

First Congregational Church of Wakefield

United Church of Christ

Gathered 1785



*We are an Open and Affirming congregation.
No matter where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*



"Courage is like a muscle. We strengthen it by use."

Ruth Gordon

March 8th, 2026

Minister—Rev. Dr. James L. Mills, Sr.

Sunday Deacons—Ginny Schweitzer & Jo Szirbik

Greeters—Jeff Hebert, Linda Messer, Nancy & Jeff Perkins

Tech Team—Kaylee Fogg, Nathan Fogg,
Frank Frazier, Morgan Gehring, Carol Jeffery,
Mjo McCarthy & Barry Truhn

Organists—Cindy Eggleston & Beverly Woods
Voice Choir Director—Cindy Eggleston
Bell Choir Director—Kevin Connell
Guitarist—Buddy Dee

Welcome to Sunday Worship!

(* Please stand if able. Bold content is read in unison.)

Introit & Candle Lighting Greeting & Reply

***Opening Hymn** (*see screen*) “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” NCH #459

***Call to Worship**

One: In the beginning was the Word.

Many: And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

One: Jesus the Christ is the Alpha and the Omega

Many: He is with us always.

One: Jesus walks with us in good times and in bad.

Many: We may fall, but we are lifted up in God.

One: We are more than the worst thing we have ever done.

Many: We are more than the best thing we have ever done.

One: God loves everyone unconditionally.

Many: Nothing we do can make God love us any less or more.

One: Come, Worship the Lord.

Many: We celebrate the power of God that restores us.

The Scripture Readings (*see insert or screen*) *Ken Ballinger*

Hebrew Reading: Exodus 17:1-7 (*NRSV*)

Gospel Reading: John 4: 5-15 (*NRSV*)

Reader: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God!

Invocation

Special Music “Lamb of God” by Twila Paris *Gloria Ballinger*

Passing the Peace of Christ (*if you feel comfortable doing so*)

***Singing of The Lord’s Prayer**

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 (Trespases), as we forgive our Debtors (Trespas) against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Announcements

Offering

Voice Choir Offertory Anthem "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" by Jay Althouse

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

*Sermonic Hymn (see screen) "Standing on the Promises"

Total Praise #386, vs. 1, 2 & 4

Message Standing on God's Promises

Isaiah 43:14-19 (see screen)

Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: For your sake I will send to Babylon and break down all the bars, and the shouting of the Chaldeans will be turned to lamentation¹⁵ I am the Lord, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King.¹⁶ Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:¹⁸ Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Responding to God's Word Video (see screen)

"There Is a Fountain" by Selah

Prayers of the People

Benediction

Postlude





*Please join us for a wonderful coffee hour
downstairs after service.
ALL ARE WELCOME!*



****HAPPENINGS & REMINDERS****

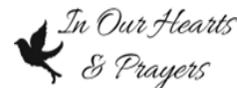
- *The Print Directory is being updated now, please email churchoffice@fccwakefieldnh.org by 3/15 if you have any updates to your info or would like to be added or removed.*
 - *EASTER FLOWER ORDERS are taking place now and due 3/16!*
 - *The choir is taking Hymn Requests, please place them in the collection plate.*
 - *Evening Bible Study with Rev is on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays! All Welcome!*
 - *Please let Ken Ballinger know if someone would like a Home Communion Visitation.*

*****See Steeple Views & Happenings Emails for Updates & Details*****

- CareGivers Support Group: 1st & 3rd Mon @ 9:30 am
- Finance Ministry Meeting: 3rd Mon @ 1 pm
 - Adult Faith Formation: Tues @ noon
 - Ukulele Club: 2nd & 4th Tues @ 6 pm
 - Chair Yoga w/ Pam: Wed @ 10 am
 - Diaconate Meeting: 1st Wed @ 5 pm
- End 68 Hours of Hunger Volunteer Meeting: Thurs @ 10 am
- Evening Bible Study: 1st & 3rd Thurs @ 5:30 pm
- Parish Helper's Meeting: 2nd Thurs @ 1 pm
- BLPOA Meeting: 2nd Thurs @ 6 pm
- Leadership Council Meeting: tba

Prayers

Sara M, Gerard B, Lois B, Nancy B, Brian T, Cindy E, Our UCC Sister Church in Zimbabwe, Richwood, LA Detainees: Pastor Ruzana, Mila, Mostafah, Arezo, Matisa, Rosa, Sophie, Somaya, Mahsa, Flore and the many who's names we do not yet know.



Credits

1. Our songs are covered under our music license, One License #742268-A
2. Graphics: churchart.com



**First Congregational Church of Wakefield, NH - UCC
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Cell: 603-556-8324

CLA/Church Office Hours: Mon (remote) T/W/TH 8-11

Email: churchoffice@fccwakefieldnh.org

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