

First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Ellsworth, Maine



Founded in 1812

*Come with hope or despair,
expectation, or disappointment, and
seek God even as God seeks you.*

**ORDER FOR WORSHIP
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

June 9, 2024

10 a.m.

*Hearing devices and large print hymnals are available—
please ask an usher if you require them.
Thank you for turning off electronic devices before worship begins.
Please stand if you are able.

RINGING THE BELL

9:45 a.m.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

PRELUDE

*Rock of Ages
On Eagles Wings*

arr. Krug
arr. Carter

WELCOME

INTROIT

He Has Made Me Glad

Von Brethorst

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

One: The Holy Spirit has given us life and pours on us the power to become new people!

All: The winds of the Spirit have given us breath and the fire of the Spirit has enkindled in us a love for God and each other.

One: Come here in faithfulness and be ready for the surprises that God's Spirit brings.

All: We open our lives to the presence of God and trust God's promise to us that we can live new lives of freedom and grace. May God help us to be true people of spirit, letting holy surprises fill our days!

*GATHERING PRAYER (unison)

God of all life and grace, we thank you for the seasons of this earth: for the seasons of planting and sowing; for the seasons of harvest and reaping. Yet, we also know the seasons of the heart. Grant that in a drought of peace, we may find your oasis of prayer. Grant that in a storm of grief, we may find your shelter of Easter faith. Grant that in the seasons of our days, we may find your rich soil for your seeds of hope. God of all life and grace—be our strength and hope in all times! In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN’S TIME FOR ALL AGES

THE LORD’S PRAYER (unison)

Our Father, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Hallelujah, We Shall Rise

arr. Choplin

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

We are waiting, O God, to hear your Word, for in your Word is our hope. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we hear your voice and be attentive to what you will say to us today. In the name of Christ, we ask this and all things. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

pew Bible p.159 OT

Gospel

Mark 3:20-35

pew Bible p.32 NT

SERMON	Homecoming for Jesus	Rev. Bowie
*HYMN	<i>Lead on, O cloud of presence</i>	633
MORNING PRAYERS		
Joys & Concerns		
Silent Prayer & Pastoral Prayer		
Prayer for those Celebrating Birthdays: Ruth		
Response	<i>Abba Father</i>	Fry
OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES (<i>Mail to PO Box 12, Ellsworth, 04605</i>)		
OFFERTORY	<i>In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful</i>	Berthier
*DOXOLOGY		46
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION		
*HYMN	<i>In Christ there is no east or west</i>	687
BENEDICTION		
RESPONSE	<i>Peace of Christ</i>	Cagle
POSTLUDE	<i>Go Joyfully</i>	Williamson

Lynn Hall, *Organist*
Myrna Vallette, *Liturgist*
Rev. Keith Bowie, *Transitional Minister*
Lois Stevens, *Greeter*
Rev. John A. Lacey, *June Deacon*
Ruth & Troy Tainter, *Facebook, WDEA & Zoom*

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

- 🎓 Jennie Ingall Bray, University of Maine Orono
 - 🎓 Merrick Fuller, Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School,
grandson of Sue & Mike Fuller
 - 🎓 Nathan Jordan, Windham High School, grandson of Marianne &
Barry Jordan
 - 🎓 Lucie Perkins, University of Maine Farmington, granddaughter of
Louise & Sid Emerson
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THE WELCOME TABLE SERVED 110 MEALS ON JUNE 5.
Serving Wednesdays 2:30 - 4 p.m., take-out only

WELCOME TABLE, our free community meal, serves take-out only.
Please call the church on Wednesdays **before noon**, 667-8321,
to reserve a meal. Donations always gratefully received.

Lasagna Supper here at FCC

Saturday, June 22, 2024
Serving 5:00 to 6:30 pm



Red or white lasagna, Caesar salad, rolls, beverages
(coffee, tea, lemonade),
and homemade pies

\$10 per person
\$25 per family (2 adults, 2 children)

We need volunteers to set up, cook, serve, wash dishes, and bake pies.
Please contact Ruth Tainter immediately about the ways you can help.

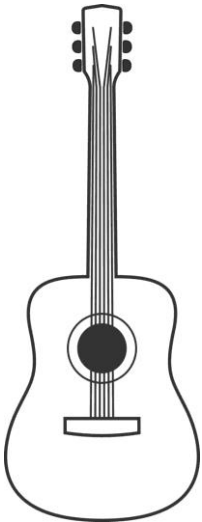


GORDON THOMAS WARD CONCERT

♪ FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 6:30 P.M. ♪

We are delighted to host this Winter Harbor resident musician in concert! Gordon is a Grammy-balloted, award-winning singer-songwriter-storyteller who paints musical portraits that plumb the depths of our emotions and bring the past to life while pointing to a hope-filled future. His solo presentation features contemporary folk music, designed to entertain, inspire, and educate audiences. He loves to perform in houses of worship.

Pay as you are able. Suggested donation at the door is \$15-\$20. Everyone is welcome. Invite your friends! ♪



Our purpose,
First Congregational Church, UCC, Ellsworth, Maine:
To embrace the life, ministry and teachings of Jesus Christ
In meaningful and dynamic ways through
creative worship,
supportive fellowship,
compassionate outreach, and
stimulating Christian education for all ages;
To be a faithful community which, led by the Holy Spirit,
expresses hospitality,
nurtures spiritual growth, and
promotes a deep sense of belonging;
To strive to build on commonalities while seeking to
understand, accept, and
celebrate our differences;
To stand as a beacon of hope in a hurting and troubled world by
sharing the Good News of the Gospel, and
practicing God's love as embodied by Jesus Christ.
We welcome all to walk with us on the journey of faith.
As adopted by the Congregation at its Annual Meeting – January 22, 2012



First Congregational Church UCC - Founded 1812

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Ellsworth, Maine 04605

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