

First Congregational Church of Pelham
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Church
"Sharing What God's Love Looks Like"

Tending the New Creation

August 4, 2024

"Hope is like the sun, which, as we journey toward it, casts the shadow of our burden behind us."

Samuel Smiles

3 MAIN STREET, PELHAM, NH 03076
(603)635-7025 www.uccpelham.org uccpelham@gmail.com

Ministers: All the Members of the Church

Pastor: Rev. Carlos Jauhola-Straight Director of Music: Tom Seniow

Organist: Carolyn (Sue) Howard Bell Choir Director: Sharon Hone

Church Administrator: Stephanie Noel Sexton: Lupe Nova

Deacons: Paula Fowlie and Dan Murphy

~ We Gather in God's Presence ~
+Please rise in body or spirit.

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

written by Rev. Christine Sobania Johnson

This new day is fresh with possibility to encounter the Living Christ.

With bright eyes, let us search.

This new day is fresh with possibility to understand the Living Christ.

With engaged minds, let us ponder.

This new day is fresh with possibility to be moved by the Living Christ.

With compassionate hearts, let us feel.

This new day is fresh with possibility to respond to the Living Christ.

With solid devotion, let us follow.

This new day is fresh with possibility to serve the Living Christ.

With humble intention, let us act.

This new day is fresh with possibility to praise the Living Christ.

With strong voices, let us sing.

+Hymn

"Jesus Calls Us O'er The Tumult"

#314

Prayer of Confession

written by Moira Laidlaw

Lord Jesus Christ, we remember with gratitude those people who generously sowed the seeds of faith in our lives.

Pause for a time of reflection

We confess the times we fail to involve ourselves in planting seeds of faith in the lives of others; the times when our personal agendas become more important than yours; the times when we have denied others the opportunity to expand their faith through our lack of interest or involvement; the times when our lives become so entangled with the values of the world that we forget what you have said, done and promised. Lord Jesus, bless and renew our lives, we pray, strengthen our faith to expand to bear the fruit of your mercy, your love, your undying life. Amen.

Assurance

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

Gospel

Mark 5:24-34

Musical Reflection

Ritual of Anointing

Hymn

"Fill My Cup, Lord"

#534

Communion

The table of bread and cup are made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus and with all those who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth in which Christ became incarnate. So, come to this table, you who have much faith And you who would like to have more; You who have been to this sacrament often, And you who have not been for a long time; You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come. It is Christ himself who invites us to meet him here now.

Blessed are you, O God

For you have brought forth bread from the earth.

Blessed are you, O God,

For you have created the fruit of the vine

In the beginning you watered the earth that all might have food and drink.

You gave to your servant, Sarah, bread to strengthen her family on their journey, And filled their cup to make them glad.

You called Moses and his people out of bondage And refreshed them with food in the wilderness.

You gave Mary and Joseph their daily bread to share.

And here at your table you offer us bread and cup for the journey to nourish us.

And so with all our siblings, before us and beside us, near and far.

We join in the praise of your unending greatness:

**Holy, holy holy, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Glory be to you, O God most high.**

Among friends, gathered round a table Jesus took bread, and, having blessed it, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples saying,

Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you.

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, gave you thanks, gave it to them saying,

Drink this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant, Which is shed for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.

So, now, following Jesus' example, we take this bread and this cup; the ordinary things of the world through which God will bless us.

And as Jesus offered thanks for the gifts of the earth, let us also celebrate God's goodness

Lord Jesus Christ, present with us now,

As we do in this place what you did in an upstairs room, Breathe your Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, That they may be heaven's food for us.

Renewing, sustaining and making us whole, that we may be your body on earth, loving and caring in the world.

Look, the bread of heaven is broken for the life of the world. Here is Christ, coming to us in bread and cup

The gifts of God for the people of God.

SHARING THE MEAL

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, we have seen with our eyes and touched with our hands the bread of life: Strengthen our faith that we may grow in love for you and for each other, through Jesus Christ. Amen

~ We Respond to God's Word with our Prayers and Offerings ~

Prayers of God's People

Sung Call to Prayer

"He Is Lord"

#79

Silence

Sharing our Prayer Requests

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer *(sung)*

#412

Offering Our Gifts to God

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

+Doxology

Tune: Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ all creatures here below;

Praise Holy Spirit, comforter;

One God triune, whom we adore. Amen.

+Prayer of Dedication ~ written by Katherine Hawker

God bless the offerings shared this day be used as seeds, planted faithfully and nurtured lovingly so that Christ's love may be realized anew in this world. Grant us the humility we need to plant and then tend your precious garden. Amen.

First Church
@First-Church



venmo

~ We Go Forth to Share What God's Love Looks Like ~

+Hymn	"He Touched Me"	#399
Benediction		
Sung Benediction	"I Saw The Light"	#320
"Praise the Lord, I saw the light."		
Postlude		

WEEKLY

Morning Prayer - Monday & Wednesday 7:30 am Zoom ID: contact church office

Knitters - Tuesday 1pm

Lazarus House Food Pantry 8:30 am - 12 noon

Coffeebreak - Wednesday 1pm

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, August 4	Worship with Celebration of Communion- 10am
Friday, August 9	Community Dinner cookout 5:30pm
Saturday, August 10	Benefit Concert 5:30pm see Shawn Duggan for tickets and details
Sunday, August 11	Worship 10am Coffeehouse Worship in Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, August 14	Lazarus House Food Pantry Mission 8:30am-2:30pm
Sunday, August 18	Worship 10am
Monday, August 19	Pub Theology 6:30pm - Martha's Exchange, Nashua
Thursday, August 22	Lazarus House Breakfast 7:30am
Sunday, August 25	Worship 10am