

First Church of Christ, Congregational, United Church of Christ

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



September 20, 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!"

"Even the darkest night will end, and the sun will rise."

~ Victor Hugo, in *Les Miserables*

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

Prelude

Sonata da Chiesa mvt. 1

written by Ken Turley

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

Introit

Call to Worship

One: We come this day having been tossed about on the sea of life—
Feeling overwhelmed by the waves of time, trouble, and need.

**All: When sorrows like sea billows roll, we look to the One who
calms the wind and the waves.**

One: Whatever our lot, God has taught our lips to confess and our
hearts to trust.

**All: In the quiet assurance of His grace, we declare together: "It
is well, it is well with my soul".**

One: Praise the Lord, O our souls!

All: Let us worship God together in spirit and in truth.

Unison Prayer

One: Let us pray together.

**All: Almighty God, You are our refuge and our strength, ever
present in times of trouble. We thank you for drawing us together
into this holy space. We ask that You would pour out Your Holy
Spirit upon this community of faith. Help us to leave our worries
at the door and fix our eyes on You. Even in the midst of trials, let
Your perfect peace rule in our hearts and may our worship be
pleasing in Your sight, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.**

***Hymn NCH #23**

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: The peace of Christ is with you!

All: And also with you!

WE PROCLAIM

Scripture Psalm 95:1-2 (Hebrew Bible p. 550)

Philippians 4:6-7 (NT pew Bible p. 198)

Psalm 46:1-3, 10-11 (Hebrew Bible pp. 517-518)

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."

Anthem

Seek Ye First

by Karen Lafferty

Choral Setting by Douglas E. Wagner

Message

It Is Well with My Soul

Richard Goss, III

Music by Philip Bliss/Arr. by Randa Kirshbaum/Lyrics by Horatio Spafford

WE RESPOND

Prayers with Joys and Concerns

Morning Prayer

Prayer of Jesus - The Lord's Prayer

One: Let us pray 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

*Hymn NCH #457

Jesus, I Live to You

Benediction

Postlude

Sonata da Chiesa mvmt. 2

written by Ken Turley

The altar flowers are given by Richard & Helen Goss in honor of those celebrating an anniversary this month. We are in good company! It's a lovely time of year to have a wedding in New England as we welcome autumn. All thanks be to God!

Greeters: Don & Laurel Ekberg

Ushers: Jim Umberger and Jay Donabedian

Liturgist: Muriel Magg

Faith Leaders: Richard (Dick) Goss, III

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: **Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost/Choir is back!**
Welcome Laurie Turley, Music Director!

Faith Leader – Richard Goss, III;

Revolving Closet – Teens 2:00-5:00pm

Monday: **October *Congregate Tidings* articles are due;**

AA Noon-1:00pm

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

Diaconate Meeting 5:00pm

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

Choir Rehearsal 3:00pm

Friday: AA Noon-1pm

Sunday: **Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Faith Leader – Eryn Morency

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

Music Director: Laurie Turley

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!