastian Bach

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

May 21, 2023

Creative Worship—Singing

10:00 a.m.

Music Sunday

GATHERING CHIMES

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

GREETING AND NOTICES OF PARISH LIFE

PRELUDE

*Prelude on “Engelberg”
(When in Our Music God is Glorified)*

Charles V. Stanford/
James Pethel

INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP and PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Please rise as you are able in body or spirit.

One: O Divine Voice,
You sing and the universe comes into being;

Many: **O Divine Breath,
You breathe and all things spring to life;**

One: O Divine Word,
You call and creation continues to sing;

Many: **O Divine Flesh,
You are born among us,
and the Creator is clothed in creation;**

One: O Divine Spirit,
You fill all that has been created with music;

Many: **O Divine Life,
You are the symphony of all that is.**

All: **And so, in amazement and awe, in wonder and celebration
we marvel at this mystery, O God:
In you all things live and move and have being,
In all things, you live and move and express your Divine artistry;
And so we join with creation
in the eternal song of worship and wonder...
Be with us now, in this hour, and always.**

*HYMN

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

No. 150

CHILDRENS' TIME

He's Got the Whole World
Children's Choir

OUR COVENANT WITH NEW MEMBERS

Invitation to our New Members:

Charlotte Bell

Ken Bell

Robin Clark

Eric Dobertstein

Kara Dobertstein

Sheryl Gottwald

Katie Henderson

Kelly Isaacs

Stephen Isaacs

Bruce Kinney

Regina Kinney

Lawrence Spector

Questions of Commitment

*Congregational Covenant and Welcome (in unison)

We welcome you with joy in the common mission and life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as together we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of Jesus' ministry in the world.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Greeting and Presentation of Certificates

ANTHEM

Swinging with the Saints
Chancel Choir

Mark Hayes

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalm 150

Praise God for God's mighty deeds; praise God for God's excellent greatness!

Praise God with trumpet sound; with lute and harp!

Praise God with tambourine and dance; with strings and pipe!

Praise God with clanging cymbals; with loud clashing cymbals!

Let everything that breathes praise God!

Ephesians 5:18-20

Be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to God in your hearts, giving thanks to God at all times and for everything in the name of Jesus Christ.

Psalm 98:1, 4-8

O sing to God a new song, for God has done marvelous things.
Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
Sing praises to God with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before our mighty God.
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.
Let the waves clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy.

2 Chronicles 5:13

The trumpeters and musicians joined in unison to give praise and thanks to God. Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals and other instruments, the singers raised their voices in praise to God and sang:
“God is good; God’s love endures forever.”

Psalm 40:1-3

I waited patiently for God;
God inclined to me and heard my cry.
God lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay;
and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.
God put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.

MEDITATION

“Make a Joyful Noise”

*HYMN

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

inside back pages

JOYS AND CONCERNS and THE LORD’S 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.

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.

CHORAL RESPONSE

SHARING OF OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Abounding Joy
Bell Choir

Dan Edwards

*SONG OF DEDICATION (Tune: *Lobe den Herren*)

Sing praise to God, who has shaped and sustains all creation!
Sing praise my soul, in profound and complete adoration!
Gladsome rejoice – organ and trumpet and voice – joining God’s great congregation.
Sing praise my soul, the great name of your high God commending.
All that have life and breath join you, their notes sweetly blending.
God is your light! Soul, ever keep this in sight: Amen, Amen never ending!

*HYMN

When the Morning Stars Together

No. 486

*COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

One: We go from this place, speaking of what God has done.

Many: Reminding everyone that God loves us, always.

One: We go from this place, singing of what God is doing.

**Many: Rejoicing that God is singing with us,
making us one with each other and with Creation.**

One: We go from this place, imagining what God will do.

**Many: Witnessing to that hope which sometimes seems distant,
yet is as close to us as our hearts.**

All: We go, making a joyful noise! Amen!

*CHORAL and BELL RESPONSE

Irish Blessing

*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

*POSTLUDE

Toccata on “Hymn of Joy”

Ludwig van Beethoven/
Grimoaldo Macchia

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

*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. 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 WORSHIP SERVICE

Members and Friends of The Congregational Church
Rev. Maureen R. Frescott
Rev. Katherine R. Kennedy
Sara L. Phelps
Michael Havay
Wendy Valeri
Kathleen Bouchard
Fran Baddeley
Kathy Johnson, Avis Moller
Patricia Bodan

Ministers to the World
Senior Pastor
Associate Pastor
Director of Music
Organist/Accompanist
Bell Choir Director
Deacon in Charge
Greeter
Ushers
Videographer

LEADING OUR CHURCH SCHOOL TODAY

Larissa Riley
Gretchen Davis, Sarah Merrigan
Dave Hagerstrom

Church School Coordinator
Teachers, Preschool to Elementary
Teacher, Grades 5 to 7

WOMAN'S ASSOCIATION'S Annual Meeting and Potluck Salad Luncheon: WA members and friends are invited to attend our celebration of Spring and the year's accomplishments on Tuesday, May 23rd at 10:30 a.m. in the vestry. For generations the WA has been a contributor to our church and community, and for generations our friends and church family have been by our side helping us reach our goals. Our success is due to your support, so please come and share our joy!

The brief meeting portion of the morning will include Adrienne's Annual Report and Installation of Officers, followed by a potluck of delicious salads and desserts.

Please contact Judi Dunbar at (603) 673-2823 or judidunbar@aol.com to sign up and prevent a duplication of dishes.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL: Join us after the Children's Sunday worship on June 4 for our annual ice cream social, when we'll celebrate the end of the church school year. The Fellowship Team welcomes donations to offset costs, \$3 for individuals / \$10 for families.

