

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



"Life is a song – sing it."

—Sai Baba

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."*

May 12, 2024

Seventh Sunday of Easter

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 in C Major, BWV 566a

J.S. Bach

INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Please rise in body or spirit.

One: It is good to give you thanks O God, to sing praises to your name;

Many: to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night,

One: to make music with many instruments, to sing out with the fullness of our hearts.

Many: Let all those who rejoice and revel in goodness sing to God!

One: Let all those who mourn and need comfort sing to God!

Many: Let all God's children sing out to the one who placed a song of love in their souls.

*HYMN

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

No. 482

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

The congregation may be seated.

Creator God,

We see you in the created world around us,

in the trees, and the blooming flowers,

in the rustling of the wind, and the melodies of songbirds.

We see you in the ways that humanity has shared in your creative spirit throughout time, in our poetry and painting, choirs and crescendos.

We ask that your spirit be in our midst this morning,

as we honor you in the creation of music.

Sing a song of joy over us, as we pray the words that Christ taught us saying,

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**

Glorify 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.

YOUTH ANTHEM

Gonna Rise Up Singing
Youth Choir

Don Besig/
Nancy Price

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

ANTHEM

O Sing Joyfully
Chancel Choir

Battan

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

SCRIPTURE INTRODUCTION

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 98:1-9

O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory. The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea roar and all that fills it, the world and those who live in it. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

SERMON

“Singing a New Song”

*HYMN

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

back pages 10 & 11

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

Morning Has Broken
Bell Choir

arr. Linda Lamb

*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)

Gracious God, we stand in awe of your blessings. You reach into our lives and inspire us to dream about what this world could be. We ask that you will accept these gifts as they have been given. Take them and multiply them to be used to make your world a place where love reigns above all else. Amen.

*HYMN

When in Our Music God Is Glorified

No. 264

*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

*COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE

Alleluia Toccata

Fenton Groden

*(*Please rise 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 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. 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
 Kevin G. S. Marsh
 Sara L. Phelps
 Michael Havay
 Kathleen Bouchard
 Judi Dunbar, Sue Ruggiero
 Patricia Bodan

Ministers to the World
 Senior Pastor
 Acting Associate Pastor
 Director of Music
 Organist/Accompanist
 Deacon in Charge
 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 FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given in honor of Music Sunday, as we celebrate and give thanks for the music ministry of our church, and make a joyful noise to the Lord.

LEVI SUNDAY RESCHEDULED: Join us **SATURDAY, MAY 18** from 10:00 a.m. to noon 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. Bring your own tools for the jobs you want to tackle. Many hands make light work! This work day was rescheduled from earlier this month due to the rain.

SHARE FOOD PANTRY requests for May 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!

SCUBA Vacation Bible School 2024 will be held August 12-16 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. **Registration is now open** for children and/or youth volunteers at www.ccamherst.org/church-school. Contact Larissa Riley or Gretchen Davis with any questions.

Financial Summary

(as of April 30, 2024)

	YTD <u>Actual</u>	YTD <u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$381,109	\$374,058	\$ 7,051
Expenses	\$366,603	\$381,154	\$(14,552)
Net Income	\$ 14,506	\$ (7,097)	\$ 21,603

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: Ken Bell, Don Lyon, Paul Spiess (Treasurer), Doug Topliffe, and Todd Whitney.

ANNUAL MEETING
Sunday, May 19, 2024
11:30 a.m.



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 19, 2024, immediately following worship services.

