

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



*“Blessed are you who walk in the dark,  
who see the dawn before the sun.  
For Christ is on the road with you,  
even when your eyes do not yet know it.”*

—Jan Richardson

# 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."*

April 27, 2025

Second 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

*Rejoice, the Lord is King*

John Darwall/  
Anna Laura Page

### INTROIT

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Please rise in body or spirit.*

Inspired by Luke 24:13-35

One: Come, those who travel on the dusty roads of life:  
confused, hopeful, wondering what comes next.

**Many: We gather, like those on the road to Emmaus,  
longing for clarity, for comfort, for Christ.**

One: And Jesus comes to us, but not always in ways we expect:  
in the questions, in the journey, in stories shared along the way.

**Many: Even when we don't see Him, Jesus is here, walking beside us.**

One: So come, travelers and seekers, weary or wondering, hopeful or uncertain.  
Come with your stories, your doubts, your dreams.

**All: Let us worship the Risen Christ, who invites us to follow in faith, hope and love.  
The One who brings light to every step we take.**

### \*HYMN

*That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright*

No. 121

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

*The congregation may be seated.*

**Risen Christ, You meet us on the road— when we are walking in sorrow, when we are wandering in questions, when we do not yet recognize the light beside us. Shine Your light on the path ahead, even when we cannot see the whole road.**

**We gather as your Easter people, trusting that you draw near, not just in sacred moments, but in the everyday rhythm of our lives. Fill this space with love divine, all loves excelling, that we may be made new— lost in wonder, love, and praise. Walk with us now, Jesus, for we are ready to follow. As we pray together...**

**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.**

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

ANTHEM

*For the Beauty of the Earth*  
Chancel Choir

John Rutter

**\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

SCRIPTURE INTRODUCTION

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

A Narrative Reading of Luke 24:13-35

SERMON

“On the Road Again”

**\*HYMN**

*Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

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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.*

CHORAL RESPONSE

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR OFFERINGS

\*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)

**God of hope and peace, we offer these gifts in response to Your love at work in us. May they bring comfort where this is sorrow, peace where there is conflict, and hope where there is despair. Use us and these offerings to build a just and compassionate world. In Jesus' name.**

## \*HYMN

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

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## \*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

## \*RESPONSIVE COMMISSION AND BLESSING

One: Beloveds of God, our Risen Christ meets us where we are— not just in the sanctuary,

**Many: but on the road, in the questions, in the dust.**

One: He comes alongside us in our walking and wondering —

**Many: not with correction or certainty, but with presence. With stories.**

One: May we feel the sacredness of the ground beneath our feet,

**Many: to let the rhythm of step by step become a prayer.**

One: In a world that runs toward answers,

**Many: teach us to linger in wonder.**

One: And may the Spirit with and within us give us the courage to follow Jesus close enough that we are covered in the dust of His feet,

**Many: faithfully enough to carry His light into the places that still feel shadowed.**

One: For the road ahead is long, but we do not walk it alone.

**Many: The journey itself is holy ground.**

One: And resurrection walks beside us, step by step.

**Many: Amen and Amen.**

## \*CHORAL RESPONSE

## \*POSTLUDE

*Alleluia! Alleluia!*Arthur S. Sullivan/  
Edward Broughton

*(\*Please rise 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 on break this week and resumes next Sunday.
- 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.

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. Charlotte E. Y. Bell  
Shellie Brook  
Sara L. Phelps  
Michael Havay  
Steve Boczenowski  
Sally Hooper, John Swanson  
Deb Boczenowski, Quinn Tremblay  
Tim Wiegand  
Melissa Lewis

### Ministers to the World

Associate Pastor  
Student Pastor  
Director of Music  
Organist/Accompanist  
Deacon in Charge  
Deacons  
Ushers  
Videographer  
Nursery Attendant

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Rev. Maureen R. Frescott  
Larissa Riley

Senior Pastor  
Director of Youth Ministries

**TODAY IS LEVI SUNDAY:** Join us after worship for our annual spring cleaning day. After the worship service we'll head outside to tackle a number of annual spring tasks. Many hands make light work.

**SHOP THE WA GOOD STUFF SALE:** Friday, May 2 from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, May 3 from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Help is needed with clean-up beginning at noon. All are welcome!

**SHARE FOOD PANTRY** requests for April include condiments, cooking sauces and seasonings, cooking oil, pasta sauce, tomato sauce, tomato paste, diced tomatoes. 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!

**LGBTQ+ ALLY TRAINING:** In an effort to widen the welcome our congregation can offer to those who come through our doors, the Widening our Welcome team (WOW) has arranged for an LGBTQ+ Ally 101 training on Wednesday, May 14 at 6:30 in the evening. What does it mean to be an effective LGBTQ+ Ally? How can we widen the circle of support for a community currently up against a great deal of oppression? How might unconscious biases get in the way of our passing on God's extravagant welcome?

In keeping with WOW's core values, this training is open to ALL, though it is geared towards those who identify as straight. And, while the training's purpose circles around the LGBTQ+ community, principles of inclusion can be applied to other marginalized communities as well.

**Please save the date: Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM here in the church parlor.**

**And please let Shayna Appel know if you are planning on attending so we can plan accordingly. [KShaynaAppel@gmail.com](mailto:KShaynaAppel@gmail.com).**

See you there!

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

**DID YOU KNOW:** Come and view the poignant art and poetry creations completed by folks throughout New Hampshire as part of the Racial Unity Team's sixth **Art and Poetry Challenge** displayed throughout the **Amherst Town Library** throughout April, 2025. The theme of the 2024 Art and Poetry Challenge is '*Belonging*', what it means to belong or not belong. Artists and poets from kindergarten through adulthood submitted drawings, paintings, sculpture, and poetry, now available for your viewing at the library.

