

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 19, 2024

Pentecost Sunday

10:00 a.m.

Creative Worship—Saul and Paul

GATHERING CHIMES

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

GREETING AND NOTICES OF PARISH LIFE

PRELUDE

O Comforter, Draw Near

Ralph Vaughan Williams/
Kevin Uppercue

INTROIT

*GATHERING OUR COMMUNITY and WELCOMING GOD'S PRESENCE

Please rise in body or spirit.

Adapted from the United Church of Christ Statement of Faith

One: We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,

Many: and to your ways we testify:

One: You call the worlds into being, create us all in your own image,

Many: and set before us the ways of living and renewing.

One: You seek in holy love to lead all people away from apathy and brokenness.

Many: You guide us through the prophets and the apostles who came before us.

One: In Jesus, the man of Nazareth, you have come to us and shared our common lot,

Many: conquering division and death and reconciling the world.

One: You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,
Many: binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

One: You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,

Many: to be your servants in the service of others,

One: to proclaim the gospel to all the world,

Many: to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table.

One: You promise to all who trust you forgiveness and fullness of grace,

Many: courage in the struggle for justice and peace,

One: your presence in trial and rejoicing,

Many: and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

All: Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you!

*HYMN

On Pentecost They Gathered

No. 128

OUR COVENANT WITH NEW MEMBERS

The congregation may be seated.

Invitation to our New Members:

Christie Gould

Patricia Jillson

Maude Lemaire and Avery Morin

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

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

"The Story of Pentecost"

ANTHEM

Spirit, Come and Make Us One
Chancel Choir

Herb Frombach/
Lee Dengler

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. And Saul approved of their killing him.

That day a severe persecution began against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout the countryside of Judea and Samaria. Saul was ravaging the church by entering house after house; dragging off both men and women, he committed them to prison. Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. Ananias laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." All who heard him were amazed and said, "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?" Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the people of Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

REFLECTING ON THE STORY

"Birthing the Church"

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND PRAYERS

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

During the Music for Reflection, you may reflect upon the word image found on the cover of your bulletin.

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Holy Spirit, Light Our Darkness

Robert J. Powell

SHARING OUR COMMUNAL PRAYERS

PRAYER RESPONSE—THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

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

Spirit
verses 1, 3 and 4 only

No. 319

*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING OUR COMMUNITY

One: People of God,
we are called to be like the early apostles,
and 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: may we proclaim the God of Healing.

One: In the midst of despair,

Many: may we proclaim the God of Hope.

One: In the midst of indifference and apathy,

Many: may we proclaim the God of Love and Compassion.

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

*CHORAL RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE

Recessional on "St. Denio"
(Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise)

Dan R. Edwards

*(*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
 Roger Hooper, John Swanson
 Shayna Appel, Christie Gould
 Tim Wiegand

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

LEADING OUR CHURCH SCHOOL TODAY

Sue Werst
 Kelly Issacs
 Vicky Leknes
 Gretchen Davis

Teacher, Preschool
 Teacher, Elementary
 Teacher, Grades 5 to 7
 Nursery Attendant

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

ICE CREAM SOCIAL: Join us after the Children's Sunday worship on June 9 for our annual ice cream social, when we'll celebrate the end of the church school year.

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)

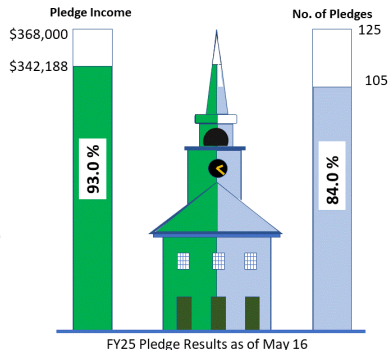
	YTD <u>Actual</u>	YTD <u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$381,109	\$374,058	\$ 7,051
Expenses	\$366,603	\$381,154	\$(14,552)
Net Income	\$ 14,506	\$ (7,097)	\$ 21,603

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.

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
Alison Batey
Terri Behm & Ken D'Ambrosio
Ken & Charlotte Bell
Steve & Deb Boczenowski
Patricia Bodan
Jessica Bortolotto
Kathleen Bouchard
Sally Bowkett
Lee Bowley & Gail Miller
Jack & Patricia Buben
Tim & Kelly Cackett
Sydney Conti
Wayne & Audrey Croswell
Colleen Cushing
Obadiah & Meredith Dart
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
Sarah & Bob Merrigan
Ingrid Michaelis
Kerri Miller
Howell Mitchell
Avis Moller
Mary Moore

Jeanne Neverisky
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
Kelly Schmidt
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

God's SPIRIT moves in us!





Home Starter

Furnishing New Beginnings

The Home Starter program is hosting a drive for the items that they need the most in the coming months. This ever-expanding program has already helped 32 families/individuals furnish their homes this year, with many more to come. Please consider donating some of the items below, or if you would prefer, you can provide a monetary donation, or consider helping out in other ways.

Items purchased below can be shipped directly (or dropped off) to the following locations:

Terri Behm
30 Woodland Dr, Amherst, NH 03031-2520

Donna Watson
9 Smithfield Terrace, Nashua, NH 03064

- [Kitchen Trash Can](#)
- [Cookware Set](#)
- [Coffee Maker](#)
- [Toaster](#)
- [Cookie Sheet](#)
- [Wastebasket](#)
- [Towel Set](#)
- [Laundry Basket](#)
- [Shower Curtain Liner](#)

Please visit the [Home Starter Page](#) for more details and information if you would like to help out in other ways. Questions? Contact homestarter@ccamherst.org

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>

Our Church Calendar

May 19—25, 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.	Annual Meeting
Monday	10:00 a.m.	WA Workshop
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	WA Luncheon
Thursday	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir

Sunday, May 19, 2024