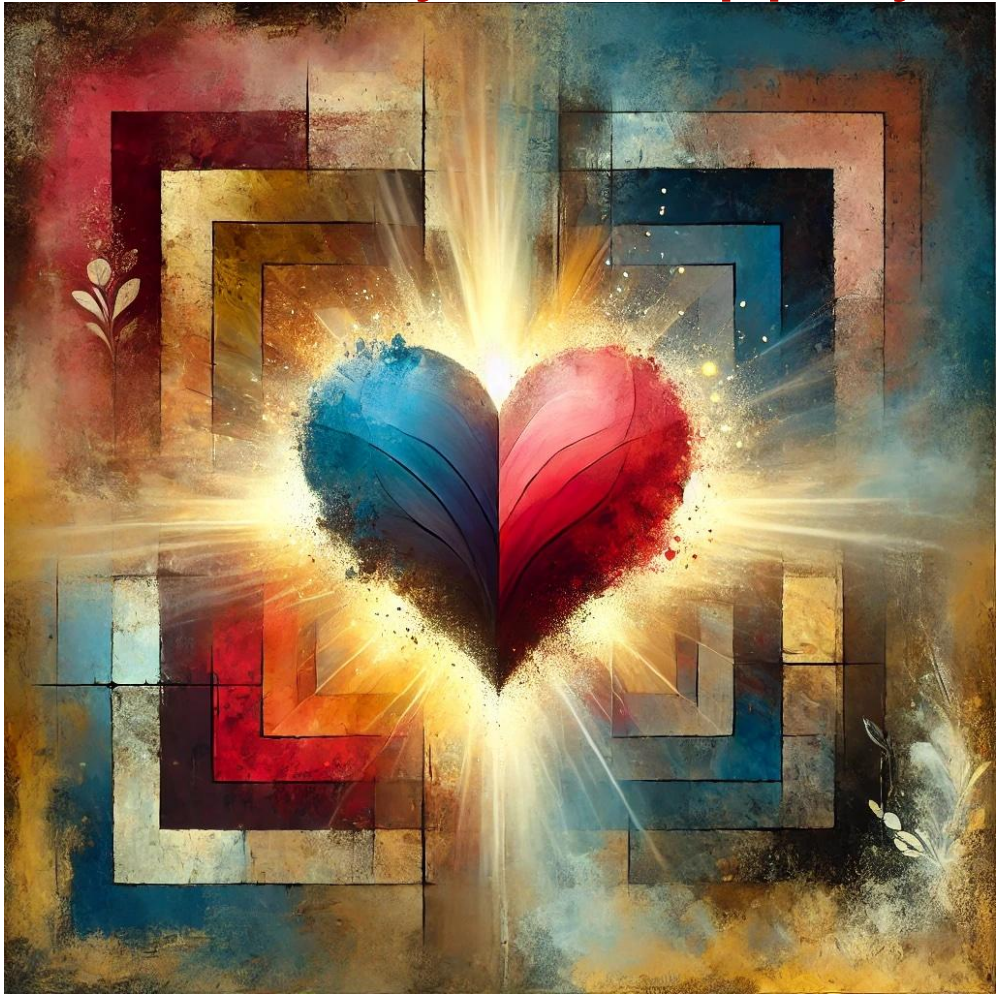


**First Church of Christ, Congregational  
United Church of Christ**

**Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany**



**February 2, 2025**

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!"**

*"The measure of a society is how it treats its most vulnerable members."*

*– Attributed to Mahatma Gandhi*

**\*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.

## **Introit**

### **Gathering**

#### **Call to Worship**

One: Come and encounter a love that disrupts our comfort and expands our vision.

**All: We gather to worship the God whose grace knows no boundaries.**

One: Bring your assumptions, your doubts, and your certainties.

**All: We open our hearts to the One who challenges and transforms us.**

One: Christ proclaims a love that reaches beyond borders and divisions.

**All: We are called to embrace the fullness of God's radical grace.**

One: Though the truth may unsettle us, it sets us free.

**All: We come to be renewed by the power of God's justice and mercy.**

One: Together, we witness the love that includes the outsider and uplifts the forgotten.

**All: We praise the One who shows us a new way of living and loving.**

One: Let us worship the God of boundless grace and enduring truth.

**All: We rejoice in the love that heals, unites, and transforms the world.**

One: Christ's love challenges us to see beyond ourselves, to embrace the stranger and uplift the oppressed.

**All: We come to be transformed by this love, that we may reflect it boldly in our lives.**

### **Unison Prayer**

One: Let us pray.

