



First Congregational Church Wilmot

**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!*

***Order of Worship
World Communion Sunday
And Feast of St. Francis
October 4, 2026***

Rev. Rachelle Eaton, Minister
Elaine Cox, Music Director

MORNING WORSHIP October 4, 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

Inspired by Isaiah 55:1-3

Come to the water, all you who thirst—

come drink deeply from the river of life.

Come to the water, all you who are weary—

come rest in the quiet pools of God's love.

Come to the water, all you who long for justice—

come be renewed in God's ever-flowing stream.

For God is here among us,

washing away the dust and grime of our lives,

and pouring out the Spirit on all who thirst.

Let's worship God together.

INVOCATION

In the beginning, the Spirit of God hovered over the waters.

And God called them good.

Come, Holy Spirit, and cleanse the waters.

The prophet saw a river flowing from the Temple,

and wherever the river flowed, everything lived.

Come, Holy Spirit, and renew the face of the Earth.

Jesus cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me.

Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water."

Come, Holy Spirit, and heal your people.

*HYMN

"We Come From the Water"

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Readings John 4:1-15 , Galatians 3:27-28

Reflection

Rev. Rachelle Eaton

*HYMN

"In Water We Grow"

Chalice #375

**1 In water we grow, secure in the womb,
and speechlessly know love's safety and room.**

**Baptizing and blessing we publish for good
the freeing, caressing safe-keeping of God.**

**2 In water we wash: the dirt of each day,
its trouble and rush are carried away.
In Christ re-created by love's cleansing art,**

self-will and self-hatred dissolve and depart.

3 In water we dive, and cannot draw breath,
then surface alive, rebounding from death.
Our old self goes under, in Christ dead and drowned.
We rise, washed in wonder, by love clad and crowned.

4 In water we dwell, for by its deep flow
through bloodstream and cell, we live, think, and grow.
Praise God, love outflowing, whose well of new birth
baptizes our knowing, and waters the earth.

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

NCH #778

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

*COMMUNION HYMN

“One Bread, One Body”

Chalice #393

Refrain:

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
One cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth,
We are one body in this one Lord.

Verse 2

Many the gifts, many the works,
One in the Lord of all.
(Repeat Refrain)

Verse 1

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
Woman or man, no more. (Repeat Refrain)

Verse 3

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
Gathered to one, for all.

See Communion Insert

***HYMN** **“We Come From the Water”**

***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** **“Shall We Gather at the River” (Refrain)Chalice #701**

Yes, we'll gather at the river,
the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river
that flows by the throne of God.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Tuesday, October 6	2:30 pm – Deacon’s Meeting
Thursday, October 8	6:00 pm - AA Men's Beginners Big Book Step Meeting
Thursday, October 15	12:00 pm – Senior Lunch
Sunday, October 18	10:00 am - Guest Speaker Nikki Shults, Executive Director of Building Community in New Hampshire
Sunday, November 1	3:00 pm – Rachelle’s Installation

Second Round of Appreciative Inquiry Gatherings

- **Tuesday, October 20, 3 pm** at the church
- **Thursday, October 22, 7 pm** on Zoom
- **Sunday, October 25, at the church** following coffee hour

First Congregational Church Staff and Officers

Ministers: Members and Friends of the Congregation

Settled Minister: Rev. Rachelle Eaton

Moderator: Bob Evans

Clerk: Open Position

Director of Music: Elaine Cox

Deacon of the Month: October: Michiko Yamaguchi

Religious Ed Director: Nancy Allenby

Secretary: Mary Heath

Attributions

Call to Worship by Christine Longhurst. Invocation, and Communion Prayer from Season of Creation Celebration Guide 2026, released by the Ecumenical Season of Creation Steering Committee. Benediction written by written by Jan L. Richardson, paintedprayerbook.com

"One Bread, One Body."

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