

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



# 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."*

June 8, 2025

Children's Sunday and Pentecost Sunday

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

*Veni Creator Spiritus (Come, Creator Spirit)*

Robert Lau

INTROIT

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Please rise in body or spirit.*

One: To all Children of God!

**Many: Welcome!**

One: To all seeking to pray!

**Many: Welcome!**

One: To all seeking to sing!

**Many: Welcome!**

One: To all seeking to serve!

**Many: Welcome!**

One: To all seeking to celebrate!

**Many: Welcome!**

One: To all seeking community!

**Many: Welcome!**

One: To all Children of God!

**All: Welcome!**

\*HYMN

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

Child of blessing, child of promise,  
Baptized with the Spirit's sign:  
With this water God has sealed you  
Unto love and grace divine.

Child of love, our love's expression,  
Love's creation, loved indeed!  
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits,  
Into joy and laughter lead.

Child of joy, our deepest treasure,  
God's you are, from God you came;  
Back to God we humbly give you,  
Live as one who bears Christ's name.

Child of God, the loving parent,  
Learn to know whose child you are.  
Grow and laugh and sing and worship,  
Trust and love God more than all.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Micah 6:8

Adam Massicotte

He has told you, O mortal, what is good. What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM

Margaret Bolin, Netaniah Dart

Questions of Commitment

Response of Members and Friends

One: Beloveds of God, do we here in this faith family receive Maggie and Netaniah as new persons in Christ? To offer our guidance, understanding, and support as they continue to explore and learn about our world as children of God. To enfold them in our love, seek together to grow in wisdom and grace, with God's help. To join with their parents and their families in telling the Gospel in our midst, so that we may all live for Christ, showing God's love for all people with our words, deeds and whole lives. If so, please respond together "we do!"

**All: We do!**

The Act of Baptism

Presentation of Baptism Certificates

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

**\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

ANTHEM

*Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit*  
Chancel Choir

William Dawson

TEACHER APPRECIATION

Larissa Riley and Sue Werst

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

**THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION**

INVITATION

Confirmand

Xander Batey

Hannah Brook

Mariellah Dart

Madeline Houle

Quinn Tremblay

Mentor

Sally Bowkett

Shayna Appel

Nancy Protzmann

Marti Warren

Deb Boczenowski

QUESTIONS OF COMMITMENT

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (compiled from the reflections of the confirmands)

We believe in You, O God —

Loving Creator, the One who brings life and light.

The One who reaches out to us

seeking to love, help and welcome all.

You are powerful, beyond our human perception.

You are the One we lean on in times of need,

the One who brings clarity to our questions

and brings blessings to all no matter what.

We believe in Jesus, the One we follow in the way of Love —

The One who teaches us to walk through life  
with justice and joy, kindness and compassion.

Jesus inspires us to care deeply for all —

to help others even if they wouldn't help us.

We seek to forgive as Jesus forgave —

forgiving even those who wronged him, even from the cross.

For following Jesus is the way to eternal life,

to everlasting peace and ever present hope.

Your Spirit is always with us — like breath, like the wind —  
We see your Spirit in friendship, in nature, in what is miraculous and in moments we are filled with awe and wonder.

Your Spirit brings us together and creates community — where we belong just as we are.  
We feel your Spirit at work in us when we do what we love,  
when we are seeking direction and courage,  
when we live in the way of Jesus and practice kindness.

We believe in serving God in the church and community —  
By showing up and being there, by helping people and communities in need.  
We don't keep our talents to ourselves or compare them —  
But we give them to add to the harmony of all.  
We are the church together anytime we do something  
without thinking "what can I get out of this?"  
Being the church is not about what we get but all we can give.

God You bless us —  
with breath and life, friends and family,  
animals, pets and nature.  
You give us the gift of living out our dreams and hopes.  
For You are the One that is always there to remind us  
we are rooted and grounded in love as children of God.

## LAYING ON OF HANDS

### CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT AND WELCOME

One: Do we welcome these beloveds of God with joy to this church? Do we promise our friendship and prayers as we share the hope, discipleship and work of the church of Jesus Christ? By the power of the Holy Spirit do we promise to continue to follow Jesus in the way of Love, to grow together in God's knowledge and be witnesses of Jesus' ministry in the world? If so, please respond together "we do!"

**All: We do!**

### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION and THANKSGIVING

### GREETING AND PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES

### HYMN

*Jesus Loves Me, This I Know*

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me, this I know, as he loved so long ago,  
taking children on his knee, saying, "Let them come to me."  
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

## CALL TO THE OFFERING

## SHARING OUR OFFERINGS AND PRAYERS

*All are invited to write a prayer or draw a picture prayer on the post-it note included in the bulletin, and then bring it forward to post on our prayer banner.*

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION            *Consecrate My Life to Thee, O Lord*

## COMMISSIONING OF OUR YOUTH

Senior Youth Group

One:        Children of God, we send you off with our prayers of love and traveling mercies.

**Many:    Love kindness!**

One:        May your time serving the people of North Carolina be an eye-opening, faith-deepening, spirit awakening experience.

**Many:    Act justly!**

One:        May you see Christ in those you meet and in one another, and may your blessings and ours go with you.