The Racial Unity Team is now collecting products for the seventh **Art and Poetry Challenge** with the theme, '*Building Bridges, Tearing Down Walls*'. Products are judged by experts in each field and monetary prizes are given for winners in each age group. Maybe you have an idea and would like to create a product for the 2025 Art and Poetry Challenge! Submissions are due by August 31, 2025 ([artpoetry.racialunityteam@gmail.com](mailto:artpoetry.racialunityteam@gmail.com)).

*Submitted by: CCA Racial Justice Team*

## Our Church Calendar

**April 27—May 3, 2025**

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
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir
Friday	3:00 p.m.	Good Stuff Sale
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Good Stuff Sale
	5:00 p.m.	Kentucky Derby Social

## KENTUCKY DERBY

### SOCIAL

SATURDAY, MAY 3

AT 5:00 P.M.



Wear your favorite derby hat/attire and join us on May 3 for this fun annual event, hosted by Sue and Bruce Manchester, along with the Fellowship team.

We will have activities for kids as well so please know all generations are welcome and encouraged to attend!

This is a potluck style event, and is BYOB. Please RSVP to Meredith Dart: [m\\_getler@hotmail.com](mailto:m_getler@hotmail.com).

### CELEBRATING AN END AND A BEGINNING:

On Sunday, May 4th, CCA will host the final gathering of the Hillsborough Association and a celebration of the founding of the new Granite State Association.

As some of you may know, the New Hampshire Conference had, until March 31 of this year, seven associations which facilitated the work of our local congregations. Two and a half years ago the Association Capacity Task Force (ACTF) was formed to imagine a new way forward and after lots and lots of meetings, listening sessions, discernment and prayer the new Granite State Association has arrived!

To celebrate this arrival and to give thanks for all that has been, we will host a celebration on May 4th, here at CCA, starting with a short service at 3:00 and then proceeding to a catered meal, a wicked fun game of team trivia pursuit, (brush up on denominational and conference trivia y'all), and plenty of time for sharing memories and hopes.

Please come as you are! The table will be set for you!

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# 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.

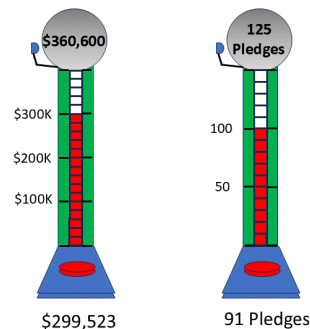
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# Updated Results of Our Faith Promise Stewardship Campaign

Our 2025-2026 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/>.

Pledge Results as of 4/24



*Kate Ackerman  
Patricia Ansdell  
Shayna Appel  
Herb & Emily Archer  
Mark & Fran Baddeley  
Ken & Charlotte Bell  
Steve & Deb Boczenowski  
Patricia Bodan  
Jessica Bortolotto  
Kathleen Bouchard &  
Christie Gould  
Sally Bowkett  
Lee Bowley & Gail Miller  
Jeff & Patti Brown  
Jack & Patricia Buben  
Tim & Kelly Cackett  
Sydney Conti  
Wayne & Audrey Croswell  
Colleen Cushing  
Eric Davis  
Tyler & Gretchen Davis  
Eric Doberstein, Robin Clark,  
Kara & Scott Spector  
Meredith & Obadiah Dart  
Susan Deschenes & Fred Dyke  
Cynthia Dokmo  
Judi Dunbar  
Greg & Jennifer Eccleston  
Joan Egbertson  
Stephen Egbertson  
Judy Ferraro  
Alvin & Heidi Fortune*

*Maureen Frescott  
Andre & Nancy Gagnon  
Edith Gambee  
Sheryl Gottwald  
Dan Grainger  
Nathan & Jessica Greer  
David & Kim Hagerstrom  
Leona Hendrickson  
Scott & Sally Hewett  
Susan & Don Holden  
Roger & Sally Hooper  
Jana Howe  
Kelly & Stephen Isaacs  
Patty Jillson  
Bruce & Regina Kinney  
Romi Krosch  
Peter & Irene Labombarde  
Keith & Gail Lammers  
Tedd & Carol Landon  
Linda Lannin  
Arthur & Victoria Leknes  
Elizabeth Levesque  
Donald & Carol Lyon  
Elizabeth MacMillan &  
Hamilton Stewart  
Heather MacDonald &  
Bill Dallas  
Bruce & Susan Manchester  
Kerri Miller  
Howell Mitchell  
Avis Moller  
Mary Moore*

*Avery & Maude Morin  
Jeanne Neverisky  
Dan & Samantha Pawlowski  
Judy Peterson  
David & Sara Phelps  
David & Joan Poltack  
Nancy & Daniel Protzmann  
Craig & Kathe Richardson  
Travis & Larissa Riley  
Robert Rowe  
Sue Ruggiero  
Carol St. Jean  
Vic & Carolin Sanchez  
Paul & Maggie Schellenberg  
Beth Secor  
Kathy Skoglund  
Paul & Susan Spiess  
Richard & Kathleen Steeves  
Sean & Ann Stevenson  
Richard & Susan Stout  
John & Anita Swanson  
Kate & Keith Thompson  
Holly Tonnesen  
Jean Tonnesen  
Douglas & Adrienne Topliffe  
Sally & Michael Varanka  
Todd & Jennifer Whitney  
Tim & Gail Wiegand  
Ken & Barbara Wolfe  
Jodi Woroski & Gwenaël Busnel*

*Sunday, April 27, 2025*