



First Congregational Church

Wilmot, New Hampshire

**An Open & Affirming Racial Justice Congregation
Of the United Church of Christ**

Gathered in 1829

*No matter who you are or where you are on your life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

Worship Service

March 8, 2026

Rev. Rachelle Eaton, Minister
Froncie Quinn, Guest Speaker ,

MORNING WORSHIP March 8, 2026
A TIME OF GATHERING AND SHARING

Prelude

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Bringing of the Light of Christ

A Time of Silence to Center Ourselves

Our worship service is taking place on N'dakinna, the traditional ancestral homeland of the Abenaki, Penacook and Wabanaki Peoples past and present. We acknowledge and honor with gratitude the land and waterways and the people who have stewarded N'dakinna throughout the generations.

CALL TO WORSHIP

A table is set before us. A feast is prepared for us.

A meal of bread and wine, of meat and bitter herbs.

The Lord calls us to this supper of remembrance.

The Lord calls us to serve and to be served.

As we break the bread and share the cup,

our understanding may fail us.

But we will never forget Christ's example.

We will never forget the full extent of his love.

INVOCATION:

Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal

your son established a new covenant for all people,

and in the washing of feet

he showed us the dignity of service.

Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit

these signs of our life in faith

may speak again to our hearts,

feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies. Amen.

***HYMN "Christians, We Have Met to Worship"**

Chalice #277

1 Christians, we have met to worship

and adore the living God;

will you pray with all your power,

while we try to preach the word?

All is vain unless the Spirit

of the Holy One comes down;

Christians, pray, and holy manna

will be showered all around.

2 Is there here a trembling jailer,

seeking grace and filled with fears?

Is there here a weeping Mary

pouring forth a flood of tears?

Tell them all about the Savior,

how in Christ the lost are found.

Pray, oh pray, and holy manna

will be scattered all around.

3 Let us love our God supremely,

let us love each other, too;

let us pray for all earth's people
till our God makes all things new.
Christ will call us home to heaven,
at the table we'll sit down;
Christ will welcome us and serve us
living manna all around.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Readings

John 13:1-17

Reflection

Rev. Rachele Eaton

Sharing about Kearsarge Regional Ecumenical Ministries - Froncie Quinn, KREM Chair

***HYMN** **“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”** **Chalice #453**

1. Called as partners in Christ’s service, Called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment Fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, Side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring To fulfill God’s chosen end.

2. Christ’s example, Christ’s inspiring, Christ’s clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering, Reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer, All God’s people, young and old,
Blending human skills together Gracious gifts from God unfold.

3. Thus new patterns for Christ’s mission, In a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other’s burdens, Breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, Words of challenge, said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action, Make us colleagues, free and fair.

4. So God grant us for tomorrow Ways to order human life
That surround each person’s sorrow With a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, Our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving Hope and confidence and peace.

MORNING PRAYERS

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer followed by The Lord’s Prayer

Our * 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the
power, and the glory forever. Amen

*We have come to know God by many different names and images. Please use the one which speaks from your heart
today.(e.g. Father, Mother, Creator, God...)

Prayer Response

“Restless Weaver”

Chalice #658, Verse 4

Restless Weaver, still conceiving new life now and yet to be.
Binding all your vast creation in one living tapestry.
You have called us to be weavers. Let your love Guide all we do.
With your Reign of Peace our pattern, we will weave your world anew.

THE GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

***Doxology**

(tune of “Old Hundredth”; **Lenten Words***)*

The glory of these forty days
We celebrate with songs of praise;
For Christ, by whom all things were made,
Himself has fasted and has prayed.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

*COMMUNION HYMN “Let Us Break Bread Together”

Chalice #425

Let us break bread together on our knees; (on our knees)
Let us break bread together on our knees; (on our knees)
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

Let us drink wine together on our knees; (on our knees)
Let us drink wine together on our knees; (on our knees)
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

Let us praise God together on our knees; (on our knees)
Let us praise God together on our knees; (on our knees)
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)

See Communion Insert

*HYMN “An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare”

Chalice #385

An upper room did our Lord prepare
For those he loved until the end:
And his disciples still gather there
To celebrate their risen friend.

A lasting gift Jesus gave his own:
To share his bread, his loving cup.
Whatever burdens may bow us down,
He by his cross shall lift us up.

And after supper he washed their feet,
For service, too, is sacrament.
In Christ our joy shall be made complete:
Sent out to serve, as he was sent.

No end there is!
We depart in peace,
He loves beyond the utter most:
In every room in our Father's house
Christ will be there, as Lord and Host.

*COMMISSIONING ONE ANOTHER

Go into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*SUNG RESPONSE “Spirit of the Living God”

Chalice #259

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me

*BENEDICTION

PASSING THE PEACE

POSTLUDE

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Tuesday, March 10	1:00 pm – Church Council
	2:30 pm – Deacons Meeting
Thursday, March 12	6:00 pm - AA's Beginner's Step Meeting
	7:00 pm – Lenten Book Study
Sunday, March 15	10:00 am – Sunday School
	10:00 am – Church Worship

First Congregational Church Staff and Officers

Ministers: Members and Friends
of the Congregation

Pastor: Rev. Rachele Eaton

Moderator: Bob Evans

Clerk: Open Position

Religious Ed Director: Nancy Allenby

Secretary: Mary Heath

Deacon of the Month: Lucy Mueller

Liturgical Attributions:

Call to Worship: posted on the Worship Elements page of the Ministry Matters website.

<http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/2478/worship-elements-holy-thursday-2015>

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