

**First Church of Christ, Congregational  
United Church of Christ**

**In Everything Give Thanks**

**Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**



**November 19, 2023**

CCLI #292978, and #20547245

CHURCH ORGANIZED ON AUGUST 18, 1778

Present building erected in North Conway Village 1884

**"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are  
welcome here!"**

# Gathering

**\*Please stand if you are able.**

**PRELUDE** Choral Improvisation on Hymntune NUN DANKET, Op. 65  
S. Karg-Elert

Lighting of the Community and Christ Candle  
We invite you to use this time for silent prayer  
and reflection as we prepare for worship.

**Welcome and Greetings** – Muriel Magg

**Introit**

O Come, Let Us Sing

J. Johnson

O come, let us sing unto the Lord,  
Let us make a joyful noise unto the Rock of our salvation,  
Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving,  
And make a joyful noise to the Lord with singing! Amen

## Call to Worship

One: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, Rejoice!

**All: God, we delight in your creation. We thank you for soft breezes, crisp apples, and changing seasons that remind us of your presence and provision.**

One: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, Rejoice!

**All: God, we delight in our connectedness. We thank you for friends who check in, for church family who lift one another up, for neighbors who show up in the good and challenging times.**

One: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, Rejoice!

**All: God, we delight in your peace that dwells among us. We give thanks for neighbors who offer help in times of trouble, gentleness in the midst of pain, and acts of kindness during seasons of struggle.**

One: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving and rejoicing!

**All: Come! Let us worship God together.**

**\*Hymn** (see next to last page) Sing to the Lord of Harvest

## Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*We offer each other a sign of peace.*

## Proclamation

### Scripture

Psalms 67 Old Testament page 529

Philippians 4:4-13 New Testament pages 198-199

### Children's Message

Grateful For.....

### The Word In Music

A Song of Thanksgiving

N. Sleeth

(Based on Hymntune FOUNDATION)

Thanks, thanks, thanks, thanks,

Thanks, thanks, thanks to Thee, Lord God, One in Three,

Praise and glory be now and evermore!

Sing, sing joyfully, thank the Deity, bow down gratefully,  
worship and adore!

Come, ye thankful people all, praise for blessings great and  
small,

Thanks, thanks, thanks to Thee, Lord God, One in Three,

Praise and glory be now and evermore!, For evermore!

Deo, Deo, Deo gracias, Deo Deo domino, Deo, Deo, Deo  
gracias nunc in jubilato

Deo, Deo, Deo gracias, Deo, Deo, domino, Deo, Deo, Deo  
gracias nunc in jubilato.

Let now every creature with song fill the air; let loud  
celebration resound everywhere.

To God, the Almighty who rules over all, bring praise and thanksgiving for gifts great and small.

**(Congregation with trumpet singing)**

"All praise and thanksgiving to Thee, Lord we bring; in glad adoration our anthems we sing.

For gifts of the Spirit we know day by day, For blessings abundant we thank Thee always!"

**(Choir alone)**

Thanks, thanks. thanks .....

Thanks, O Lord, to Thee, Amen!

**Message** In Everything Be Grateful and Give Thanks

Pastor Sue Davidson

**\*Hymn** (NCH) #422 Come, O Thankful People, Come

Tune: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

**Response**

**Prayers with Joys and Concerns**

**Prayer Hymn** (see last page) Give Thanks

**Morning Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, which 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.

## Offering

## Invitation

Offertory Music      My Spirit Be Joyful      (From Cantata BWV 146)  
J. S. Bach  
(Arr. for Organ and Two Trumpets by E. Power Biggs)

### \*Doxology (NCH) #785

We give you but your own, what e'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.

### \*Prayer of Gratitude

## Sending Out

\*Hymn (NCH) #12    I Sing the Mighty Power of God  
Tune: ELLACOMBE

## Benediction

### Benediction Response

Paul Burtis

May God's Blessings twine around you,  
Perfect love, and healing calm;  
May God's radiance shine upon you; may it guide you,  
Stay beside you; watch and keep you safe from harm.

