

First Congregational Church of Wakefield NH
United Church of Christ

Communion Sunday, June 7th, 2026
Second Sunday after Pentecost
First Sunday of LGBTQIA + Pride Month

We are an Inclusive Faith Community.
All Are Welcomed and All Really Means ALL!



"Love is never wrong!" – Melissa Etheridge

Senior Pastor—Rev. James Mills, Sr.
Sunday Deacons—Donna Ackerman & Jo Szirbik
Greeters—Jeff Hebert, Linda Messer, Nancy & Jeff Perkins
Tech Team—Donna Ackerman, Kaylee Fogg, Nathan Fogg,
Carol Jeffery & Barry Truhn
Organists—Cindy Eggleston & Beverly Woods
Voice Choir Director—Cindy Eggleston
Bell Choir Director—Kevin Connell
Guitarist—Buddy Dee
Exterior/Interior Floral Décor – Rachel White

Welcome to Sunday Worship!

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

Greeting & Reply

Introit & Candle Lighting

***Opening Hymn** (*see screen*) “Down at the Cross” HFG #255

***Call to Worship**

One: God, our rock and refuge, we pour out our hearts before you.

Many: We have known you but have not always loved you.

One: We have wounded one another and sinned against you.

Many: We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us.

One: Help us to remain strong in our walk remembering Jesus.

Many: In all things Jesus remained strong in his commitment to God

One: Remember your covenant. Renew your creation.

Many: Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all.

One: As we pray and worship this morning be with us.

Many: Come Holy One, Come.

The Scripture Readings (*see insert or screen*)

Nathan Fogg

Hebrew Reading: Hosea 5:16, 6:1-6 (*NRSV*)

Gospel Reading: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26 (*NRSV*)

Reader: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God!

Invocation

Special Music Video: “God Is Love” by Mt Selina High School Choir

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 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.

Announcements

Offering

Voice Choir Offertory Anthem “Jesus Took the Cup” arr. by Hal H. Hobson

***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*) “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” HFG #466

Message The Good News is, The Bad News was Wrong.

John 11:32-44 (*see screen*)

³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” ³⁷ But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?” ³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.” ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.” ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Responding to God’s Word Video (*see screen*)

“Be Thou My Vision” by Audrey Assad

Prayers of the People

Service of the Lord’s Supper

(*see insert*)

Benediction

Postlude





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



****HAPPENINGS & REMINDERS****

- **THE PARISH HELPERS TREASURE SHOP is now open
Wednesdays & Saturdays from 9am – 12pm!**
 - **HYMN REQUESTS are needed and can be placed in the offering plates!**
 - **PLEASE NOTE: The CHURCH OFFICE will be CLOSED from 5/29-6/8.**
- ***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 (*summer pause*)
 - Outreach Meeting: 2nd Thurs @ 11 am
 - Parish Helper's Meeting: 2nd Thurs @ 1 pm
 - BLPOA Meeting: 2nd Thurs @ 6 pm
 - Leadership Council Meeting: tba

Prayers

Jan S, Sara M, Gerard B, Lois B, Nancy B, Brian T, Cindy E, Our UCC Sister Church in Zimbabwe, Richwood, LA Detainees:
 Rosa Motamednia- Iran
 Arezoo Mostafavi- Iran
 Brkti Zerabouk Kahsay- Ethiopia
 Selam Gebre Haile- Eritrea
 Haben Haile- Eritrea - 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
3. Special Music Video: "God Is Love" by Mt Selina High School Choir
<https://youtu.be/B0wxqJ5CEzE?si=TvxsuM7k8ZnoS97S>
4. Responding to God's Word Video: "Be Thou My Vision" by Audrey Assad
<https://youtu.be/Optrm7lF16s?si=IE4C-si4NZtBlpdV>



First Congregational Church of Wakefield, NH - UCC
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 Email: rev@fccwakefieldnh.org
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 CLA/Church Office Hours: Mon (remote) T/W/TH 8-11
 Email: churchoffice@fccwakefieldnh.org
 Phone: 603-522-3189

Guest Wi-Fi: fccwakefield & Password: fccwakefield2236