

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



*"Music, once admitted to the soul, becomes a sort of spirit,
and never dies."*

—Edward Bulwer Lytton

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."*

July 6, 2025

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Romance from As the Clouds Parted
Eileen Yarrison, alto flute

Phyllis Avidan Louke

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Please rise in body or spirit.

One: God has a dream, a great uniting dream where all God's people know we are one in Christ.

Many: God has a vision, a cosmic vision of reconciliation on earth and in heaven.

One: As Christ's church we are called to be bearers of the vision.

Many: But we dimly see what God sees. We need our vision sharpened, our minds enlightened, and our hearts enlarged.

All: Let us be open to the moving of God among us as we sing hymns of praise, pray, and listen for God's living word to us this day.

*HYMN

Thine Is the Glory

No. 122

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

The congregation may be seated.

Lord, we come to church for many reasons. We come to recover our vision. The everydayness of life sometimes overwhelms us all. Often we lose our purpose and our way. Speak to us, today, through the hymns, the prayers, the sharing of communion, and the holy scripture, that we might be stirred to dream the dreams and do the deeds you have for us. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days. In the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray:

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.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

ANTHEM

He Never Sleeps
Eileen Yarrison, flute

arr. Ricky Lombardo

SCRIPTURE INTRODUCTION

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, [] just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us [c] for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

SERMON

"Shaped by Music"

*HYMN

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

No. 384

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.

ORGAN RESPONSE

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Solfeggio, KV 393, No. 2
Eileen Yarrison, flute

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

*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)

Compassionate God, who strengthens us for the journey of faith. All over the world there are those of your family in desperate need this day. With you, there is no distinction regarding who should receive help, for all are worthy in your sight. It is in your Spirit that we make our offering, committing ourselves, our resources to your vision of an earth and heaven where all people are one. Unite us as your new creation, made whole through Christ's love and empowered by you O God. In gratitude, we dedicate all that we have and all that we are. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

We welcome all people to join in receiving this sacrament. Children may participate at the discretion of their parents.

CALL TO COMMUNION

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God most high.

Many: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION and CONSECRATING PRAYER

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

Communion at CCA is open to anyone who would like to partake. When you receive the bread, eat at your own pace, symbolizing our individual relationship with God. When you receive the juice, drink with the whole congregation, symbolizing our communion as the Body of Christ. The bread is gluten, egg, and dairy free and the juice is non-alcoholic, so that there may be no barriers to Christ's table.

ORGAN MEDITATION

Voluntary

Artemas Nixon Johnson

Communion

Jules Cohen

COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison)

We give thanks loving God, for feeding us at this table. Send us out into the world, as conduits of your love – full of compassion, and commitment, and eager to be Christ’s church in the world. Amen.

*HYMN

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

pages 6 & 7

*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

*COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

One: Beloved children, you are blessed and sent out into the world to share God’s good love with everyone you meet.

Many: **Let us not grow weary of doing what is right.**

One: Go and work for the good of all.

Many: **We go in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit to do all the good we can for all the people we can in all the ways we can for as long as we can.**

All: **Our worship has now ended, and our service begins. Amen.**

*ORGAN RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE

Scherzo from As the Clouds Parted
Eileen Yarrison, alto flute

Phyllis Avidan Louke

*(*Please rise in body or spirit.)*

*Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service
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Sunday, July 6, 2025

Kleuren voor
volwassenen



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 for the summer, and resumes on Rally Day, September 7, 2025.
- Our church nursery is open, but not staffed during the summer months. It is available when parents with young children feel the need for a quiet, safe space to go to during worship. A monitor is available to watch and listen to the service.
- 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 memorial garden for a time of fellowship after the worship service. Lemonade and other refreshments are offered. In the case of inclement weather, we will gather in the community room.
- In the event of an emergency, please remain seated until instructions have been given.

The church office is open for visitors 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. Charlotte E. Y. Bell
 Michael Havay
 Sally Hooper
 Colleen Cushing, Roger Hooper, Doug Topliffe
 Andrea Cyr

Ministers to the World
 Associate Pastor
 Organist/Accompanist
 Deacon in Charge
 Deacons
 Videographer

Rev. Maureen R. Frescott
 Sara L. Phelps
 Larissa Riley
 Melissa Lewis

Senior Pastor
 Director of Music
 Director of Youth Ministries
 Nursery Attendant

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is going to Alaska this summer! In order to transform our sanctuary into the Alaskan Wilderness, we are looking to borrow artificial Christmas trees for the week of VBS. All trees will be carefully labeled and returned at the conclusion of our fun-filled week. If you are able to drop a tree off, please put your name on the box and leave it on the stage in the Community room by July 20.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Larissa Riley at churchschool@ccamherst.org.

WOMAN'S ASSOCIATION SUMMER WORKSHOP: On Monday, July 14 WA members and friends will meet in the church vestry from 10:00 a.m. until noon for an informal gathering. Participants can bring their own craft projects to work on, or just join in the fellowship. A snack and beverages will be provided. Anyone interested in learning more about the Woman's Association is welcome to attend. No RSVP is needed.

Contact Adrienne at abtopliffe@gmail.com with any questions.

SHARE FOOD PANTRY requests for July include canned ham, canned meats/tuna/chicken, mac and cheese, pasta (all sorts), Progresso and Chunky soups. Donations may be left in our new SHARE collection container in the vestry. Many thanks for your continuing support!

Financial Summary

(as of May 31, 2025)

	YTD <u>Actual</u>	YTD <u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$429,585	\$426,274	\$3,311
Expenses	\$425,586	\$421,742	\$3,844
Net Income	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,533	\$ (533)

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.