

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

Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost



Courtesy photo by Mark Schiller

November 1, 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!"**

***Rise in body or in spirit**

Prelude

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

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Song

WE GATHER

Call to Worship

One: We give you thanks, O God, for all the saints who ever worshiped you.

All: Whether in outdoor camps or cathedrals,

One: Weathered wooden churches or crumbling cement meeting houses

All: Where your name was lifted and adored.

One: We give you thanks, O God, for hands lifted in praise;

All: Manicured hands and hands stained with grease or soil,

One: Strong hands and those gnarled with age.

All: Holy hands used as wave offerings across the land.

One: We thank you, God, for hardworking saints;

All: Whether hard-hatted or steel-booted, head ragged or aproned, blue-collared or three-piece-suited

One: They left their mark on the earth for you, for us, for our children to come.

All: Thank you, God, for the tremendous sacrifices made by those who have gone before us.

One: Bless the memories of your saints, God.

All: May we learn how to walk wisely from their examples of faith, dedication, worship, and love.

Adapted from Discipleship Ministries of the United Methodist Church

Unison Prayer

Let us pray:

Loving God, we confess that we have not embraced your vision of beloved community. We find ways to restrict who belongs and fail to make space for diversity and difference. We allow the divisiveness of the world to separate your church. We center ourselves in worship and try to make you in our image rather than expanding the circle and recognizing your image in our neighbor. Transform us, O God, so that we may reflect the beauty of your creation and the vastness of your love. Amen.

Adapted from Rev. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the UCC

***Hymn NCH #299**

For All the Saints

Verses 1-3: ALL

Verse 4: CHOIR ONLY

Verse 5: ALL

***Sharing The Peace of Christ**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you

Proclamation

Scripture Psalm 34: 1-10, 22 (Hebrew Bible p. 508)
Matthew 5: 1-12 (NT p. 4)

Children's Message

Word In Music Shine Like the Sun Traditional Scottish Tune
Arr. by K. E. Black

There's a light that lights the darkness, and the world cannot contain it and the world cannot explain it.

It is the love of God's creation.

There's a love that flows within us, and the world cannot create it, and the world cannot negate it.

It is the love of God's salvation; and it shines like the sun.

There are saints who light the darkness, and the world cannot contain them, for the love of God sustains them

And they will never be forgotten.

We are blest to have them with us, and we praise the God who made them.
There is no way to repay them, and so we simply do applaud them as they shine like the sun.

Glory be to our Creator! Glory to the Holy One! Glory to Christ our Savior, the Lord of light, the King of love.

See him shine like the sun.

There's a light that lights the darkness, and the world cannot contain it and the world cannot explain it.

It is the love of God's creation.

There's a love that flows within us, and the world cannot create it, and the world cannot negate it.

It is the love of God's salvation; and it shines like the sun.

Glory be to our Creator! Glory to the Holy One! Glory to Christ our Savior, the Lord of light, the King of love.

See him shine like the sun. They will shine like the sun.

Message

Tethered to the Spirit

Helen Goss

Response

Prayer Hymn NCH #506 vs. 1 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Remain seated

Prayers with Joys and Concerns – Candle Bowl Lighting

Morning Prayer

Prayer Hymn NCH #506 vs. 2 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Remain seated

Invitation to Giving

***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**

Holy Communion

Hymn NCH #337 vs. 1 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether **Remain seated**

Invitation

One: The invitation is simple: come and eat of the feast.
Not a meal to nourish the body, but to feed the soul.
We receive the bread and wine connected to the ages:
to the saint of old who felt unworthy,
to the seeker eager to know God,
to the teenager who wonders what it's all about,
to the child who eats with unburdened faith.
Woven into this time, the hopes and tears of generations.
There is great joy here.
No one is turned away for God is the host!

Hymn NCH #337 vs. 2 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether **Remain seated**

Prayer

One: God is in this place.

People: And in our hearts.

One: Open yourself to the nudging God.

People: We feel the breath of the Spirit.

One: Remember God made flesh.

People: Jesus, who taught us a new way.

(Allow for a time of silence in this space.)

One: Tender, transforming God, you have invited us to gather at this table, . . .

Whose hands touched the bread -
Whose lips embraced the cup -
We worship you.
We glorify you.

REMEMBERING

One: We remember those who have passed away in the past year.
We celebrate their lives, even as we continue to grieve.

We remember: **June Waltz**

Frederick Starkey

Elizabeth George-Hussey

And we remember all those who have gone before us. *(bell tolls)*

This is the mystery of our faith:

People: Christ has died.

People: Christ is risen.

People: Christ will come again.

Hymn NCH #337 vs. 3 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether **Remain seated**

One: Gathered with his friends, Jesus took bread, broke it and said:
"This is my body, broken for you. Take and eat."

And pouring the juice of the vine:

"This is my blood, spilled out for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Prayer for the Holy Spirit

The Lord's Prayer – to be sung

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.

Call to the Feast

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Communion Liturgy by Rev. Scott A. Ressman
Worship Ways All Saints' Day*

Sending Out

***Hymn** NCH #383 Come, Let Us Join with Faithful Souls

Benediction

All: We thank you God for the sacrifices made by those who have gone before us. Bless the memories we carry of your saints, and may we learn from their faithful journey to walk wisely and be examples of their dedication and love for this faith community and beyond. Amen.

Closing Song

Go Now in Peace

Besig/Price

Go now in peace, never be afraid
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true,
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love and show you believe.
Reach out to others, so all the world can see
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen, Amen, Amen.

Postlude

Greeter: Mary Lou Waite

Ushers: Jim Umberger and Jay Donabedian

Liturgist: Ken Turley

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 November/December will go to the Vaughan Food Pantry.**
- **The 4th Quarter Mission Collection** will go to support **Heifer International** which works to end world hunger and poverty in sustainable ways.
- **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: **Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost**
All Saints' and Communion Sunday

Faith Leader – Helen Goss

Revolving Closet-Teens 2-5pm

Monday AA Noon-1pm;

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

Thursday: WIC Program 9:30am-2:30pm;

Food Pantry Open Noon-2:15pm;

Chancel Choir Rehearsal 3:00-4:00pm;

Bell Choir Rehearsal 4:00-5:00pm;

Scouts of America Troup 150 & Pack 150 6:00-7:30pm

Friday: AA Noon-1pm

Sunday: **Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**
Stewardship Sunday

Faith Leader – Helen Goss

Mission Committee Meeting 11:30am

Our November 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/November2026.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!