



AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION
AN EXTRAVAGANT WELCOME TO ALL!



May 15, 2022

Pastor: Rev. Jed Rardin

Interim Minister: Rev. Sean Dunker-Bendigo

Pianist: Abigail Charbeneau

Music Director: Sue Berlenbach

Guest Choir Conductor: Warren Emley

Memorial Bells Choir Director: Carlene Ruesenberg

Director of Christian Education: Alison Nyhan

27 Pleasant St. Concord, NH 03301

603-224-2521 * www.southchurchconcord.org

Welcome to South Congregational Church, United Church of Christ! Whoever you are, whatever your faith tradition, whatever creed you profess, whatever your age, ability, race, sexual orientation or gender expression, you are welcome here!

WE GATHER...

WORDS OF WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC

“Repton”

arr. Charles Callahan

*CALL TO WORSHIP

O Lord our God, we praise you.

We cried to you for help and you answered us.

You have restored our lives;

You have rescued us from the grave.

*HYMN #25

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

UNISON PRAYER OF APPROACH

Shepherd of Souls,

you call us to an abundant feast

at the table of your word;

open our hearts to feed on your goodness,

that by the power of the Holy Spirit

we might dwell evermore deeply in you. Amen.

CHORAL ANTHEM

“My Heart is Steadfast, O God”

by Eugene Butler

A MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN

TO HEAR GOD’S WORD...

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Still-speaking God, empty us so that in hearing your word we might be filled with your Spirit. Take off our blinders so that we might see with clearer vision and fresh eyes the path you are setting before us. Slow us down to the pace of love, that we might not miss the quiet miracles all around us. Speak to us, O God. We are listening.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 22:1-14; John 13:31-35

SERMON

Be of Good Courage and Pass the Potato Salad

*HYMN #524

“This Little Light”

TO PRAY TOGETHER...

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father and Mother, 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.

TO RENEW OUR COMMITMENT...

AN INVITATION TO STEWARDSHIP

Virtual offering plate: bit.do/southchurch: other options include using the “Donate” button on the website, or mailing/dropping off a check to the office.



***SUNG RESPONSE**

We are man and we are woman, all persuasions, old and young, each a gift in your creation, each a love song to be sung. God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar, we your people, ours the journey, now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION*TO SERVE THE WORLD**

***HYMN #436 "God of Grace and God of Glory"**

***BENEDICTION**

Lord, help us to remember that freedom does not automatically happen; we have to work at it, nurture it, protect it, pray for it. Let us go forth into the world in peace and dedicated to your service, O Lord. Let us hold fast to that which is good, render no person evil for evil, strengthen the faint-hearted, Lord, rejoicing in the power of His spirit. May God's blessing be upon us and remain with us always.

PASSING THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Prayers, Joy and Concerns

Prayers for Edna Elle; Betsy Gates; Chris Scott; Myrna Prevost; Jonathan; and June Bart.

Today's Participants

Lay Reader: Jill Smart

Ushers: Cynthia Hogan and Bernadette Pelzcar

Zoom Tech: Walt Irvine

Flowers are kindly donated this week by Dave & Ellen Fries in honor of the warm, welcoming, and loving community that is South Church.

Please join us in Fellowship Hall following worship for Coffee Hour!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moment for Mission: What does love look like for our congregation? The Faith in Action ministry has chosen "One Great Hour of Sharing" for our moment for mission in May. This is one of the special mission offerings established by the United Church of Christ. When you give to One Great Hour of Sharing, you deploy resources to people in need all around the world, and in our own communities. When man-made or natural disasters strike, love responds. Not just for the immediate future, but for the long haul. When you give to One Great Hour of Sharing, you are working along side families to restore not only structures, but hope. Your giving ensures that no matter how difficult the situation, Love remains.

Film Viewing: In recognition of Mental Health Awareness month, Fellowship Housing will be presenting the film Ernie & Joe: Crisis Cops, an intimate portrait of two Texas police officers who are changing the way police respond to mental health crisis calls. Join us on **Tuesday, May 17** at Red River Theater for a viewing and panel discussion. Tickets are free, but seating is limited. Reservations are required; please contact Red River Theater.

Outdoor Adventure: Join other South Church members for a hike on **Sunday, May 22** at 2 p.m. Meet at the Les Clark nature trailhead for the protection of NH Forests. For directions or more information, please contact Lorens.

Get Movin' 185 Challenge: This year the Get Movin' 185 Challenge is the week of **June 4 to June 11**. This fundraiser for everyone celebrates our Church's 185th birthday! Individuals can customize their challenge as they see fit to their schedule and lifestyle. In the past our members have been creative! We had individuals who have biked, walked, swam, baked, wrote letters, lifted weights, or paddled the Merrimack River. What can you do this year using the numbers 1-8-5? Register by **Sunday, May 22** online or by submitting forms to the office. For more information, please contact Kayla.

