

## The Stories of Our Faith

# Moses and the Mountain



*“I’ve been to the mountaintop. And I’ve looked over.  
And I’ve seen the promised land.  
I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight,  
that we, as a people, will get to the promised land.  
And I’m not worried about anything. I’m not fearing any man.  
Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.”*

— The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

# THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

*"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here."*

January 21, 2024

Creative Worship

10:00 a.m.

## *Moses and the Mountain*

GATHERING CHIMES

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

GREETING AND NOTICES OF PARISH LIFE

PRELUDE

*On Jordan's Stormy Banks*

Lyndell Leatherman

INTROIT

\*GATHERING OUR COMMUNITY

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

One: In the depths of winter, we open our ears:

**Many: To the One who warms us with stories of love and hope.**

One: In the stillness of a snowfall, we open our eyes:

**Many: To the One who clears a path so we may follow in faith.**

One: In the seasonal shadows, we open our hearts:

**Many: To the One who lights the way before us.**

One: In the valleys of life, we look to the mountaintops:

**Many: To the One who walks by our side and lifts us up.**

One: We come together as God's people in God's presence,

**All: To be the presence of God for one another.**

\*HYMN

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

No. 288

WELCOMING GOD'S PRESENCE  
*The congregation may be seated.*

One: Creating God, who loves us all,

**All: We come to you this morning hungering,  
for something that will change our ways and our world.**

**Left: We come hungering for sincerity instead of deception;**

**Right: We come hungering for generosity instead of greed;**

**Left: We come hungering for compassion instead of indifference;**

**Right: We come hungering for love instead of fear.**

**All: We come hungering for justice to roll down like waters,  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.**

One: We come, O God, to hear how we can participate in your great work of re-creation.

**Left: We come rejoicing that you trust us with this call.**

**Right: We come praying that we will have the courage to respond.**

**All: Speak, O God, for your children are listening...**

MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

ANTHEM

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*  
Chancel Choir

\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

THE STORY of MOSES and the MOUNTAIN

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and God showed Moses the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. God said to Moses, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants’; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.”

Then Moses, servant of God, died there in the land of Moab, at God's command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired, and his vigor had not abated.

The people wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him;  
and the people obeyed him, doing as God had commanded Moses.

Never since has there arisen a prophet like Moses, whom God knew face to face.  
He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that God sent him to perform in the land of Egypt,  
against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land,  
and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power  
that Moses performed in the sight of all God's people.

REFLECTING ON THE STORY      "I've Been to the Mountaintop"

ORGAN RESPONSE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS and PRAYERS

*All invited to place their offerings and prayer cards in the plates as they're passed.*

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

*Steal Away*

Anthony Giamanco

*All are invited to reflect upon the "Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack" insert in the bulletin.*

SHARING OUR COMMUNAL PRAYERS

PRAYER RESPONSE – THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

\*HYMN

*We Shall Overcome*

side page

\*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

\*BLESSING OUR COMMUNITY

One: People of God, we are called to walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

**Many: Loving kindness, acting justly, walking humbly with our God.**

One: In the midst of a broken world,

**Many: We proclaim the God of Healing.**

One: In the midst of despair,

**Many: We proclaim the God of Hope.**

One: In the midst of indifference and apathy,

**Many: We proclaim the God of Love and Compassion.**

**All: We go now, knowing that God is with us, always! Amen!**

\*POSTLUDE

*Fugue on "Dies sind die heiligen zehn Gebot"  
(These are the Holy Ten Commandments)*

Wolfgang Carl Briegel

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

# 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 staffed and available for parents with young children.
- 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](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  
Kevin G. S. Marsh  
Sara L. Phelps  
Michael Havay  
Mark and Fran Baddeley  
Lee Bowley  
Steve Boczenowski, Stuart Coon, Sheryl Gottwald, Linda Lannin,  
Andrea Cyr

Ministers to the World  
Senior Pastor  
Acting Associate Pastor  
Director of Music  
Organist/Accompanist  
Deacons in Charge  
Liturgist  
Ushers  
Videographer

\*\*\*\*\*

## LEADING OUR CHURCH SCHOOL TODAY

Larissa Riley  
Sue Werst  
Dave Hagerstrom  
Gretchen Davis

Church School Coordinator  
Teacher, Preschool to Elementary  
Teacher, Grades 5 to 7  
Nursery Attendant

**THE YOUTH CHOIR** meets today in the vestry after worship—come have some fun and sing with us!

**SCOUTS—SAVE THE DATE!** This year we are celebrating Scout Sunday on February 4. All scouts are invited to wear their uniforms.

**GAME NIGHT—SAVE THE DATE!** CCA's annual Family Game Night & Potluck Supper is February 17, 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. **All ages, friends and family are welcome.** We will have Bingo, cards, board games and trivia, and attendees are encouraged to bring their own favorite game to share with others. Prizes will be awarded too!

Supper is potluck style: pizza and beverages will be provided, and folks are asked to bring a side/salad/dessert to share.

A voluntary donation is welcome: \$5 for individuals/\$10 for families. RSVP is always helpful, contact [Meredith Dart](#).

**RACIAL JUSTICE GROUP MEMBERS:** Steve Boczenowski, Sally Bowkett, Lee Bowley, Stuart Coon, Joan Egbertson, Gina Frey, Sheryl Gottwald, Linda Lannin, Gail Miller, Pastor Kevin Marsh.

**BEWARE OF FALLING SNOW AND ICE:** During the winter months, we want to remind everyone that snow and ice may fall from our roof at any time. Please use caution when in our driveway, and do not walk too close to the building.

**SHARE FOOD PANTRY** requests for January 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!

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

# Moses Climbs a Mountain

