

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



*“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.
We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality,
tied in a single garment of destiny.
Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.”*

— Martin Luther King Jr.

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 20, 2025

Sixth 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

Galliarda

Iouri Grichetchkine

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Please rise in body or spirit.

One: Lord God, if we find favor with you,

Many: Do not pass by.

One: As we come into your house, O God,

**Many: Let a little water be brought, let a little bread be made,
Let a little wine or juice be poured.**

One: All who long to find rest and refreshment in the Lord.

ALL: Come and hear, come and share the word of life.

*HYMN

O Christ, the Great Foundation

No. 443

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, 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 of 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.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

La Colomba (The Dove) from The Birds

Ottorino Respighi

Natalie Berger, oboe

Helen Saunders, harp

SCRIPTURE INTRODUCTION

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 10:38-42

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

SERMON

"Good, Better, Best"

*HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

No. 339

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 the pastor during the hymn after the sermon, and will be shared during Joys and Concerns.

ORGAN RESPONSE

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Nearer My God to Thee

Lowell Mason/
Richard Elliott

*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)

Whatever we have collected in the world first came from you, Lord God. We return to you what we hope is a faithful portion of the abundance you share with us. As we have been blessed so richly through your love and in our relationship with you, may we likewise be a blessing to others. Amen.

*HYMN

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

No. 438

*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

*COMMISSION AND BLESSING

*ORGAN RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE

Allegro from Sonata No. 3 in F
Natalie Berger, English horn

Benedetto Marcello

*(*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 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
 Kathleen Bouchard, John Swanson
 Sue Werst
 Stephen and Joan Egbertson
 Tim Wiegand

Ministers to the World
 Associate Pastor
 Organist/Accompanist
 Deacon in Charge
 Deacons
 Liturgist
 Ushers
 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.

FLOOR CLEANING: The vestry will be closed from July 24 thru July 28 due to our annual floor waxing. Because of this, there will be no access to the nursery on Sunday, July 27. The community room will be closed the following week while that floor is being waxed.

The Trustees of the Facility are asking for help on July 20th, 27th and August 3rd to move furniture in and out of these rooms for this floor waxing. Work will begin immediately after worship.

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!

Our Church Calendar July 20—26, 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	11:00 a.m.	Memorial Garden Pierce Family
Thursday		Fire Alarm & Elevator Inspections Vestry Floor Cleaning through Sunday

Jesus in the home of Mary and Martha



Sunday, July 20, 2025

Vacation Bible School

August 4-8, 2025

The Congregational Church of Amherst, UCC

It's time for kids to hit the trail...for adventure! True North VBS will be filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences that kids can see, hear, and touch! Hands-on science experiments, team-building games, unforgettable music, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life.



Dates: August 4th - 8th, 2025

Time: 9 AM - Noon each day

Ages: preschoolers through 5th graders

Cost: \$25 per child (scholarships available)

Youth Volunteers: Rising 6th - 12th graders



Register Online at: ccamherst.org/church-school

Registration closes July 23rd

Donate supplies from our wishlist:

<https://a.co/1Lo0wK6>

Questions? Contact Larissa Riley or Gretchen Davis

Email: churchschool@ccamherst.org