**All: God of boundless grace, you call us to a love that challenges our assumptions and expands our hearts. You remind us that your mercy flows freely to all, crossing every boundary we create. Forgive us when we resist the wideness of your love, clinging instead to comfort and certainty. Open our eyes to see as you see, our hearts to love as you love, and our hands to serve as you serve. May we embrace your call to live boldly, welcoming the outsider, lifting up the forgotten, and proclaiming your justice and peace in all we do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

\*Hymn NCH #177    God of Change and Glory

### **Sharing The Peace of Christ**

#### **Proclamation**

**Scripture**                    Jeremiah 1:4-8 (Hebrew Bible p.698)  
  1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (NT p. 175)  
  Luke 4:21-30

**Children's Message**        Telling It Like It Is    Pastor Walt

**Word In Music**                Song of Remembrance    Tom Fettke

Do this in remembrance of me. Do this in remembrance of me.  
This bread is my body, this cup is my blood;  
share them among you in love. Do this in remembrance of me.

This is my body given for you; this cup is the New Covenant,  
sealed with my blood. Do this in remembrance of me.

Do this in remembrance of me; and whenever you eat this bread;  
whenever you drink this cup you proclaim the Lord's death  
'til he comes, until he comes, until he comes.

**Message**

You Offend Me

Pastor Walt

## **Response**

### **Prayers with Joys and Concerns**

#### **Morning Prayer**

#### **Offertory**

#### **Doxology** NCH #780

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.

#### **Prayer of Dedication**

## **Communion**

#### **Invitation to the Table**

#### **Communion Prayer** (*The St. Francis Eucharistic Prayer*)

One: The Holy Living God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to the Lord!**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Eucharist Prayer

### The Lord's Prayer (sung)

One: Now as our Savior Jesus taught us, let us sing together:

**All: 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.**

### Sharing The Gifts

One: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come for all things are ready.

*We invite you to come forward via the center aisle, as directed by the ushers, to receive communion. ALL are welcome at this table.*

### Communion Song Communion Canon Ruth Schram & Niel Lorenz

Chancel Choir with Sue & Tom Davidson on Bells

Your sacrifice has made me whole, healed my heart and touched my soul.  
Humbly I take this bread this wine; Your blood, Your body, Your love divine.

This sacred day, Your shining face I see!  
I hear You say, "Do this in remembrance of Me."

Your sacrifice has made me whole, healed my heart and touched my soul.  
Humbly I take this bread, this wine, Your blood, Your body, Your love divine.

## Sending Out

\*Hymn NCH #423 Great Is Your Faithfulness

### Benediction

Closing Song NCH #809 God Be With You

## Postlude

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

"Flowers don't worry about how they're going to bloom. They just open up and turn toward the light, and that makes them beautiful." - *Jim Carrey*

May we remember to always turn to the light.

**Greeter:** Patsy Perry

**Ushers:** Mike James and Jay Donabedian

**Liturgist:** Laurel Ekberg

*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.*

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

### Mission Corner:

- **The Noisy Offering for January/February will go to the Way Station.** This program is designed to provide safe, welcoming, non-judgmental space and supportive services for homeless & housing insecure residents of Mt Washington Valley.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter **Mission collection is for the End 68 Hours of Hunger Program.** This program confronts the approximately 68 hours of hunger that some school children experience between the free lunch they receive at school on Friday afternoon and the free breakfast they receive at school on Monday morning.

- **The Food Pantry welcomes non-perishable food and monetary gifts are most appreciated as they can be stretched further.** 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.

**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](mailto:hambru35@yahoo.com).

### **Week of Activities:**

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

**Monday:** AA Noon-1pm;

Scouts of America Troop 150 and Pack 150 6:30-8:00pm

**Tuesday:** Faith Fellowship 9:30-10:30am;

Food Pantry 11:30am-1:45pm

**Thursday:** WIC Program 9:30am – 2:30pm;

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

Chancel Choir Rehearsal 3-4pm;

Bell Choir Rehearsal 4-5pm

**Friday:** AA Noon-1pm;

**Empty Bowls-Kennett High School, proceeds go to  
Vaughan Food Pantry 5-7pm**

**Sunday:** Worship Celebration 10am;

11:30am Mission Committee meeting

**Our February 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/February2025.pdf>**

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

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

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

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

Pianist/Organist: Patrick Speckamp

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](mailto:pastor@firstchurchnc.com)

Church Office Email: [churchoffice@firstchurchnc.com](mailto:churchoffice@firstchurchnc.com)

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

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/firstchurchncnh](http://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!**