## Postlude

Voluntary in C Major for Organ and Two Trumpets  
H. Purcell  
(Edited by E. Power Biggs)

***Great appreciation is extended to all the musicians sharing their talents during this morning's service:***

***Betty Rines, trumpet; Dana Russian, trumpet; Chris Russian, flute; Anne Polak, flute and Director of the Choir, and all members of our Chancel Choir.***

Worship Credits – Call to Worship written by Dr. Lisa Hancock-May 2023  
Discipleship Ministries Worship Resources

***The altar flowers are given by Glenna Tibbetts in loving memory of her brother, George Fernald, all to the glory of God.***

**Welcome:** Muriel Magg

**Greeters:** Don and Laurel Ekberg

**Ushers:** Harry Smith and Jay Donabedian

**Liturgist:** Christine Russian

***Evelyn Porter*** is designated as The Coordinator of the Diaconates' Ministry of Greeting. If you would like her to send a card from the church to someone who is ill, grieving, celebrating, or who just needs a "pick-me-up" note, please call her at 603-356-2881 or send her an email at [hambro35@yahoo.com](mailto:hambro35@yahoo.com).

***Please join us for Fellowship in the vestry after worship so we can get to know you better!***

## Week of Activities:

**Today:** Revolving Closet – Teens 2-5pm

**Monday:** *December Newsletter Deadline;*

AA Noon-1pm;

Crafty Hands Workshop 6:30-8:00pm

**Tuesday:** Food Pantry: Noon – 1:45pm;

Trustees meeting 4pm;

Diaconate meeting 5pm

**Thursday:** *Happy Thanksgiving*

**Thursday and Friday: OFFICES CLOSED**

**Friday:** AA Noon-1pm

**Sunday:** Worship Celebration 10am

## Mission Corner

- **November Noisy Offering will go to *Angels and Elves*.**
- **4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Mission collection is for *Christmas Giving Tree*.**
- **The Food Pantry is in need of non-perishable food or monetary gifts.** Checks can be made payable to: *Vaughan Community Services, Inc.* and placed in the collection plate.

## ***Church Address and Information***

2521 White Mountain Highway  
PO Box 401  
North Conway, NH 03860

Church Phone: 603-356-2324

Church Fax number: 603-356-2106

Church Website: [www.firstchurchnc.com](http://www.firstchurchnc.com)

