

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

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost



August 30, 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 Worship Candles
We invite you to use this time for silent prayer
and reflection as we prepare for worship.

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

WE GATHER

Call to Worship

One: This place for us is holy ground, where we sing songs of praise
to the lord and share stories of our faith.

All: It is a place where we are inspired to respond to Christ's love.

One: God calls us here and beckons us to come close.

**All: We are called to live out God's holy vision for the days
ahead.**

Invocation

**All: We know, O God, that you always walk closely with us,
whispering in our ears your vision for the future. We pray that
your Spirit will open our hearts to hear you and to follow you;
that your Kingdom might grow in this Church and in the wider
community. Amen.**

***Hymn #172**

Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share signs of Christ's peace with one another.

WE PROCLAIM

Scriptures Exodus 3: 1-12 (OT pew Bible p. 50)

Acts 16:6-10 (NT pew Bible p. 136)

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

The Word in Music

Sing Cantate Domino!

J. Estes

From the mountain to the valley below, sing Cantate Domino!

Like a fountain, let the music flow. Sing Cantate Domino!

Let the earth be filled with sounds of music ev'rywhere.

Lift it up, let all creation know. Ev'rybody rejoice;

Ev'rybody sing it with one voice: "Cantate Domino!"

From the mountain to the valley below, sing Cantate Domino!

Like a fountain, let the music flow. Sing Cantate Domino!

Message

A Breath-Taking Vision

Rev. Paul Nickerson

Special Music

Shall We Gather At The River

arr. Greg Howlett

Featuring Patrick Speckamp on Piano

WE RESPOND

Prayers of the People – Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Morning Prayer

Prayer of Jesus - 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

Offertory Music

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.

***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**

WE GO FORTH

***Hymn #495** Called as Partners in Christ's Service

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

Nessun Dorma

G. Puccini
arr. Francesco Parrino

Greeter: Denise Leighton

Ushers: Jim Umberger and Jay Donabedian

Liturgist: Helen Goss

Guest Pastor: Rev. Paul Nickerson

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, CONGREGATIONAL - CHOIR



Much love to Anne and Patrick for sharing your leadership and musical talents with us. Until we meet again...Godspeed!

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.

GENTLE REMINDERS

Please mute your cell phones upon entering the sanctuary prior to worship.

Please remember to wear your name tags, so that our hospitality is most welcoming.

Thank You!

Mission Corner:

- **The Noisy Offering for July/August** will go to the **Bear Camp Center for Food Sustainability** in South Tamworth.
- **The 3rd Quarter Mission Collection** is to support **Jen's Friends Cancer Foundation**. All money raised stays in this valley providing supplemental financial assistance to cancer patients and their families.
- **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: **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**
Guest Pastor: Rev. Paul Nickerson;
Rejuvenation Team hosting meeting after worship

Monday: AA Noon-1:00pm

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

Thursday: WIC Program 9:30am-2:30pm
Food Pantry Open Noon-2:15pm

Friday: AA Noon-1pm

Sunday: **Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Communion**
Faith Leader –Helen Goss

Our **September** Newsletter is 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/September2026.pdf>

Biographical Information on Rev. Paul B. Nickerson

Rev. Paul B. Nickerson is our consultant and coach who is working with our Rejuvenation Team. During the coffee hour, Paul will share a vision/discernment process we will be following in the months ahead.

Paul has served UCC churches in New England, served on a Conference Staff, and for the past 16 years has been a full-time trainer, coach and consultant for mainline Protestant churches all over the country.

Paul lives in Beverly, MA.. His wife, Rev. Dr. Marlayna Schmidt, is pastor of First Congregational in Hampton, NH. They have two grown sons and two grandsons, with their only remaining "child" being Mona, a 5 year-old Fox Hound.

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
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
YouTube: <https://firstchurchnc.com/service-videos/>

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!