



**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

May 10, 2026

Rev. Rachelle Eaton, Minister

MORNING WORSHIP May 10, 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

(Based on Psalm 98, John 15:9-17)

Here today there is love, freely available to all.
Not our human loving, fragile and intermittent,
but God's supreme love.

**May a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth,
break forth into joyous songs of praise.**

Here today is love, higher than our loftiest hopes,
deeper than the immensities of time and space,
God's inclusive love.

**Let the seas roar their praise,
and everything in them.**

**Let the rivers clap their hands
and the hills sing together their happiness.**

The joy of the living Christ Jesus be with you all.

And also with you.

INVOCATION

Holy and mysterious Lover of the world,
let this day be a worthy celebration of our Lord's resurrection love.
By the Easter good news,
encourage us to put away our worries, and to discard our fears,
that with minds open to your Spirit
we may better love you and more joyfully worship your holy name.
Through Christ Jesus, our living brother and Lord.
Amen!

*HYMN

"Love Divine All Loves Excelling"

Chalice #517

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down;
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown;
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

Breath, O breathe thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast;
Let us all in thee inherit,
Let us find thy promised rest;
Take away our love of sinning;
Alpha and omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return and never,
Never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be,
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Readings

Philippians 1:1-18a

Reflection

Rev. Rachele Eaton

***HYMN**

“God Moves in A Mysterious Way”

NCH #412

verses 1, 3, 5, 6

1 God moves in a mysterious way
great wonders to perform;
God plants firm footsteps in the sea
and rides upon the storm.

5 God's purposes will ripen fast,
unfolding every hour;
The bud may have a bitter taste,
but sweet will be the flower.

3 O fearful saints, fresh courage take,
the clouds you so much dread
Are big with mercy and shall break
in blessings on your head.

6 Our unbelief is sure to err
and scan God's work in vain;
God is God's own interpreter,
whose truth shall be made plain.

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**

“From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

Chalice #49

From all that dwell below the skies,

Let the Creator's praise arise;

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the Redeemer's name be sung,

Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

***HYMN**

“Blest Be the Tie that Binds”

Chalice #433

Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
its like to that above.

When we are called to part,
it gives us inward pain;
But we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.

***CLOSING CIRCLE AND 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**

“Alleluia”

Chalice #106

**Alleluia alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia alleluia, alleluia, alleluia**

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

EVENTS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK

Tuesday, May 10

1:00 pm – Church Council

Thursday, May 14

6:00 pm AA's Beginner's Step Meeting

7:00 pm – “Why UCC: The Local Church: Membership, Organization, Freedoms and Responsibilities ”

LOOKING AHEAD

May 21 at 7 pm - A Church of Firsts: A Historic and Ongoing Commitment to Joining Faith and Action

May 24 at 10:30 am – Welcoming New Church Members

First Congregational Church Staff and Officers

Ministers: Members and Friends
of the Congregation

Pastor: Rev. Rachelle Eaton

Moderator: Bob Evans

Clerk: Open Position

Religious Ed Director: Nancy Allenby

Secretary: Mary Heath

Deacon of the Month: Bethany Balford

Attributions

Call to Worship and Invocation written by Bruce Prewer <http://www.bruceprewer.com/>

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