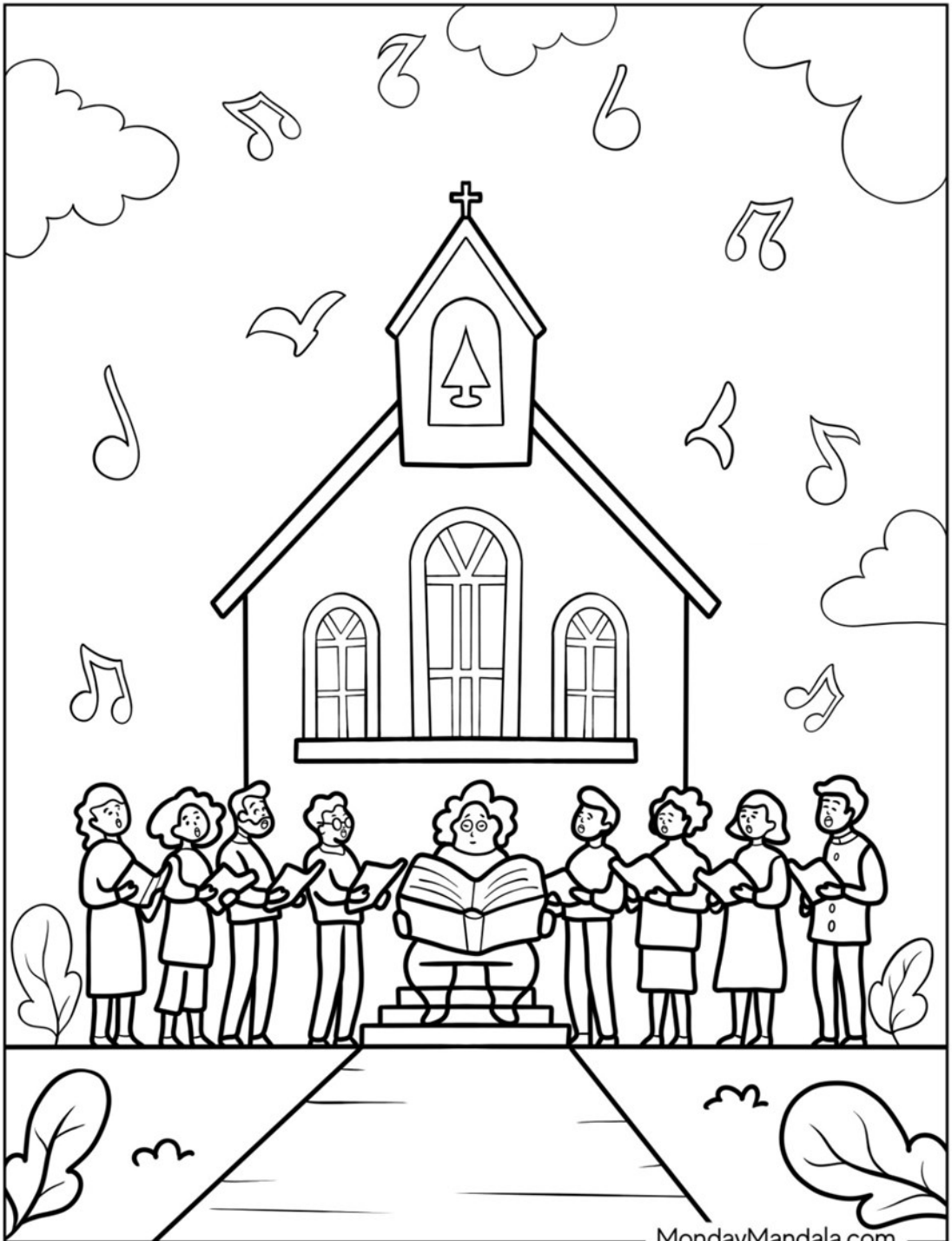
The meeting will be held in the community room at the church and also via Zoom (details will be emailed and also available on the church website).

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

Our Church Calendar
May 12—17, 2024

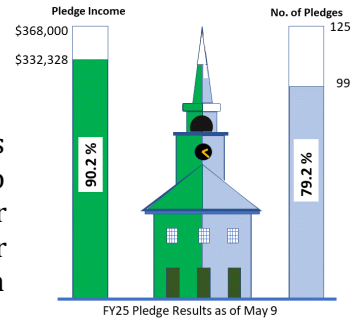
Some events are taking place virtually.
Links are sent out directly by email, and a list of recurring meetings with their links can be found in the member section of our website.

