

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

Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost



October 13, 2024

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!"**

"Simplicity is the glory of expression." — Walt Whitman

***Please stand if you are able**

Prelude

Partita on Saint Anne

Paul Manz

Lighting the Community Candles

We invite you to use this time for silent prayer
and reflection as we prepare for worship.

Gathering

Call to Worship

One: We gather, aware of the weight we carry, seeking a space of simplicity and grace.

All: We come to lay down our burdens and open our hearts to God's presence.

One: In a world filled with distractions, we long to focus on what truly matters.

All: We are here to remember that God's love is enough to sustain and nurture us.

One: Christ calls us to release the things that hold us back from fully following Him.

All: We come ready to let go of our attachments and embrace the freedom of God's grace.

One: The kingdom of God belongs to those who seek with humble hearts.

All: We gather to be transformed by God's love, which moves us beyond materialism and status.

One: Jesus invites us to trust in God's abundance rather than the riches of this world.

All: We come to open our hands and hearts, knowing that with God, all things are possible.

One: Let us enter this time of worship with simplicity, joy, and trust in the power of God's grace.

All: We come to worship God, whose love leads us to life in all its fullness.

Unison Prayer

One: Let us pray.

All: Loving God, we come before You with hearts full of gratitude and longing. And yet, we are often burdened by our attachments to material things, and power, and status. We hold tightly to what we think we need, forgetting that Your love is more than enough for us. Teach us to let go, to live simply, and to trust fully in Your grace. Help us to release the weight of possessions and ego, so that we may be open to Your transforming love. Remind us that everything we have is a gift from You, and that in giving, we receive. May we walk in the way of Jesus, free to love You and one another without fear or hesitation. In Your name, we pray. Amen.

***Hymn NCH #562 Take My Gifts Tune: TALAVERA TERRACE**

Sharing The Peace of Christ

Proclamation

Scripture Micah 6:1-8 Hebrew Bible page 866
1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19 Pew Bible pages 210-211
Mark 10:17-31

Children's Message What's In Your Backpack Pastor Walt

Witness To The Word In Music Giga G. F. Handel
Christine Russian - flautist
Muriel Magg - pianist

Message About That Big Fat Camel Pastor Walt

Response

Prayers with Joys and Concerns

Morning Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

One: Now as our Savior Jesus taught us, we pray together:

All: 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.

Offertory

One: Let us give, as each is able, according to the blessings that God has given each of us.

Doxology NCH #780

Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Sending Out

*Hymn (**Red Hymnal**) #133 Where He Leads Me

Benediction

Postlude

Gloria

J. Haydn

(Stay and enjoy OR head right on over for coffee and treats!)

The altar flowers are given by Fred & Barbara Starkey in memory of his mother, Mabel Starkey, all to the Glory of God.

Greeter: Helen Goss

Ushers: Ken Schiller & Jay Donabedian

Liturgist: Christine Russian

Welcome to First Church of Christ! If you are visiting with us in person today, please note that there are two fire exits at the rear of the sanctuary and one through the back of the church through the kitchen. Additionally, there are two unisex bathrooms; one downstairs off the entrance where you entered and one off the kitchen at the rear of the building.

We hope you will join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall so we can get to know you better.

Our October Newsletter is chock full of good stuff and important dates! You'll definitely want to check it out. You'll find it online by going to our website at: <https://firstchurchnc.com/Newsletters/October2024.pdf>

(And let us know if you don't have online access - we can still mail a physical copy to you!)

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 hambru35@yahoo.com.

Week of Activities:

Monday AA Noon-1pm;

Tuesday: Food Pantry 11:30am-1:45pm;

Wednesday: Faith Fellowship 9:30-10:30am;
Pastor's Office Hours 1-3pm

Thursday: Food Pantry 12:30-2:45pm;
Chancel Choir Rehearsal 3pm;
Bell Choir Rehearsal 4pm

Friday: Rev. Dr. Michael Piazza 9:00am – 4:00pm

Saturday: Rev. Dr. Michael Pizza 9:00am – 12:00pm

Sunday: Worship Celebration 10am;
Church Council meeting 11:30am;
Revolving Closet-Teens

Mission Corner:

- **September-October Noisy Offering will go to Heifer Project.** The Heifer Project works to end hunger and poverty with the communities they serve around the world.
- The 4th Quarter **Mission collection is for the Jen's Friends. The Food Pantry is in need of non-perishable food or monetary gifts.** The pantry hours are shown in our *Week of Activities*. Checks can be made payable to: *Vaughan Community Service, Inc.* and placed in the collection plate.

Church Address and Information

First Church of Christ, Congregational, UCC
2521 White Mountain Highway
PO Box 401
North Conway, NH 03860

Pastor: The Reverend Walt Hampton, J.D., CFC

Associate Organist: Muriel Magg

Chancel Choir/Handbell Director: Anne Polak

Church Administrator/Bookkeeper: Denise Leighton

Vaughan Administrator: Jennifer Perkins

Vaughan Learning Center Director: Heather Ouellette

Vaughan Bookkeeper: Denise Leighton

Church Sexton: Mark Schiller

Pastor Walt's Phone: 603-356-2324 (PRESS 2)

Church Phone: 603-356-2324

Church Fax number: 603-356-2106

Vaughan Food Pantry: 603-602-1801

Vaughan Learning Center: 603-356-5213

Pastor Walt's Email: pastor@firstchurchnc.com

Church Office Email: churchoffice@firstchurchnc.com

Church Website: www.firstchurchnc.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/firstchurchncnh

Thank you for worshipping with us today!