

First Church of Christ, Congregational, United Church of Christ

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



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September 13, 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!"**

"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time.
We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change we seek."

~ Barack Obama

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

Prelude Two Part Invention; Three Part Inversion *by Ellen Schwindt*

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

WE GATHER

Call to Worship

One: Let there be peace on earth.

All: And let it begin with us.

One: God calls His people to walk in harmony.

All: For He is our Father, and we are His children.

One: Christ Himself is our peace, breaking down every dividing wall.

All: In Him we are one body, reconciled and restored.

One: Peace is not only a prayer we speak.

All: It is a path we choose, step by step.

One: Let each moment be lived with grace.

All: Let each word be spoken with love.

One: The world longs for peace.

All: Lord, make us instruments of Your peace.

One: Let there be peace on earth.

All: And let it begin with us.

Unison Prayer

One: Let us pray together.

All: Lord God, Creator of the universe, You guide us toward mercy and salvation. Please look upon our world with love, and bring an end to conflict and war. Give wisdom to world leaders so they may choose dialogue over division. Comfort the grieving, protect the innocent, and turn every heart from hatred to reconciliation. May all people on earth live as brothers and sisters walking the path toward everlasting peace. Amen.

***Hymn** NCH #575

O for a World

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: The peace of Christ is with you!

All: And also with you!

WE PROCLAIM

Scripture Isaiah 26:3 (Hebrew Bible p. 653)
 John 14:27 (NT pew Bible p. 109)
 Psalm 103:6 (Hebrew Bible p. 554)

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."

9/11 Reflections

Grief and Hope Side by Side

Muriel Magg

Special Music

How Can I Keep From Singing *arr. by Robert Lowry*

Message

Peace Amidst the Gobbledygook

Steve Woodcock

***Hymn**

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;

Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God our creator, children all are we.

Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.

With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:

to take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

WE RESPOND

Prayers with Joys and Concerns

Morning Prayer

Prayer of Jesus - The Lord's Prayer *(Sung)*

One: 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.

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**

WE GO FORTH

Closing Solo

Imagine

by John Lennon

Soloist: Richard Goss, III

Benediction

Postlude

Greeter: Jackie Howe

Ushers: Trina Jones and Jay Donabedian

Liturgist: Barbara MacKinnon

Faith Leaders: Steve Woodcock and Helen Goss

A friendly reminder to silence your cell phone upon entering the sanctuary, and please wear your name tag so that we may extend a warm welcome to one another.

Thank you!

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 September/October** will go to our own **Vaughan Learning Center**.
- **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: **Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Faith Leader – Steve Woodcock

Monday: AA Noon-1:00pm

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

Wednesday and Thursday: Denise out of the office

Thursday: Food Pantry Open Noon-2:15pm;

Choir Rehearsal 3:00pm

Friday: AA Noon-1pm

Saturday: **Jen's Friends Hill Climb**

Sunday: **Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost/Choir is back!**

Welcome Laurie Turley, Music Director!

Faith Leader – Richard Goss, III;

Revolving Closet – Teens 2:00-5:00pm

Our **September** Newsletter is full of good stuff and important dates! You'll find it in your mail, if requested, or by going online to our website at:

<https://firstchurchnc.com/Newsletters/September2026.pdf>

Church Address and Information

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

Pianist: Ellen Schwindt

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!