

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
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 13, 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

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
The Lone, Wild Bird

arr. Hustad
arr. Lau

WELCOME

INTROIT

Surely the Presence of the Lord

Wolfe

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

One: You are above me, O God, you are within.

All: You are in all things yet contained by no thing.

One: Teach me to seek you in all that has life, that I may see you as the
Light of Life.

**All: Teach me to search for you in my own depths, that I may find
you in every living soul.**

*HYMN

Come, thou fount of every blessing

16

*GATHERING PRAYER (unison)

O God of all, we thank you for the rhythm and beauty of the seasons. We are grateful that each season is orchestrated by you. In this fall season, may the brilliant colors of the leaves remind us of the miracle of your creation. May the puff of our breath in the cool air remind us that it is you who gives us the breath of life. Open our eyes to see the earlier setting of the sun as a reminder to take time to rest. We pray for those that find the change hard; may they find peace in your steadfastness. Make us like you, O God. Let our lives reflect your beauty, season after season, as the calendar turns and turns. Help us accept fall as we accept your love--with outstretched hands and open hearts of anticipation. In the name of the One who created all things. 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.

SOLO

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Redman

Bless the Lord, oh my soul, worship His Holy name

Sing like never before, Oh my soul, I'll worship Your Holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning, it's time to sing

Your song again; whatever may pass and whatever lies before me

Let me be singing when the evening comes. *Bless the Lord...*

(song text continued next page →)

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger, Your name is great
And Your heart is kind; for all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. *Bless the Lord...*

And on that day when my strength is failing, the end draws near
And my time has come, still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore. *Bless the Lord...*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

**Lord God, as you spoke long ago through the voices of your prophets,
speak to us here, speak to us now, through the power of your Spirit
and the promise of your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Epistle	Hebrews 4:12-16	pew Bible p.194 NT
Epistle	2 Peter 1:19-21	pew Bible p.209 NT
Gospel	Mark 10:17-31	pew Bible p.40 NT

SERMON **A Lamp Shining in a Dark Place** Rev. Bowie

*HYMN *Wonderful Words of Life* 323

MORNING PRAYERS

Joys & Concerns
Silent Prayer & Pastoral Prayer
Prayer for those Celebrating Birthdays: Michael, George
Response *Amen* West

OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES

OFFERTORY *Cry of My Heart* Butler

*DOXOLOGY 46

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God of glorious power and wisdom, how can we number your countless gifts? Look upon our lives with favor, and, by the gift of your grace, prosper the work of our hands, we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

***HYMN** *Have thine own way, Lord!* 588

BENEDICTION

RESPONSE *Shalom Chaverim* trad.

POSTLUDE *Festal Postlude* Barr

Call to Worship from *Sounds of the Eternal*, J. Philip Newell © 2002 Wm B Eerdmans Publishing Company

10,000 Reasons by Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin, Steve Angrisano © 2011 Atlas Mountain Songs
CCLI # 11546442 Streaming # 20543232

Lynn Hall, *Organist*

Michael Hall, *Liturgist*

Katharine Schrader, *Soloist*

Rev. Keith Bowie, *Transitional Minister*

Sue & Mike Fuller, *Ushers*

Lois Stevens, *Greeter*

Rev. John A. Lacey, *October Deacon*

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



MASKING IS OPTIONAL IN THE CHURCH BUILDING.
We suggest physical distancing. Thank you for respecting the space of those who choose to mask.

THE WELCOME TABLE SERVED 90 MEALS ON OCTOBER 9.
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.

Roast Turkey Supper

Saturday, October 26, 2024

Serving 5:00 to 6:30 pm



*Roast turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, rolls,
glazed carrots, green beans, salad, homemade pies,
and beverages (coffee, tea, lemonade)*

\$10 per person

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

Great food ~ Great company ~ Great fun

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

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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