



AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION  
AN EXTRAVAGANT WELCOME TO ALL!



**May 22, 2022**

**Pastor:** Rev. Jed Rardin

**Interim Minister:** Rev. Sean Dunker-Bendigo

**Pianist:** Abigail Charbeneau

**Music Director:** Sue Berlenbach

**Memorial Bells Choir Director:** Carlene Ruesenberg

**Director of Christian Education:** Alison Nyhan

27 Pleasant St. Concord, NH 03301  
603-224-2521 \* [www.southchurchconcord.org](http://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

"I Know that My Redeemer Lives"

arr. Lloyd Larson, Memorial Bells

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing for joy, heavens and earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing!

Our Creator has comforted the people

and will have compassion for the ones who are suffering.

**Come out! The imprisoned shall have freedom. Show yourselves!**

**Those who live in darkness will see the light of day.**

God will feed you and protect you; God will guide you and ease your way.

**Glory be given to our Protector because God will never forget us;**

**we are inscribed in the palm of God's hands!**

Sing for joy!

**The Comforter has love and compassion for us.**

#### \*HYMN #554

"Out of the Depths, O God, We Call"

#### UNISON PRAYER OF APPROACH

**Great and merciful God, who knows the sparrow and the lily by name, tell us today the story of your knowledge of us. Assure us that the hours we spend in this world are lived in your sight and in your care, to free us from anxiety and striving and to rest in your benevolence; through Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

#### CHORAL ANTHEM

"Seek Ye First"

Karen Lafferty, arr. Douglas E. Wagner

#### A MESSAGE FOR THE CHILDREN

#### **TO HEAR GOD'S WORD...**

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Breakthrough our troubled hearts, O God. Let your Holy Spirit open our ears to the comfort of your promises; in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

#### SCRIPTURE

John 14:25-27; 2 Timothy 1:7; 1 John 4:18-19

#### SERMON

Fear-Less: Relationships

Rev. Sean Dunker-Bendigo

#### \*HYMN #509

"How Deep the Silence of The Soul"

#### **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](https://bit.do/southchurch): other options include using the "Donate" button on the website, or mailing/dropping off a check to the office.



### OFFERTORY

"See How Great a Flame Aspires"

arr. Jason W. Krug, Memorial Bells

### \*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 #249

"Peace I Leave with You, My Friends"

### \*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; Ian Bonner; June Bart; Cindy; Irene; David; and all those affected by the tragedy in Buffalo.

### **Today's Participants**

**Lay Reader:** Joan Borton

**Ushers:** Cheryl and Chris Simmers

**Zoom Tech:** Walt Irvine

Flowers are kindly donated this week by Chris & Debbie Carley in celebration of our family.  
Flowers are also kindly donated by Joanne Varga in celebration of Paul's life.

*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.

**Outdoor Adventure:** Join other South Church members for a hike **today, 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.

**Prayer Requests:** Do you have a prayer to share? No need to worry that you will not be at church on Sunday morning, or you forgot to connect with the church staff. We have created a new link on our website that allows you to make a prayer request on-line. Check out our website today. The request form is on the main page under the Pastors' pictures.

**Star Island:** Star Island is home to all-inclusive programming that focuses on a particular theme or topic such as art, history, sustainability, spirituality, and yoga. Star Island is a place to learn, explore, enjoy the outdoors, and connect with friends both old and new. Star Island is located off Rye, NH and hosts conferences all summer long (see below). Transportation leaves from Portsmouth, transporting you to a beautiful spiritual home where you can relax in the salt air, attend classes and chapel, and meet lifelong friends. Check out their website for more information and to register. If you have questions, contact Martha Burnham.

Thank You to those who have pledged thus far!  
(This list will be updated weekly.)

Lee Allison  
Norma Angwin  
Amy & Bruce Bairstow  
Robert & Winifred Baker  
Madeline Bartemus  
Karen & Paul Bemis  
Sally Bird  
Cam & Joan Borton  
Jean & Robert Bragg  
Jane Bredeson  
William & Nancy Brown  
Martha Burnham  
Rev. Fay & Rev. John Buttrick  
Toni King Callahan  
Paige Cannon  
Deborah Carley  
Herb & Tracie Carpenter  
Abby Charbeneau  
Adria & George Cilley  
Tammy Ciminesi  
Genesis Circle  
Elizabeth Corell  
Faye Craighead  
Joyce M. Crane  
Will & Annmarie Delker  
Edith & Jim Dimick  
Darryl & Sarah Dolcino  
Rodney & Judith Doucet  
Janice Dutton  
Rachelle & Joel Eaton  
Evelyn Eddy  
Warren Emley  
Jenifer Evans  
Judith Forest  
Joan Fossum  
Don & Lorraine Fournier  
Ellen & David Fries  
Christine & David Frost

