

**First Church of Christ, Congregational,
United Church of Christ
Fourth Sunday of Easter**

HORTON CENTER SUNDAY



April 26, 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!"**

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

Prelude

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

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering

Centering Music

Call to Worship

Leader: The bell is ringing! It is time to gather.

People: We come from the busyness of our lives to find rest and renewal.

Leader: Come to the warmth of the campfire, where stories are shared and community is built.

People: We come seeking the light of God's love and the fellowship of one another.

Leader: Open your eyes to the wonder of creation; the immense mountains, the impossibly tall trees, the sound of the water, the whisper of the wind.

People: We open our hearts to see and hear God's presence all around us.

Leader: God calls us to a place of joy, adventure, and faith. Let us worship God together!

All: With faith and thanksgiving, we come!

***Hymn**

We Come From the Mountain

Unison Prayer

One: Let us pray.

All: God of steady mountains and towering peaks, fill us with strength and serenity.

God of burbling brooks and rushing rivers, let your love flow within us.

God of crackling campfires, draw us nearer to you, source of light and warmth.

God of star-filled skies, fill us with awe at the beauty of your creation.

Gather us in love and peace as we worship you. Amen.

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: The peace of Christ is with you!

All: And also with you!

Proclamation

Message for the Young at Heart

Anthem

Let Me Shine

M. W. Chaplin

Let me shine, shine, shine with love divine,
Shining through, bright and true in my life.
Let me live, live, live with God's love to give,
Flowing sure, sweet and pure in my life.
Let me show the way, tell the world today
That this love from above heals all strife
Let me shine, shine, shine with God's hand in mine,
Lasting all my life.

Let me sing, sing, sing with God's love to bring;
Sing a song loud and strong,
Sing a song all around
Let me shout, shout, shout both inside and out
So each word can be heard all around.
Let my self reveal how I think and feel,
That in me others see what I've found.
Let me sing, sing, sing, let God's praises ring,
Here and there, everywhere, all around.

Scripture Matthew 14:13-21 (NT pew Bible p.16)

Message

Miraculous Abundance

Tivvi Paré

*Hymn

Pass It On

It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing.
That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it;
You spread his love to everyone;
You want to pass it on.

What a wondrous time is spring, when all the trees are budding;
The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming.
That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it;
You want to sing, it's fresh like spring,
You want to pass it on.

I wish for you, my friend, this happiness that I've found;
You can depend on him, it matters not where you're bound.
I'll shout it from the mountaintop; I want my world to know;
The Lord of love has come to me,
I want to pass it on.

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.

Invitation to Generosity

Prayer of Dedication

Sung Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye Heavenly Host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Sending Out

***Hymn**

If I Had a Hammer

If I had a hammer,
I'd hammer in the morning,
I'd hammer in the evening
All over this land.
I'd hammer out danger,
I'd hammer out a warning,
I'd hammer out love between
My brothers and my sisters,
All, all over this land.

Second verse:

If I had a bell,
I'd ring it in the morning...
I'd ring out danger...

Third verse:

If I had a song,
I'd sing it in the morning...
I'd sing out danger...

Fourth Verse

Well, I've got a hammer,
And I've got a bell,
And I've got a song to sing all over this land,
It's the hammer of justice,
It's the bell of freedom,
It's a song about love between my brothers and my sisters,
All, all over this land.

Sung Benediction

Shalom My Friends

Postlude

How Gentle God's Commands

arr. Sally DeFord

Greeters: Eryn Morency and Chris DeVries

Ushers: Fred Starkey and Jay Donabedian

Faith Leader: Tivvi Paré, Horton Center Executive Director

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 March/April** will go to the **Dog Park** being planned for North Conway.
- **The 2nd Quarter Mission** is to support the **MWV Adult Day Center**.
- **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: **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Horton Center Sunday;

Mission Committee meeting 11:30am

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: **Fifth Sunday of Easter-Communion Sunday**

Pastor Sue Davidson, preaching;

Revolving Closet Teens 2-5pm;

Our April 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/April2026.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!