**Many:    Walk humbly with God! Amen!**

\*HYMN

*This Little Light of Mine*

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!  
Let it shine! Let it shine! Let it shine!

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine!  
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine!  
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine!  
Let it shine! Let it shine! Let it shine!

All around the world, we're gonna let it shine!  
All around the world, we're gonna let it shine!  
All around the world, we're gonna let it shine!  
Let it shine! Let it shine! Let it shine!

\*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

\*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

One: We go out into the world as children of God,

**Many: serving others as Jesus teaches us to do.**

One: We go out into the world as children of God,

**Many: following Jesus in the way of welcome and witness, of justice and joy.**

One: We go out into the world as children of God,

**Many: remembering together and reminding each other we are rooted and grounded in love.**

One: We go out into the world as children of God,

**Many: loving kindness, acting justly, walking humbly with God!**

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

\*POSTLUDE

*Let the Whole Creation Cry*

Michael Burkhardt

*(\*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 will take a break over the summer, and resumes on Rally Day, September 7, 2025.
- 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  
Rev. Charlotte E. Y. Bell  
Shellie Brook  
Sara L. Phelps  
Michael Havay  
Kathleen Bouchard  
Colleen Cushing, Sue Ruggiero  
Abby Endres  
Zeke and Eli Isaacs  
Doug Topliffe  
Larissa Riley  
Melissa Lewis

### Ministers to the World

Senior Pastor  
Associate Pastor  
Student Pastor  
Director of Music  
Organist/Accompanist  
Deacon in Charge  
Deacons  
Usher  
Greeters  
Videographer  
Director of Youth Ministries  
Nursery Attendant

**WE REJOICE TODAY** in the baptisms of Margaret Mavena Ann Bolin and Netaniah Marie Dart.

Maggie is the daughter of Rebekah and Gabe Bolin. Her godparents are Gretchen Davis and Margaret Bennett.

Netaniah is the daughter of Meredith and Obadiah Dart. Her sponsors are Emily Getler and Nathan Getler.

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL:** All are welcome to join us in the community room after worship for our annual ice cream social, as we celebrate the end of the church school year.

**SHARE FOOD PANTRY** requests for June include toothbrushes, 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

**STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH:** Each day, visions and dreams are created in the hearts of many in the United Church of Christ. Through the *Strengthen the Church* offering, they can become a reality. As God calls our congregations to be "church" in new ways, your gift will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches, and develop spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Because of this offering, many more will hear the good news that "God is still speaking." Your offerings are directed to your church's Conference, and Local Church Ministries. Checks may be written to *The Congregational Church of Amherst*, with *Strengthen the Church* noted on the memo line.

**GARDEN FLOWERS:** Fresh cut garden flowers are lovely for simple altar arrangements during the summer. If you can provide a bouquet of cut flowers, or can simply contribute flowers for a bouquet, please contact Sue Stout or Andrea in the church office to schedule a Sunday. Thank you for sharing your flower gardens!

# 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 20, 2025** — 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.

Raffle tickets are on sale now, and can be purchased by following this link: <https://golf100holes.com/product/raffle-ticket?ref=59>. This link is specific to our church and we will receive direct credit from all tickets purchased through this link. The drawing will be Friday, June 20, 2025 during the 100 Holes of Golf event, and you do not need to be present to win.

## Our Church Calendar

**June 8—14, 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
	11:30 a.m.	Racial Justice Team
Monday	10:00 a.m.	WA Workshop
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	WA Board
	7:00 p.m.	Communications
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Congregational Care
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir

**DID YOU KNOW:** Pride Month, June 1 through June 30, is a month-long observance dedicated to the celebration of LGBTQ pride. This month commemorates the contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer culture and community. In the LGBTQ+ context, 'pride' stands for the self-affirmation, dignity, and celebration of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people as a social group. It also refers to the promotion of their rights, equality, and increase visibility in our communities.

**FREDERICK DOUGLASS SPEECH READING:** On Saturday, June 28, CCA's Racial Justice Team is hosting a reading of Douglass' historic protest speech. The reading will take place on the steps of the church opposite the Village Green. Come and listen to part or all of the speech and then join us for refreshments and discussion in the Memorial Garden. The reading will begin at 12:00 noon.

**CAN YOU HELP, SIGN UP NOW:** At the Annual Meeting held on May 18<sup>th</sup>, it was decided that it was best to finance the proposed front lawn signage for the church through a special fundraiser. At this point, virtually everything is ready to go except how to pay for it. Within hours of the meeting, an inspired member of the church stepped up and offered a donation of \$1000 toward the sign project. If any other members are also feeling inspired, please send us a sign (pun intended). You can contact Andrea ([andrea@ccamherst.org](mailto:andrea@ccamherst.org) or 603-673-3231) to make a donation or just write a check and note that it is for the sign. Thanks in advance for your support.

<b>Financial Summary</b>			
(as of April 30, 2025)			
	YTD	YTD	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$411,800	\$395,487	\$16,314
Expenses	\$391,201	\$386,668	\$ 4,533
Net Income	\$ 20,600	\$ 8,819	\$11,781

*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 (Treasurer), Paul Spiess, Doug Topliffe, and Todd Whitney.*

*Sunday, June 8, 2025*