



AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION
AN EXTRAVAGANT WELCOME TO ALL!



September 18, 2022

Pastor: Rev. Jed Rardin

Interim Minister: Rev. Sean Dunker-Bendigo

Pianist: Abigail Charbeneau

Music Director: Sue Berlenbach; Warren Emley Substituting

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...

PRELUDE

Prelude

by Daniel Gawthrop

WORDS OF WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me;

**the Lord has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,**

to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners:

**to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and
the day of vengeance of our God;**

to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion,

to give them a garland instead of ashes,

the oil of gladness instead of mourning,

the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

*HYMN (see insert)

No Matter

UNISON PRAYER OF APPROACH

**Holy One, untamed by the names I give you; in the silence name me, that I may know who I am,
hear the truth you have put into me, trust the love you have for me, which you call me to live out
with my brothers and sisters.**

Ted Loder

CHOIR ANTHEM

Dona Nobis Pacem

BAPTISM

WORDS OF INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAMILY

QUESTIONS OF THE PARENTS

PRAYER OF BAPTISM

CONSENT OF THE CONGREGATION

We welcome you into the Body of Christ. We pray that our growth will be yours and your growth will be ours. We will be here to guide you, support you, nurture and love you. As we tell you of our faith journeys, we will remember that Jesus taught us to listen to children because your sense of wonder and joy are close to the heart and wisdom of Jesus.

ACT OF BAPTISM

PRAYER OF BLESSING

GREETING IN CHRISTIAN LOVE

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD...

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Creator of unity, Body of peace, Spirit of community, bind us together around your Word and send us out to do your justice, show your mercy, and embody your redeeming love. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 15:21-28; Mark 5:25-34

SERMON

What We're Not Seeing

Rev. Jared A. Rardin

*HYMN #351

I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry

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.



OFFERTORY

Swing Low / I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

arr. M. McDonald

*SUNG RESPONSE

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty, early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed trinity!**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

TO SERVE THE WORLD

*HYMN #12

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

PASSING THE PEACE

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

POSTLUDE

Spiritual

arr. Douglas Wagner

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Please join us following worship for Coffee Hour!

Prayers, Joys, and Concerns

Prayers for Faye Craighead's sister Judy; Edna Elle; Betsy Gates; Chris Scott; and Myrna Prevost.

Today's Participants

Lay Reader: Gyme Hardy

Ushers: Joe York & Cy Sherman

Flowers are kindly donated this week by Gyme Hardy in loving memory of Laura.
Rose on the altar for Hartford Slafsky, born on September 6, 2022.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moment for Mission: For the month of **September**, the Faith in Action Ministry has chosen the UCC Strengthen the Church as our Moment for Mission. Strengthen the Church (STC) reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. The funds collected in this offering will go towards leadership development, building new churches, funding activities for youth ministry and creating innovative programs in existing congregations. Because Strengthen the Church is part of the UCC's wider mission, conferences and the national setting equally share the donations from this offering. Your generosity will provide the support needed to continue building the UCC through education, programs and having places to worship. Thank you for your continued support to the Faith in Action Ministry!

Coffee Hour: If you are interested in supplying snacks for after-worship Coffee Hour, there is a sign up sheet hanging in Fellowship Hall.

Summer Reading: Join other South Church members in reading *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* by Isabel Wilkerson. We will discuss this book **today** after worship.

CROP Walk: The 2022 CROP walk is on **Saturday, September 24**. For the past three years, South Church CROP walkers have been the top fundraisers in Concord! In 2019, we raised \$5,500; in 2020 we raised \$3,800; and in 2021 we raised \$4,775. Our walkers and supporters continue to do their part in feeding hungry people. Sign up to join us! E-mail Cy (cysberman@comcast.net), or donate online.

Finding Home in NH: The Monadnock Region is celebrating Diversity in the 603 this Fall. The celebration will feature the work of photographer, Becky Field. For the past 10 years, she has been documenting the lives of immigrants through her images and stories of people who came here to find safety, education, work, and freedom. Becky's photos will be on display at several venues in the Monadnock Region. She will also be at the Keene International Festival with copies of her books, **Saturday, September 24**, 11am-3pm at Fuller Park, Keene Recreation Center. For more information and a list of the exhibit venues, visit <https://hsccnh.org/finding-home-in-new-hampshire/>.