Reflecting on the Mission, Vision, and Values: We recently adopted a new Mission, Vision, and Values statement for our church. Now that we have adopted this statement, we need to figure out how we are going to live into this statement. There will be an art exhibit on display in the Sanctuary with some reflections. We have repurposed a few of the life-size images that were presented in the Sanctuary during the Pandemic and have asked individuals and couples to reflect on these two questions: Which values resonate with you? How do you plan to implement those values in the life of the church? Over the next few weeks, take the time to read their responses.

Thank You to those who have pledged thus far!

(This list will be updated weekly.)

Lee Allison	Christine & David Frost	Barbara Nicholson
Norma Angwin	Mary Lou Fuller	George & Sue Noel
Amy & Bruce Bairstow	Joyce Gamsby	Kevin & Alison Nyhan
Robert & Winifred Baker	Al & Elizabeth Garlo	Tracey & Henry Osborne
Madeline Bartemus	Cal Genzel	Bonnie Ota
Karen & Paul Bemis	Michael & Eileen Gfroerer	Chris & Eleanor Owen
Sally Bird	Laura Jean Gilbert	Bernadette Pelczar
Cam & Joan Borton	Roger & Linda Gray	Katie & Seth Pingree
Jean & Robert Bragg	Nancy & Ronald Haigh	Helen Porter
Jane Bredeson	Jay Haines	Dianna Powers
William & Nancy Brown	Bill & Nonnie Hall	Mary Lynne Rahlson
Martha Burnham	Gyme Hardy	Jed & Laurie Rardin
Rev. Fay & Rev. John Buttrick	Bob & Jackie Hartford	Nancy Roberts
Toni King Callahan	Susan & Jim Hatem	Paula & Stephen Roberts
Paige Cannon	Don & Mary Hayes	Louis & Mary Rosenthal
Deborah Carley	Peter & Deb Imse	Carlene Ruesenberg
Herb & Tracie Carpenter	William & Betty Jacob	Sam Sanzone
Abby Charbeneau	Sue Marcotte-Jenkins & Marty	Harold & Cherie Shaw
Adria & George Cilley	Jenkins	Deb Kimbal & Eugene Shear
Tammy Ciminesi	Witt & Eileen Jones	Cynthia Sherman
Genesis Circle	David & Joann Jordan	Chris & Cheryl Simmers
Elizabeth Corell	Lorens & Shasta Jorgensen	Pauline & Dave Simonton
Faye Craighead	Carolyn Kerr	Jill & Aaron Smart
Joyce M. Crane	Patricia Knight	Charles & Margaret Stumb
Will & Annmarie Delker	Sylvia & Robert Larsen	Julia Sweeney
Edith & Jim Dimick	Derek & Amy Martel	Emily Geoghegan &
Darryle & Sarah Dolcino	Andrea McGahan	Leanne Tigert
Rodney & Judith Doucet	Helen & Robert McGlashan	Judith A. Todd
Janice Dutton	Celeste McQuarrie	Joanne Varga
Rachelle & Joel Eaton	Rosamond Metcalf	Ann & Jerry Walls
Evelyn Eddy	Virginia Mierins	Sara Willingham
Warren Emley	Ronald Montmagny	Cynthia Woods
Jenifer Evans	Lynne Morgan	Pam & Oge Young
Judith Forest	Marilyn & Bill Murdoch	Sherry & Gary Young
Don & Lorraine Fournier	Elizabeth Clardy &	Janet Zeller
Ellen & David Fries	Richard Nelson	

HYMN #25 "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:

Under the shadow of your throne
your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone,
and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood
or earth received its frame,
From everlasting you are God,
to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight
are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten, as a dream
fades at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past,
our hop for years to come,
Still be our God while troubles last,
and our eternal home!

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HYMN #524 "This Little Light"

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine;
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine;
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

All through the night, I'm gonna let it shine;
All through the night, I'm gonna let it shine.
All through the night, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

This joy I have, the world didn't give it to me.
This joy I have, the world didn't give it to me.
This joy I have, the world didn't give it to me.
No, the world didn't give it, the world can't take it away.

This hope I have, the world didn't give it to me.
This hope I have, the world didn't give it to me.
This hope I have, the world didn't give it to me.
No, the world didn't give it, the world can't take it away.

This faith I have, the world didn't give it to me.
This faith I have, the world didn't give it to me.
This faith I have, the world didn't give it to me.
No, the world didn't give it, the world can't take it away.

This peace I have, the world didn't give it to me.
This peace I have, the world didn't give it to me.
This peace I have, the world didn't give it to me.
No, the world didn't give it, the world can't take it away.

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HYMN #436 "God of Grace and God of Glory"

God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your power;
Crown your ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

From the evils that surround us
And assail the Savior's ways,
From the fears that long have bound us
Free our hearts for faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Cure your children's warring madness;
Bend out pride to your control.
Shame our reckless, selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Make our broken spirits whole, make our broken spirits whole.

Set our feet on lofty places;
Gird our lives that they may be
Armored with all Christ like graces,
In the fight to set us free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
In the quest for liberty, in the quest for liberty.

Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore;
Let the search for your salvation
Be our glory every more.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving you whom we adore, serving you whom we adore.

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