Church Office email: churchoffice@firstchurchnc.com

Pastor: Sue Davidson

Organist: Floyd Corson

Choir/Handbell Director: Anne Polak

Associate Organist: Muriel Magg

Church Administrator: Denise Leighton

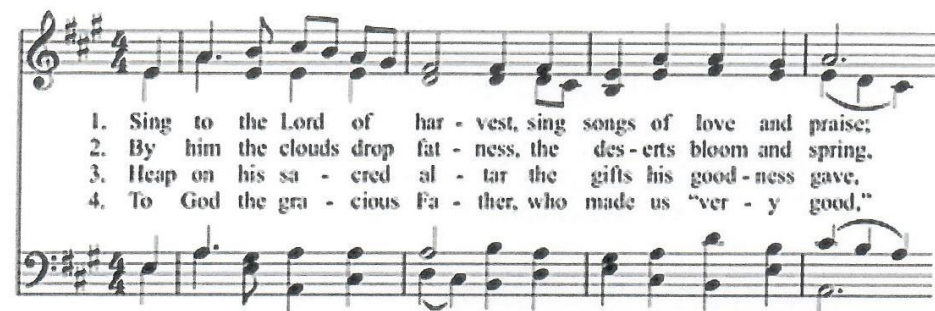
Church Sexton: Mark Schiller



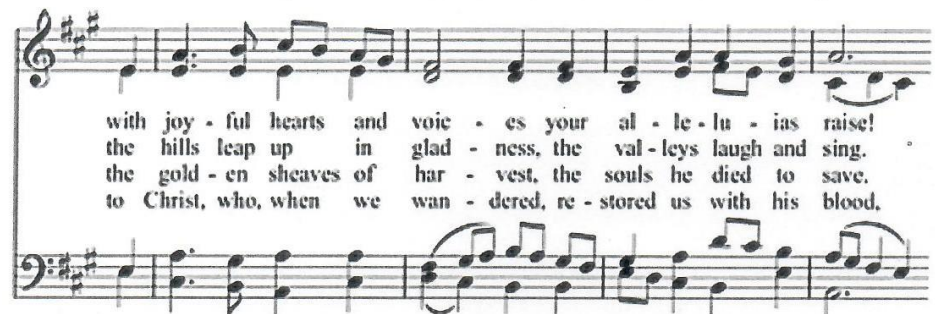
## THE BLESSING PRAYER

“May this Sanctuary be a shelter in your life. When you come here, may all the weight of the world fall from your shoulders. May your heart be tranquil here, blessed by peace the world cannot give. May this Sanctuary be a place where the graces your life desires always find the pathway to your heart. May this be a safe place full of understanding and acceptance, where you can be as you are, without the need of any mask of pretense or image. May this be a place of spiritual discovery, where the possibilities that sleep in the clay of your soul can emerge to deepen and refine your vision for all that is yet to come to birth. May this sacred place be a home of courage, where healing and growth are loved, where dignity and forgiveness prevail; a place where patience is revered, and the sight of the destination is never lost, though the journey be difficult and slow. May this be a place of welcome and may you have the eyes to see that no guest arrives without a gift and no guest leaves without a blessing.”

*Adapted from John O'Donohue's Poem – For A New Home*



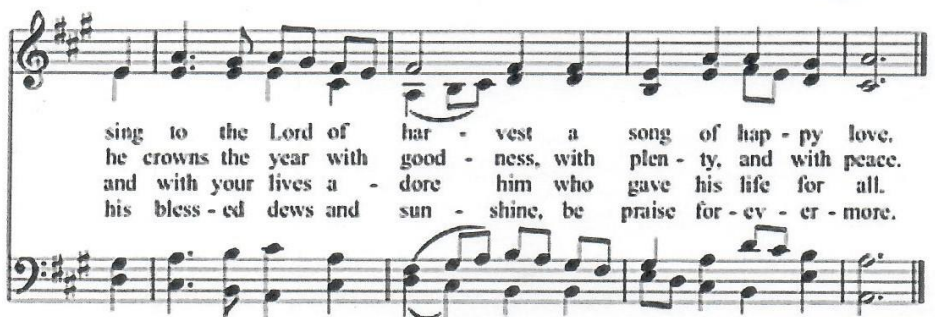
1. Sing to the Lord of har - vest, sing songs of love and praise;  
 2. By him the clouds drop fat - ness, the des - erts bloom and spring,  
 3. Heap on his sa - cred al - tar the gifts his good - ness gave,  
 4. To God the gra - cious Fa - ther, who made us "ver - y good,"



with joy - ful hearts and voic - es your al - le - lu - ias raise!  
 the hills leap up in glad - ness, the val - leys laugh and sing,  
 the gold - en sheaves of har - vest, the souls he died to save,  
 to Christ, who, when we wan - dered, re - stored us with his blood,



By him the roll - ing sea - sons in fruit - ful or - der move;  
 He fill - eth with his full - ness all things with large in - crease;  
 Your hearts lay down be - fore him when at his feet you fall,  
 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it, who doth up - on us pour



sing to the Lord of har - vest a song of hap - py love,  
 he crowns the year with good - ness, with plen - ty, and with peace,  
 and with your lives a - dore him who gave his life for all,  
 his bless - ed dew and sun - shine, be praise for - ev - er - more.



Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the



Ho - ly One, give thanks be - cause he's



giv-en Je - sus Christ his Son. Give Son. And



now let the weak say, "I am strong"; let the



poor say, "I am rich be-cause of what the Lord has



done for us." And us." Give

⊕ CODA



us." Give thanks! \_\_\_\_\_

WORDS: Henry Smith (Luke 1:49-53)  
MUSIC: Henry Smith

GIVE THANKS  
Irregular