

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

Twenty-Sixth Sunday After Pentecost



November 17, 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!"**

"You do not need to know precisely what is happening, or exactly where it is all going. What you need is to recognize the possibilities and challenges offered by the present moment, and to embrace them with courage, faith, and hope." —Thomas Merton

***Please stand if you are able**

Prelude

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 in the presence of the Creator, whose love transforms endings into new beginnings.

All: We come seeking renewal, open to the ways God brings life from what is no longer.

One: In times of uncertainty and change, God's Spirit invites us to be rooted and grounded.

All: We place our trust in the One who dwells in all things, steady and unshakable.

One: When familiar structures fall away, God's presence calls us into deeper understanding.

All: May we release our hold on what was, making space for new ways to know and serve.

One: In the midst of chaos, we find hope not in the absence of troubles, but in God's enduring love.

All: With eyes open to the sacred around us, we choose to live with hope and faith.

One: The Divine invites us to see beyond fear and to seek the holy in each moment of life.

All: We gather to remember God's presence in the here and now, drawing strength for the journey.

One: Come, let us worship with hearts open to transformation, trusting that God is at work within and beyond us.

All: Together, we lift our voices in praise, anchored in faith and ready to grow.

Unison Prayer

One: Let us pray.

All: Gracious and Ever-Present God, in times of change and uncertainty, we look to You as our foundation. We release our grip on what is passing away and open ourselves to Your new creation unfolding within and around us. Ground us in Your love, that we may find strength in the sacredness of each moment. Fill us with hope, so that even in the midst of turmoil, we may be bearers of peace and light. In Your presence, we find courage for today and vision for tomorrow. Amen.

***Hymn – NCH #439 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

Sharing The Peace of Christ

Proclamation

Scripture

1 Samuel 2:1-10
Romans 8:18-25
Mark 13:1-8

Children's Message

Lost and Found

Pastor Walt

The Word In Music -

Love Your Neighbor

Message

When It All Comes Tumbling Down

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** – NCH #25 O God, Our Help In Ages Past

Benediction

Postlude

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

The altar flowers are given by Denise & Joe Leighton, in loving memory of their son, Timothy Leighton, all to the glory of God.

Greeter: Lee Coffield

Ushers: Jim & Karen Umberger

Liturgist: Jennifer Terry

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 November 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/November2024.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:

Today: Revolving Closet-Teens 2-5pm

Monday: AA Noon-1pm;

Scouts of American Troop 150 and Pack 150 6-8:30pm

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

Trustees meeting 4pm

Wednesday: **Mt. Washington Radio Group Holiday Giving**

6am-6pm at Vaughan Food Pantry;

Faith Fellowship in RFL Bldg. 9:30-10:30am

Thursday: Food Pantry 12:30-2:45pm;

Chancel Choir Rehearsal 3pm;

Bell Choir Rehearsal 4pm

Friday: AA Noon-1pm

Sunday: **Thanksgiving Worship Celebration 10am**

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at Gibson Center 5pm

Mission Corner:

- **November-December Noisy Offering will go to Vaughan Non-Essential Food program.** This program is designed to assist seniors with everyday items.
- 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!



To make giving even easier for those who don't carry cash or use checks, we've started using QR Code, in the bulletin. Just scan the code with your phone like you would in a restaurant!