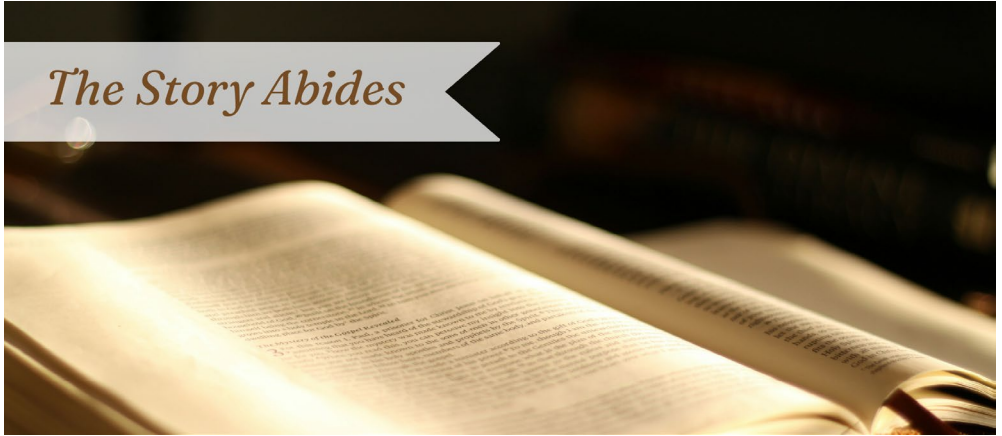


**First Church of Christ, Congregational,
United Church of Christ**

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Happy Mother's Day!

The Story Abides



May 10, 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!"**

"How many times have you noticed that it's the little quiet moments in the midst of life that seem to give the rest extra-special meaning?"

~ Fred "Mister" Rogers

***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

One: Easter people, no matter the bends and curves in our path, Jesus does not leave us alone on this journey of faith.

All: God gives us the Spirit, our Advocate and Helper.

One: The Spirit lives in and among us, pointing us all toward the way, the truth, and the life of Jesus

All: God gives us the Spirit, our Guide and Guardian.

One: The Spirit draws us into God's story, showing us how to cooperate in writing God's dream into reality.

All: God gives us the Spirit, our Dream-Giver and Story-Keeper.

One: Easter people, God's story abides in you, calling you to live a co-creators of love and abundant life.

All: We come to worship God and listen for the Spirit who inspires, guides, and helps us join in God's story, until God's kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Unison Prayer

One: Let us pray.

All: Gracious and Eternal One, we proclaim that you breathe life into us and know us fully. Yet, sometimes, you remain unknown to us. Sometimes we search for you and sometimes we fumble

about for you. We rest in the assurance that when we seek you, we will find you. But, there are times when we refuse to seek, refuse to search, refuse to fumble. There are times when we rather keep you in compartments so that you will not fully impact our lives. There are moments when we close ourselves off from your revealing word, guiding hand, and nudging Spirit. Forgive us, O God, for not coming to you as you come to us—fully, persistently, and constantly—and give us strength to fumble and reach toward you in all seasons and at all time. Amen.

***Hymn NCH #73**

Enter, Rejoice, and Come In

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: The peace of Christ is with you!

All: And also with you!

Proclamation

Scripture Acts 17:22-21 (NT pew Bible p. 137-138)

1 Peter 3:13-22 (NT pew Bible p. 234)

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Message for the Young at Heart

Anthem

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth

Based on C. Jennings' Hymn Tune NORWICH

Arr. by Z. M. Highben

Mothering God, you gave me birth in the bright morning of this world.
Creator, source of ev'ry breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.

Mothering Christ, you took my form, offering me your food of light,
grain of life and grape of love, your very body for my peace.

Mothering Spirit, nurt'ring one, in arms of patience hold me close,
so that in faith I root and grow until I flow'r, until I know.

Message

The Comforter
John 14:15-21 (NT pew Bible p. 109)

Helen Goss

***Hymn Red Hymnal #65**

I Love To Tell The Story

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.

Offering Invitation and Collection

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

***Hymn Red Hymnal #22**

Love Divine

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

Once Upon A Time

by Edvard Grieg

Worship Credits: Worship Ways, Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay.
Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, The United Methodist Church.

The altar is adorned in celebration of all Mothers! Those with us to share in person, those who are like mothers to us, and those whose Spirit is forever carried in our hearts. All honor and glory to God!

Greeter: Laurel & Don Ekberg

Ushers: Fred Starkey and Jay Donabedian

Liturgist: Steve Woodcock

Faith Leader: Helen Goss

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 hambru35@yahoo.com.

Mission Corner:

- **The Noisy Offering for May/June** will go to the **Conway Peer Support Center**. This is a non-profit offering various activities and workshops to promote mental wellness and person growth in a safe, non-judgmental environment.
- **The 2nd Quarter Mission Collection** is to support the **MWV Adult Day Center**. Providing care services and programs for our older adults and caregivers in a home-like setting.
- **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: Sixth Sunday of Easter - Happy Mother's Day!

Faith Led Service – Helen Goss

Monday: AA Noon-1pm;

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

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

Wednesday: Senior Non-Food Pantry 9am-11am;

Music Team Meeting 1:00pm

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

Choir Rehearsal 3-4pm;

Bell Choir 4-5pm

Friday: AA Noon-1pm

Saturday: Mason Interment Reception 12:00pm

Sunday: Seventh Sunday of Easter

Faith Led Service – Eryn Morency;

Church Council 11:30am;

Revolving Closet – Teens 2:00-5:00pm

Our May 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/May2026.pdf>

Upcoming Special Faith Led Services:

On **May 17th**, **Eryn Morency** will be giving a message that relates to the **Kairos Outside mission** and her personal experience with the program.

We will be blessed on **May 31st** with representatives from **Kairos Inside/Outside Prison Ministry and from Christian Aftercare Ministry** as part of the service led by **Chris DeVries**. Our guests will introduce these wonderful opportunities for ministry to our Congregation, with personal testimony from a past participant from Kairos; and the Executive Director of C.A.M will give a brief presentation about their mission, and what we can do to support it. There will be a table set-up in the Fellowship Hall after worship full of information.

Please be sure to make it to First Church these dates. You won't want to miss hearing about these amazing programs!

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!