Financial Summary

(as of April 30, 2023)

	YTD	YTD	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$377,284	\$361,724	\$15,560
Expenses	\$382,472	\$385,593	\$ (3,121)
Net Income	\$ (5,187)	\$ (23,869)	\$18,682

Numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole dollar; as such, some columns may not appear to total correctly.

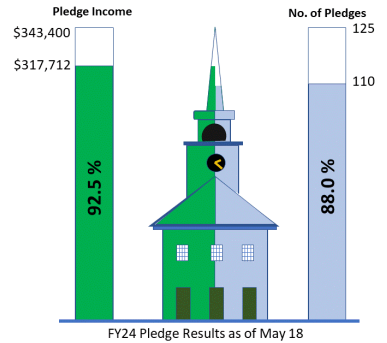
We hope you are finding this information helpful. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to anyone on the Finance Team: Keith Lammers, Paul Spiess (Treasurer), Doug Topliffe, Todd Whitney and Tim Wiegand.

Make a Joyful Noise to God!



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, mail in your pledge intentions, call Andrea (673-3231) or go to the church website <https://www.ccamherst.org/stewardship-pledge/>.



Gail Agans
 Patricia Ansdell
 Shayna Appel
 Herb & Emily Archer
 Mark & Fran Baddeley
 Cynthia Baker
 Alison Batey
 Terri Behm & Ken D'Ambrosio
 Ken & Charlotte Bell
 Steve & Deb Boczenowski
 Patricia Bodan
 Jessica & Joao Bortolotto
 Kathleen Bouchard
 Sally Bowkett
 Jack & Pat Buben
 Carole Byatt
 Claire Choiniere
 Scott & Sandra Comstock
 Robert & Sydney Conti
 Wayne & Audrey Croswell
 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
 Cheryl Gagne
 Andre & Nancy Gagnon
 Edith Gambee

Sheryl Gottwald
 Nathan & Jessica Greer
 Brian & Alice Handwerk
 Patricia Harris
 Michael Havay
 Gene Heighton
 Leona Hendrickson
 John & Linda Herrin
 Scott & Sally Hewett
 Susan & Don Holden
 Roger & Sally Hooper
 Jana Howe
 Mary Howe
 Kelly & Stephen Isaacs
 Kathy Johnson
 Wilene Knight
 Rosmarie Krosch
 Peter & Irene Labombarde
 Keith & Gail Lammers
 Tedd & Carol Landon
 Linda Lannin
 Arthur & Victoria Leknes
 Elizabeth Levesque
 Donald & Carol Lyon
 Joan Lyons
 Heather MacDonald & William Dallas
 Elizabeth MacMillan & Hamilton Stewart
 Bruce & Susan Manchester
 Sarah & Bob Merrigan
 Ingrid Michaelis
 Gail Miller & Lee Bowley
 Kerri Miller
 Howell Mitchell
 Avis Moller
 Mary Moore

Jeanne & Mike Neverisky
 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

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

(How Can I Keep from Singing)

Ps. 46:1-7; 1 Cor. 3:21-23; 2 Cor. 5:17

Anon. in Bright Jewels for the Sunday School,
ed. Robert Lowry, 1869; alt.
St. 3, Doris Plenn, c. 1957

1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam - en -
 2 What though my joys and com - forts die? My Sav - ior still is
 3 When ty - rants trem - ble, sick with fear, and hear their death knells
 4 I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue a -

ta - tion, I hear the sweet, though far - off hymn that
 liv - ing. What though the shad - ows gath - er 'round? A
 ring - ing; When friends re - joice both far and near, how
 bove it; And day by day this path - way smooths, since

hails a new cre - a - tion. Through all the tu - mult
 new song Christ is giv - ing. No storm can shake my
 can I keep from sing - ing? In pris - on cell and
 first I learned to love it. The peace of Christ makes

and the strife, I hear the mu - sic ring - ing; It
 in - most calm, while to that Rock I'm cling - ing; Since
 dun - geon vile our thoughts to them are wing - ing; When
 fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring - ing; All

In various nineteenth-century hymnals this hymn was attributed to different poets, including Anna Warner. The earliest published source credits Robert Lowry as the composer, although Silas Vail later claimed the music. The third stanza was written by Doris Plenn in the 1950s when her friends were imprisoned during the McCarthy era.

Tune: ENDLESS SONG 8.7.8.7.D.
 Attrib. to Robert Lowry in Bright Jewels
 for the Sunday School, New York, 1869



finds an ech - o in my soul— how can I keep from sing-ing?
Love com-mands both heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?
friends by shame are un - de - filed, how can I keep from sing-ing?
things are mine since I am Christ's— how can I keep from sing-ing?



Sunday, May 21, 2023

ANNUAL MEETING
Sunday, MAY 21, 2023
11:00 AM

In accordance with the By-laws of the Congregational Church of Amherst, NH United Church of Christ, the call for the Annual Meeting is hereby made for Sunday morning, May 21, 2023, immediately following worship services.

The meeting will be held in the community room at the church and also via Zoom (details will be emailed and also available on the church website).

Your officers and council members look forward to your attendance and input at this important meeting. Childcare will be provided.



Our Church Calendar

May 21—27, 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
	11:00 a.m.	Annual Meeting
	11:15 a.m.	Youth Choir
	2:00 p.m.	Middle High Youth Group
	4:00 p.m.	Senior High Youth Group
Monday	10:00 a.m.	WA Workshop
Tuesday	10:30 a.m.	WA Annual Meeting & Luncheon
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir