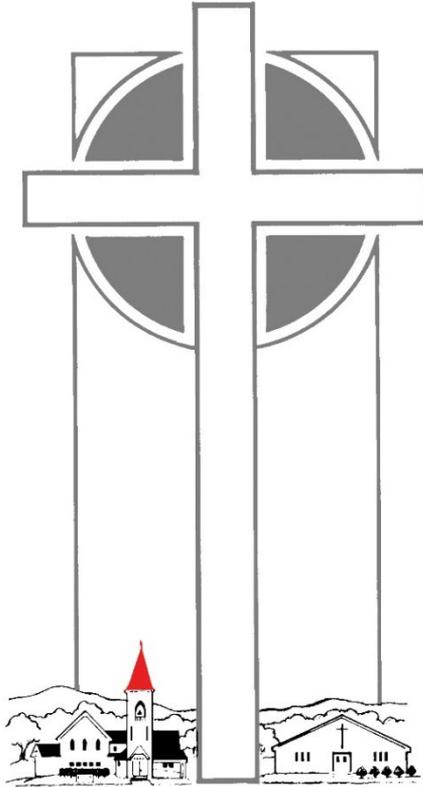


**First Church of Christ, Congregational,
United Church of Christ**

Third Sunday after Epiphany



January 25, 2026

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!"**

"Don't give into your fears, if you do, you won't be able to talk to your heart."

~Paulo Coelho

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

Prelude

Lighting of the Worship Candles

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

Welcome

Gathering

Centering Music

Call to Worship

(Written by Rev. Leslie Penrose, UCC)

One: We gather to worship together,

All: Different people, different lives, different histories,

One: Yet all children of the same Parent,

All: Created lovingly by the Source of all life!

One: We gather to reconnect with one another,

All: Different people, different lives, different histories,

One: Yet all disciples of one Teacher.

All: Jesus, the Word made flesh, dwelling among us.

One: We gather with different joys and sorrows, different hopes, and fears....

All: Different people, different lives, different histories,

One: Yet one people with one God, one faith, one baptism.

**All: Let us open ourselves to the presence of God at work in us,
among us, and through us.**

Unison Prayer

One: Let us pray.

All: Creator of everything known and unknown, thank you for this day and the gift of life that it has brought. God please remove from us the fears, the hurts and our own ideas that keep us from serving You and our neighbors. Guide us so that we may always have peace in our hearts, and that we may glorify you with our actions and our thoughts. Where there is darkness make us bearers of the light, where there is sadness, strengthen us that we

**may bring joy. For all things are possible through you God.
Amen.**

***Hymn NCH #73** Enter, Rejoice, and Come In

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: Peace be with you!

All: And also with you!

Proclamation

Scripture Isaiah 9:1-4 (Hebrew Bible p. 638)

Psalm 27: 1, 4-9 (OT Bible p. 503-504)

1 Corinthians 1:10-18 (NT p. 166)

At the end of the reading, the reader will say, "The word of God for the people of God." We invite your response to be, "Thanks be to God."

Children's Message

The Word In Music

Come and Find the Quiet Centre

Words: Shirley Erena Murray

Music: attrib. Benjamin Franklin White 1844, Harm: Ronald A. Nelson. 1978

Come and find the quiet centre in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us cools the heat and slows the pace.
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being face to face,
making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're drinking, finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!

Message

"Fear knocked at the door, but Faith answered..."

Christopher DeVries

Response

Prayers with Joys and Concerns

Morning Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

One: Let us 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.

Prayer Response

Offertory

Doxology

Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God above ye Heavenly Host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

Sending Out

Benediction

Closing Song

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

This Will Be

Natalie Cole

Greeter: Helen Goss

Ushers: Steve Woodcock and Jay Donabedian

Liturgists: Patrick Speckamp, Eryn Morency and Helen Goss

Faith Leader: Christopher DeVries

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

The doors to the church are locked at 10:10am on Sundays for everyone's safety. One of the doors in the back of the sanctuary is kept open for the Ushers to keep an eye out for any latecomers. Please knock on the glass if you need to get their attention.

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.

Mission Corner:

- **The Noisy Offering for January/February** will go to ACTS stands for Assistance Canine Training Service, they are a local nonprofit that trains and places service dogs for people with disabilities. They are based in Center Conway.
- **The 1st Quarter Mission collection to be determined.**
- **The Food Pantry welcomes non-perishable food and monetary gifts are most appreciated as they can be stretched further.** 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.

Week of Activities:

Today: **Third Sunday after the Epiphany**

Faith Led Service

Monday: AA Noon-1pm;

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

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

Thursday: Food Pantry Open 12:00-2:15pm;

Choir Rehearsal 3-4pm;

Bell Choir 4-5pm

Friday: AA Noon-1pm

Sunday: **Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany-Communion Sunday**

Pastor Sue Davidson, preaching

Revolving Closet - Teens 2-5pm

Our **January** Newsletter is chock full of good stuff and important dates!

You'll find it in your mail and by going online to our website at:

<https://firstchurchnc.com/Newsletters/January2026.pdf>

Church Address and Information

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

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

Church Phone: 603-356-2324

Church Fax number: 603-356-2106

Vaughan Food Pantry: 603-602-1801

Vaughan Learning Center: 603-356-5213

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!