

First Congregational Church of Wakefield NH
United Church of Christ

Sunday, October 4th, 2026
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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



"The Incarnation and Communion remains a scandal to anyone who wants religion to be a purely spiritual matter, an etherized, bloodless bliss ~ Kathleen Norris

Senior Pastor — Rev. Dr. James L. Mills, Sr.
Sunday Deacons—Gail Feddern, Jeff Perkins, Ginny Schweitzer & Jo Szirbik
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 Szirbik
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: Today we gather around God’s table from near and far.

Many: We are the People of God!

One: Though we differ in language, custom, and tradition.

Many: We are brothers and sisters in Christ!

One: For there is one Lord, one faith, and one baptism.

Many: We are One in God’s Spirit!

One: We are one and together we remember our Lord Jesus.

**Many: For we are the people of Redemption. Come,
let us worship God together.**

The Scripture Readings *(NRSVUE – see screen)* *Ann Bilodeau*

Hebrew Reading: Psalm 80:7-15

Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:33-46

Reader: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God!

Invocation

Congregational Hymn “Breathe on Me Breath of God”

HFG #161 vs. 1, 2, 4

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 “At the Table” by Jay Althouse

*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.

Sermonic Hymn (*see screen*) “Great is Thy Faithfulness” HFG #98

Message “Divinely Crafted: A Designers Original”

Ephesians 2:3-10

All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. 4 But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us 5 even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— 9 not the result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

“Let Us Break Bread Together” by Randall DeBruyn, JourneySongs Third Edition: Volume 27

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****

- **10/10 THE PARISH HELPERS TREASURE SHOP CLOSING DAY!!**
- **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*****

- 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
- End 68 Hours of Hunger Volunteer Meeting: Wed @ 8 am
 - Chair Yoga w/ Pam: Wed @ 10 am
- Evening Bible Study: 1st & 3rd Thurs @ 5:30 pm
 - Outreach Meeting: 2nd Thurs @ 11 am
 - Parish Helper's Meeting: 2nd Thurs @ 1 pm
 - BLPOA Meeting: 2nd Thurs @ 6 pm
 - Sunday School: 2nd & 4th Sun
- Leadership Council Meeting: 3rd Sun following fellowship
 - Diaconate Meeting: 4th Sun @ 11:30 am

Please
Pray
for...



Pat A, 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: "Let Us Break Bread Together", Randall DeBruyn, JourneySongs Third Edition: Volume 27, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Egk-pX_1nHg



**First Congregational Church of Wakefield, NH - UCC
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