



First Congregational Church UCC - Founded 1812
PO Box 12, 2 Church Street
Ellsworth, Maine 04605
207-667-8321 office@ellsworthucc.org
ellsworthucc.org facebook.com/fccellsworth

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

**ORDER OF WORSHIP
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
HOLY COMMUNION**

September 1, 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

*Lower Lights
My Jesus, I Love Thee*

arr. Wilson
arr. Page

WELCOME

INTROIT

Surely the Presence of the Lord

Wolfe

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

One: Let us gather within the covenant of love, which binds us to God and one another.

All: Let us gather at the table of the Lord, to celebrate with thanksgiving the saving acts and presence of Christ.

One: Let us gather to remember our baptism into Christ, by which we enter into newness of life and are made one with the whole people of God.

All: Let us gather to worship the maker of heaven and earth, to whom be blessing and glory and honor forever!

*HYMN

Come, Share the Lord

408

*GATHERING PRAYER (unison)

Eternal God, we thank you for this house of prayer, in which you bless your family on its pilgrimage. Help us to worship you in spirit and in truth; that our consciences may be quickened by your holiness, our minds nourished by your truth, our imaginations purified by your beauty, our hearts opened to your love, our wills surrendered to your purpose; and may all this be gathered up in adoration as we ascribe glory, praise, and honor to you alone, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

O God, please open your Word to us this day, and open us to your Word. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle

James 1:17-27

pew Bible p.202 NT

Psalm

Psalm 66:16-20

pew Bible p.491 OT

COMMUNION MEDITATION	OAT	Rev. Henry
Praise	<i>Amazing grace!</i>	546
Confession	<i>These I Lay Down</i>	391
Dedication	<i>Day by day</i>	599

MORNING PRAYERS

Joys & Concerns

Silent Prayer & Pastoral Prayer

Prayer for those Celebrating Birthdays & Anniversaries:

Fred, Ernie, Vicki, Sarah, Bill & Gale

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.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES

OFFERTORY	<i>Lord, Be Glorified</i>	Kilpatrick
-----------	---------------------------	------------

*DOXOLOGY		46
-----------	--	----

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN	<i>When I survey the wondrous cross</i>	195
-------	---	-----

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Communion Prayer

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

(Communion liturgy continued next page→)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison):

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to world. Keep us in this hope that we have grasped; so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

*HYMN *Go, my children, with my blessing* 431

BENEDICTION (please be seated)

RESPONSE *Blest be the tie that binds* (v1, only) 433
 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love:
 The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

POSTLUDE

Blest be the tie, words John Fawcett 1872, tune DENNIS Johann Nägeli 1828 | Public Domain

Lynn Hall, *Organist*

Steve Merchant, *Liturgist*

Anna Hopper, *Soloist*

Rev. Keith Bowie, *Transitional Minister*

Sue & Mike Fuller, *Ushers*

Lois Stevens, *Greeter*

Anne Bancroft, *September Deacon*

Ruth & Troy Tainter, *Facebook, WDEA & Zoom*

THE WELCOME TABLE SERVED 90 MEALS ON AUGUST 28.

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.

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