First Congregational Church of Wakefield NH
United Church of Christ

Sunday, November 8th, 2026
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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



"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about." Margaret J. Wheately

Senior Pastor — Rev. Dr. James L. Mills, Sr.
Sunday Deacons—Julie Evenson & Anne Palmariello
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)* "Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah" HFG #608

***Call to Worship**
One: Send the waters of your grace upon us.
Many: We are your people.

One: Let the waters of your love wash us.
Many: We are your forgiven people.

One: Let the waters of your blessings pour over us.
Many: We are your beloved people.

One: Let the waters of your mercy rain on us gently.
Many: We are your children in need of mercy.

One: Let the waters of joy flood our soul.
Many: We lift our souls to you and praise your name.

The Scripture Readings *(NRSVUE – see screen)* *Ken Ballinger*
Hebrew Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18
Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:1-13
Reader: The Word of God for the People of God
All: Thanks be to God!

Invocation

Special Music/Favorite Congregational Hymn
"In Christ There Is No East or West" HFG #685

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 "Halle, Halle, Halle" arr. by Hal H. Hopson

***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.

SPIRIT SQUAD SUNDAY! *(participants please convene downstairs now)*

Sermonic Hymn *(see screen)* "How Great Thou Art" HFG #2, vs. 1,3&4
Message "Love is Louder"
1st John 4:7-9, 16-19 *(see screen)*

7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

16 So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. 17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. 19 We love because he first loved us.

Responding to God's Word Video (*see screen)*
"Lux Aeternae" by Nimrod & performed by Voces8



Prayers of the People

Benediction
Postlude



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



HAPPENINGS & REMINDERS

- ***11/14 FCCW HARVEST FAIR – See Happenings for details!***
- ***11/18 POINSETTIA ORDERS ARE DUE!***
- ***HYMN REQUESTS are needed and can be placed in the offering plates!***
- ***11/8, 11/15 NEW MEMBER CLASSES w/ Rev @ 11:30 (PH Rm)!*****
- ***SPIRIT SQUAD SUNDAY takes place on the 2nd & 4th Sundays!*****
- ***EVENING BIBLE STUDY w/ Rev on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays!*****

*****If you are new to class, 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



Vrante M, Connie L, 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 Dehzadhamedani 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: "Lux Aeternae" by Nimrod, Performed by Voces8, https://youtu.be/hKgUxqXoc9M?is=6SXv7gjkKl9eoAIb

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