Fourth Grade Bibles: We believe that fourth graders are at a point in their spiritual development where they can understand and truly appreciate the Bible. We give them their own Bible to use during class and to keep. Bibles will be presented on **Sunday, September 25**. If your son/daughter is entering fourth grade this fall and is interested in receiving a Bible, please contact Alison.

Blessing of the Animals: On **Sunday, September 25** at both the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. worship services we will celebrate and bless our animal companions. We will also have a time of remembrance of former beloved companions. You are welcome to bring a picture, image on your device, or your companion with you to either service for their blessing. We ask that your companion be in your control either leashed, crated, or in a carrying container during the service, and please take care of their needs before the service.

Financial Review: The Giving Ministry will give a brief financial review of the church budget on **Sunday, September 25** after worship services. For more information, please contact Lorens Jorgensen.

Outdoor Adventure: Join other South Church members on **Sunday, September 25** at 2 p.m. for some outdoor exercise and adventure at *McLane Audubon Center* at 84 Silk Farm Road in Concord. There is a paved trail for bikes, a few paths at the Audubon Center and at St. Paul's School. For more information, please contact Lorens Jorgensen.

Temple Childcare: South Church and Temple Beth Jacob have had a reciprocal agreement to assist one another with childcare during high holy days for many years. Once again, after a two-year hiatus, South Church volunteers are being asked to provide childcare at the Temple during Rosh Hashanah on **Monday, September 26** and Yom Kippur on **Wednesday, October 5**. If you are interested in helping, please sign-up today!

Summer Movie Suggestion: *Just Mercy* follows a young lawyer, Bryan Stevenson and his history-making battle for justice. After graduating from Harvard, Bryan had his pick of lucrative jobs. Instead, he heads to Alabama to defend those wrongly condemned or who were not afforded proper representation, with the support of local advocate Eva Ansley. A copy of this movie can be borrowed at your local library, at the church, or online. Discussion will be after worship on **Sunday, October 2.**

Youth Groups: Junior High Youth Group (6th-8th graders) will be meeting once a month from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Youth Space. Upcoming meetings are **Thursday, October 13** and **Thursday, November 10**. Senior High Youth Group (9th-12th grade) meets on Sundays 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Youth Space. Upcoming meeting are **Sunday, September 25** and **Sunday, October 2** (when the group will be apple picking at Carter Hill from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.). There will be no meeting on October 9. If you have any questions regarding our youth programs, please contact Alison.

Office Hours: The office is now open 8am-4pm Monday-Friday. Please call before stopping by to ensure there will be someone here to greet you.

No Matter

♩=120

F Dm Gm⁷ C F F⁷
 No mat-ter who, — no mat-ter what — no mat-ter where you are on the

B^b G⁷ F Dm G⁷ Gm⁷ C⁷
 jour-ney of life; you're wel-come, wel-come in this place. — No mat-ter

F Dm Gm⁷ C F F⁷
 who, — no mat-ter what, — no mat-ter where you are on the

B^b G⁷ F Dm Gm⁷ C⁷ C F F
 jour-ney of life: ac-cept-ed, wel-comed by God's grace. grace.

To verses Last time, Fine

Verses

F B^badd⁹ B^bm^{add}⁹

1. For we are fam - i - ly, — meant to be —
 2. And in di - ver - si - ty, — u - ni - ty, —
 3. To - geth - er we will sing, — wor - ship bring,
 4. The God who spoke through Christ, speaks to us; —

F F⁹ F⁷ B^badd⁹

pur - posed for e - ter - ni - ty. — Born in love, —
 har - mo - ny for all to see: — Just - ice and —
 hands and hearts out - stretched to all. — Je - sus praise,
 lis - ten to our Sav - ior's call. — Wel - come home,

B^bm^{add}⁹ G⁹ G⁷ Gm⁷/C C⁷ D.C.

from a - bove, — God's com - mu - ni - ty. —
 e - qui - ty, — God's com - mu - ni - ty. —
 hearts a - blaze, — lis - ten to God's call.
 wel - come in, — wel - come one and all. —

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HYMN #351 *I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry*

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
I'll be there in case you wander off and find where demons dwell.

When you found the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living God, to whom you now belong.
Should you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

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HYMN #12 *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of our God that filled the earth with food;
God formed the creatures with a word, and then pronounced them good.
Oh, how your wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye:
If I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glory known.
The clouds arise and spread their showers by order from your throne.
All life is but a gift from you and ever in your care;
Wherever people gather, you, O God, are present there.

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