

First Congregational Church of Wakefield NH
United Church of Christ

Sunday, August 9th, 2026
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

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



"Music happens to be an art form
that transcends language" – Herby Hancock

Guest Pastor — Donna V. Ackerman
Sunday Deacons—Jo Szirbik & Evy Truhn
Greeters—Jeff Hebert, Linda Messer, Nancy & Jeff Perkins
Tech Team—Donna Ackerman, Gloria Ballinger, 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** “It is Well with My Soul” HFG # 495

***Call to Worship**

One: We gather together in the beautiful diversity of God’s creation.

Many: Made in the divine image, you and I.

One: God invites us to join the Creator’s love song of life.

Many: Giving voice to the sacred, deep within our hearts.

One: Whether our song is a melody of joy, a harmony of hope, or a cry for justice, God is listening.

Many: Let us lift our voices and bring the music of our lives to God.

All: Come, let us sing a new song to the Lord. Let us worship our God!

The Scripture Readings (NRSV)

Nathan Fogg

Hebrew Reading: Psalms 96: 1-3 and 11-13

Gospel Reading: Colossians 3: 15-17

Reader: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God!

Invocation

"Beloved Creator, God of melody and harmony, we invite your Spirit into this space. As we lift our voices together, may our singing break through the noise of our daily lives and unite us in your grace. Open our hearts to the new song you are calling us to sing, and tune our souls to your justice and love. Amen."

Special Music Video (see screen) “How Can I Keep from Singing”

by Chris Tomlin, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-pNU8tbvXc&list=RDe-pNU8tbvXc&start_radio=1

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

***Speaking of The Lord’s Prayer (see screen)**

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

This anthem is dedicated to Harriet Wilson in honor of her 80th birthday and in recognition of her many years of service to the Voice Choir, the Spirit Choir, and the Ladies Ensemble.

Voice Choir Offertory Anthem “Every Time I Feel the Spirit” arr. by Julie Knowles.

***Doxology** (*see screen*)

**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.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord, thank you for the abundance that you give to us that we might share them for the benefit of others. Amen

Message “Music is All Around Us”

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

“How Can I Keep from Singing” by Keith and Kristyn Getty

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rE086BWdhU4&list=RDrE086BWdhU4&start_radio=1

Prayers of the People

Benediction

"Let us go out into the world singing. Let us carry the melodies we have shared and let our everyday lives become a song of joy, peace, and compassion. May the rhythm of love guide your steps, and may the harmony of this community echo in your hearts until we gather again. Amen."

Postlude





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



****HAPPENINGS & REMINDERS****

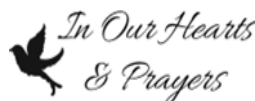
- ***THE PARISH HELPERS TREASURE SHOP is now open
Wednesdays & Saturdays from 9am – 12pm!***
- ***HYMN REQUESTS are needed and can be placed in the offering plates!***
 - ***8/9 Harriet Wilson's 80th Birthday Party 2-5pm!***
 - ***8/29 FCCW Yard Sale! See SV!***

*****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 (*summer pause*)
 - 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 (*summer pause*)
- 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: 8/16 following fellowship

Prayers

Rev Mills, Jan S, Gerard B, Lois B, Nancy B, Brian T, Cindy E, Our UCC Sister Church in Zimbabwe, Richwood LA Detainees:
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



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