

First Congregational Church of Pelham

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Church - Sharing What God's Love Looks Like

November 16, 2025 "Releasing God's Blessing"

Ministers: All Members of the Church
Seminarian: Heather Ivone Milliken
Organist: Carolyn (Sue) Howard
Administrator: Stephanie Noel

Pastor: Rev. Carlos Jauhola-Straight
Director of Music: Tom Seniow
Bell Choir Director: Sharon Hone
Sexton: Lupe Nova

Deacons: Joe Calabro, Dan Murphy, David Wilkerson

+Please rise in body or spirit.

TOLLING THE HOUR

PRELUDE

WELCOME

INTROIT

"Rejoice In The Lord"

John Horman

"Rejoice in the Lord, again I say rejoice!"

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Based on Matthew 6:28-34)

We are blessed, not because we have everything we want **But because God provides everything we need.**
Consider the lilies of the field and how they grow. **And yet God adorns them so radiantly.**
So don't let questions of doubt and lack worry your soul, **God knows exactly what we need.**

+HYMN

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

#349

UNISON PRAYER

God, you are our source and everything else is our resource. You are an unlimited supply of grace, love, joy, and all that we need in our lives. Nothing can compare to you. Nothing comes close. There is no shortage in you. As we acknowledge that we are blessed, may we be generous in sharing our resources with others. Amen.

WHAT'S IN THE BAG?

+SINGING PRAISES TO GOD

"Gloria Patri"

#558

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen***

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Corinthians 9:6-10

The Voice

ANTHEM

"All Good Gifts"

Stephen Schwartz, arr John Leavitt

We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land..But it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand..He sends us snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain...The breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain...All good gifts around us Are sent from Heaven above So thank the Lord, oh thank the Lord for all his love...We thank thee then, O Father, for all things bright and good, The seedtime and the harvest, our life our health our food, No gifts have we to offer for all thy love imparts But that which thou desirest, our humble thankful hearts! All good gifts around us Are sent from Heaven above.. So thank the Lord, oh thank the Lord for all his love..I really wanna thank you Lord!

REFLECTION	"You are the Seed - What will be your harvest?"	
CHEERFUL GIVER	Minute Of Meaning	Wendy Henderson
+HYMN	"When In Our Music, God Is Glorified"	#295
PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE		
SUNG CALL TO PRAYER	"As a Chalice Cast of Gold"	#419 verse 2
SILENCE		
SHARING OUR PRAYER REQUESTS		
PRAYER		
THE LORD'S PRAYER (<i>SUNG</i>) #412		
OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD		
INVITATION TO THE OFFERING		
OFFERTORY		
+SUNG RESPONSE "The Doxology" #563		
<i>Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;</i>		
<i>Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.</i>		
+PRAYER OF DEDICATION		
Jehovah, God of provision, thank you for the abundance you pour into our lives. Help us to continue to be good stewards of all that you provide. Help us to remember that you created the world with enough for everyone. May we be fearless agents of distribution that create abundance and equity for all. This we pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.		
+HYMN	"I Am Thine, O Lord"	#343
+BENEDICTION		
+REMEMBERING OUR COVENANT		
We covenant one with another to seek and respond to the Word and Will of God. It is our purpose to walk together in the ways of the Lord, made known and to be made known to us. We hold it to be the mission of this church to be witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in all the world, while worshiping God, and striving for truth, justice and peace. As did our ancestors, we depend on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us. We pray for the coming of the Realm of God, and we look with faith toward the triumph of righteousness and eternal life.		
+SUNG BENEDICTION	"God of Grace and God of Glory"	#456 verse 2 refrain
<i>" Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days"</i>		
POSTLUDE		

NEXT SUNDAY - FRIENDSGIVING CELEBRATION!

Stewardship is providing the turkey! Please bring a dish to share and join us at the table!

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We gather on the traditional ancestral homeland of the Abenaki, Pennacook and Wabanaki Peoples past and present, who have ongoing cultural and spiritual connections.. We acknowledge and honor with gratitude the aki (land), nebi (water), olakwikak (flora), awaasak (fauna) and the aln8bak (people) who have been stewards of these throughout the generations.