

First Congregational Church of Wakefield NH
United Church of Christ

Sunday, October 25th, 2026
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

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



"What if feeling safe and secure isn't always a sign of God's presence
but a pattern of fear that keeps God at a distance?"

Pete Enns

Senior Pastor — Rev. Dr. James L. Mills, Sr.
Sunday Deacons—Jeff Perkins & Ginny Schweitzer
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 & Evan McDougal
Sunday Funday Team—George Ackerman, Buddy Dee & Jo Szírbik
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*) “Tis So Sweet” HFG #91

***Call to Worship**

One: My soul magnifies the Lord,

ALL: and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

One: For the Mighty One has done great things for me,

ALL: and holy is his name.

One: He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,

ALL: and lifted the lowly.

One: He has filled the hungry with good things,

ALL: and sent the rich away empty.

One: Here am I, the servant of the Lord;

ALL: let it be with me according to your word.

The Scripture Readings (*NRSVUE – see screen*)

Nathan Fogg

Hebrew Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:15-22

Reader: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God!

Invocation

Special Music (*Voice Choir Led*) “I Woke Up This Morning” NCH #85

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

***Singing 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

Voice Choir Offertory Anthem “Hear Us, O Father”
by Don Besig & Nancy Price

***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.**

SUNDAY FUNDAY! (*participants please convene downstairs now*)

Sermonic Hymn (*see screen*) “It Is Well with My Soul” HFG #496

Message “The Emperor has No Clothes: The Folly of an Exposed Kingdom”

Daniel 5:25-30

And this is the writing that was inscribed: mene(MEN’ E), mene, (MEN’ E) tekel,(TEK’EL) and parsin.(PAR’SIN) ²⁶ This is the interpretation of the matter: mene, (MEN’ E) God has numbered the days of your kingdom and brought it to an end; ²⁷ tekel, (TEK’EL) you have been weighed on the scales and found wanting; ²⁸ peres, your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes (MEEDS’) and Persians. ” ²⁹ Then Belshazzar gave the command, and Daniel was clothed in purple, a chain of gold was put around his neck, and a proclamation was made concerning him that he should rank third in the kingdom.³⁰ That very night Belshazzar, the Chaldean king, was killed.

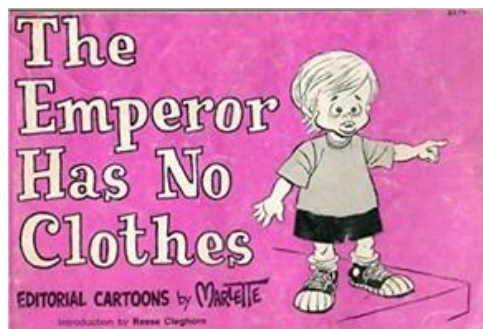
Responding to God's Word Video (*see screen*)

“The Spirit Won’t Let Me Fall” by Jelly Roll

Prayers of the People

Benediction

Postlude





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



****HAPPENINGS & REMINDERS****

- **11/7 FCCW FREE COMMUNITY DINNER @ 5 – 6:30 PM!!!**
Come enjoy some chili, cornbread, coleslaw, dessert and great company!!
 - **11/1, 11/8, 11/15 NEW MEMBER CLASSES w/ Rev @ 11:30 (PH Rm)!**
 - **HYMN REQUESTS are needed and can be placed in the offering plates!**
 - **SUNDAY FUNDAY takes place on the 2nd & 4th Sundays!****
 - **EVENING BIBLE STUDY w/ Rev Resumes 1st & 3rd Thursdays!****
**** Sign-up at churchoffice@fccwakefield.org!**
- ***See Steeple Views & Happenings Emails for Updates & Details*****

- Voice Choir Practice: Mon @ 5:30 pm
- Adult Faith Formation: Tue @ noon
- Ukulele Club: 1st & 4th Tue @ 6 pm
- End 68 Hours of Hunger Volunteer Meeting: Wed @ 8 am
- CareGivers Support Group w/ Rev: 1st & 3rd Wed @ 9:30 am (*temporarily*)
 - Chair Yoga w/ Pam: Wed @ 10 am
- Evening Bible Study: 1st & 3rd Thur @ 5:30 pm
 - Outreach Meeting: 2nd Thur @ 11 am
- Parish Helper's Meeting: 2nd Thur @ 1 pm
 - BLPOA Meeting: 2nd Thur @ 6 pm
 - Sunday School: 2nd & 4th Sun
- Leadership Council Meeting: 3rd Sun following fellowship
 - Diaconate Meeting: 4th Sun @ 11:30 am

Please
Pray
for...



Paul & Carol D, Jan S, Gerard B, Lois B, Nancy B, Brian T, Cindy E, Our UCC Sister Church in Zimbabwe, Richwood LA Detainees: Mahsa Dehzadamedani and her husband, Pouria Nazari, Selam Gebre Haile (from 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. Responding to God's Word Video: "The Spirit Won't Let Me Fall" by Jelly Roll
<https://youtu.be/ZavaAFasa0k?is=8SX2hCblZHj1iXNm>



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

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