Today	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:15 a.m.	Fellowship
	11:30 a.m.	Racial Justice Group
Monday	10:00 a.m.	WA Workshop
	6:00 p.m.	Budget & Finance Team
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	WA Board
	7:00 p.m.	Diaconate
	7:00 p.m.	Trustees of the Facility
Thursday	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir



Updated Results of Our Faith Promise Stewardship Campaign

Our 2024-2025 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/>.



Patricia Ansdell
Shayna Appel
Mark & Fran Baddeley
Terri Behm & Ken D'Ambrosio
Ken & Charlotte Bell
Steve & Deb Boczenowski
Patricia Bodan
Kathleen Bouchard
Sally Bowkett
Lee Bowley & Gail Miller
Jack & Patricia Buben
Tim & Kelly Cackett
Sydney Conti
Wayne & Audrey Crowell
Colleen Cushing
Camille Davis
Tyler & Gretchen Davis
Russell & Sandra Demarest
Eric Doberstein & Robin Clark
Susan Deschenes & Fred Dyke
Cynthia Dokmo
Judi Dunbar
Joan & William Dunn
Greg & Jennifer Eccleston
Joan Egbertson
Stephen Egbertson
Matthew & Stephanie Emmons
Matt & Laura Endres
Judy Ferraro
Alvin & Heidi Fortune
Maureen Frescott
Andre & Nancy Gagnon

Edith Gambee
Sheryl Gottwald
Nathan & Jessica Greer
Dave & Kim Hagerstrom
Brian & Alice Handwerk
Leona Hendrickson
John & Linda Herrin
Scott & Sally Hewett
Susan & Don Holden
Roger & Sally Hooper
Nye & Angela Hornor
Jana Howe
Mary Howe
Kelly & Stephen Isaacs
Bruce & Regina Kinney
Wilene Knight
Ted Krantz
Romi 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
Ingrid Michaelis
Kerri Miller
Howell Mitchell
Avis Moller

Mary Moore
David & Sara Phelps
David & Joan Poltack
Nancy & Daniel Protzmann
Chris & Gretchen Pyles
Craig & Katherine Richardson
Travis & Larissa Riley
Robert Rowe
Sue Ruggiero
Carol St. Jean
Vic & Carolin Sanchez
Paul & Maggie Schellenberg
Beth Secor
Kathy & Skip Skoglund
Paul & Susan Spiess
Richard & Kathleen Steeves
Sean & Ann Stevenson
Marianne & Ollie Stone
Richard & Susan Stout
Marshall & Audrey Strickland
John & Anita Swanson
Bill Swift
Kate & Keith Thompson
Holly Tonnesen
Jean Tonnesen
Douglas & Adrienne Topliffe
Theresa van Ham
Sally & Michael Varanka
Charles & Rolinda Vars
Thomas & Susan Werst
Todd & Jennifer Whitney
Tim & Gail Wiegand
Alicia Wight
Ken & Barbara Wolfe

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 12, 2024

Milford Rotary 100 Holes of Golf Raffle Tickets



- 10 cash prizes range from \$500—\$5,000. Yes, you could win \$5,000!
- Ticket price is \$20, and \$10 comes straight back to the church.
- Drawing Friday, June 14, 2024 — you do not need to be in attendance to win.
- Bonus: each ticket comes with great local coupons, including Giorgios, Aroma Joes, and more.

Each year this event raises considerable funds that are distributed to local, regional and international community and non-profit organizations, and are used to provide \$30,000 in scholarships to area students.

To purchase tickets, follow this link:

<https://golf100holes.com/product/raffle-ticket?ref=59>

Judi Dunbar will also be selling tickets in the community room after worship.