Mary Lou Fuller  
Joyce Gamsby  
Al & Elizabeth Garlo  
Cal Genzel  
Michael & Eileen Gfroerer  
Laura Jean Gilbert  
Roger & Linda Gray  
Nancy & Ronald Haigh  
Jay Haines  
Bill & Nonnie Hall  
Heidi Hallonquist  
Gyme Hardy  
Bob & Jackie Hartford  
Susan & Jim Hatem  
Don & Mary Hayes  
Peter & Deb Imse  
William & Betty Jacobs  
Sue Marcotte-Jenkins  
& Marty Jenkins  
Wit & Eileen Jones  
David & Joann Jordan  
Lorens & Shasta Jorgensen  
Linda Kenison  
Carolyn Kerr  
Patricia Knight  
Sylvia & Robert Larsen  
Derek & Amy Martel  
Andrea McGahan  
Helen & Robert McGlashan  
Celeste McQuarrie  
Rosamond Metcalf  
Virginia Mierins  
Ronald Montmagny  
Charles & Lynne Morgan  
Marilyn & Bill Murdoch

Elizabeth Clardy  
& Richard Nelson  
Barbara Nicholson  
George & Sue Noel  
Kevin & Alison Nyhan  
Tracey & Henry Osborne  
Bonnie Ota  
Chris & Eleanor Owen  
Bernadette Pelczar  
Katie & Seth Pingree  
Helen Porter  
Dianna Powers  
Mary Lynne Rahlson  
Jed & Laurie Rardin  
Nancy Roberts  
Paula & Stephen Roberts  
Louis & Mary Rosenthal  
Carlene Ruesenberg  
Sam Sanzone  
Harold & Cherie Shaw  
Deb Kimbal & Eugene Shear  
Cynthia Sherman  
Chris & Cheryl Simmers  
Pauline & Dave Simonton  
Jill & Aaron Smart  
Charles & Margaret Stumb  
Julia Sweeney  
Emily Geoghegan  
& Leanne Tigert  
Judith A. Todd  
Joanne Varga  
Ann & Jerry Walls  
Sara Willingham  
Cynthia Woods  
Joe York  
Pam & Oge Young  
Gary & Sherry Young  
Janet Zeller

HYMN #554 "Out of the Depths, O God, We Call"

Out of the depths, O God, we call to you.  
Wounds of the past remain, affecting all we do.  
Facing our lives, we need your love so much.  
Here in this community, heal us by your touch.

Out of the depths of fear, O God, we speak.  
Breaking the silences, the searing truth we seek.  
Safe among friends, our grief and rage we share.  
Here in this community, hold us in your care.

God of the loving heart, we praise your name.  
Dance through our lives and loves; anoint with Spirit flame.  
Your light illumines each familiar face.  
Here in this community, meet us with your grace.

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HYMN #509 "How Deep the Silence of the Soul"

How deep the silence of the soul that lives within your grace.  
How full the gratitude of heart in your abiding place.  
What rich serenity is found, what courage and release  
When wisdom teaches us to seek the gentle path to peace.

Like unseen chimes on moving air, like worm and morning sun,  
Like gladdening, greening, growing things, like trees with blooms begun.  
Such is your presence in our lives, you touch without a trace,  
Until we turn and find ourselves held fast in your embrace.

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HYMN #249 "Peace I Leave with You, My Friends"

Peace I leave with you, my friends,  
shalom my peace, in all you do.  
Peace I leave with you, my friends.  
I give to you so you can give to others, too.  
To share God's love is why I came,  
To show God's kindness without end.  
Go now, my friends, and do the same,  
Until I come again.

Peace I leave with you, my friends,  
shalom my peace, in all you do.  
Peace I leave with you, my friends.  
I give to you so you can give to others, too.  
Take my hand and be at peace;  
The spirit of our love I send.  
And with this love you will be free,  
Until I come again.

Peace I leave with you, my friends,  
shalom my peace, in all you do.  
Peace I leave with you, my friends.  
I give to you so you can give to others, too.  
With this love now all will know  
That loneliness is at an end.  
Rejoice my friends, although I go,  
For I will come again.

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