



**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.*

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**ORDER OF WORSHIP  
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

**February 16, 2025**

**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

WELCOME

INTROIT (all) *Joyful, joyful, we adore thee* (v1 only) 2

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;

Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive our fear and doubt away;

Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

from Jeremiah 17

One: Blessed are those who trust God, whose trust is the Lord.

**All: They are like trees planted by water, sending out roots by the stream.**

One: They have no fear of summer's heat, nor do they wither in the sun.

**All: In the year of drought, they are not anxious, for their lives bear the fruit of righteousness.**

One: Come to the waters of life all you who trust in the Lord. We have come to worship and to send forth our roots into streams of God's living water! Amen.

\*HYMN

*Here, O Lord, your servants gather*

278

\*GATHERING PRAYER (unison)

**God of blessings and woes, bless us this day with lives filled with love, caring, generosity, and deep, abiding hope. We pray that your kingdom will dwell among all people, and that we may be instruments of your love and your grace. Open our hearts with the joy of healing a world filled with brokenness and pain. In the name of the one who taught us the ways of light and love, be in our worship and in our very lives. 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.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (all)

**Guide us, O God, by your Word, and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace; through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament	Jeremiah 17:5-10	pew Bible p.658 OT
Gospel	Luke 6:17-26	pew Bible p.55 NT

SERMON                      **Where Were You on the Hill?**                      Pastor Elliott

MORNING PRAYERS

Joys & Concerns

Silent Prayer & Pastoral Prayer

Prayer for those Celebrating Birthdays & Anniversaries:

Kara, Carole, Steve & Lisa, Jack & Cathy, Tom & Bonnie

Response (all)                      *Into my heart*                      304

Into my heart, into my heart, come into my heart, Lord Jesus;

Come in today, come in to stay, come into my heart, Lord Jesus.

\*HYMN                      *We Are Called to Follow Jesus*                      465

OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY                      46

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

BENEDICTION

RESPONSE (all)                    *Blest be the tie that binds*                    433

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds is 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.

POSTLUDE

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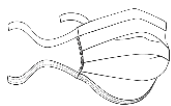
*Joyful, joyful, we adore thee*, words Henry van Dyke 1907, music Ludwig van Beethoven | Public Domain

*Into my heart*, words & music Harry D. Clarke 1924 | Public Domain

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

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Lynn Hall, *Organist*  
Nancy Sargent, *Choir Director*  
Rev. John A. Lacey, *Liturgist*  
Pastor Andy Elliott, *Guest preacher*  
Sue & Ken Farkas, *Ushers*  
Lois Stevens, *Greeter*  
Rev. John A. Lacey, *February Deacon*



**MASKING IS OPTIONAL IN THE CHURCH BUILDING.**

We suggest physical distancing. Thank you for respecting the space of those who choose to mask.

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**Worship is broadcast live through  
WDEA AM 1370, Facebook, and Zoom.**

On Communion Sundays, we ask for donations to the Loaves & Fishes Food pantry. Your donation may be non-perishable food items or monetary gifts.

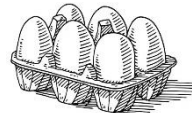


**Loaves & Fishes**  
of Ellsworth  
**FOOD PANTRY**  
Serving Hancock County

There are donation and collection boxes at the State Street entrance.



**Loaves & Fishes needs eggs and butter.** They are not receiving them at all. If you have any extra, they can use these two items.



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# Roast Turkey Supper

**Saturday, February 22, 2025**  
**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)*

**\$12 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.**

**THE WELCOME TABLE SERVED 115 MEALS ON FEBRUARY 12.**

**Serving Wednesdays 2 – 3:30 p.m., take-out only**

WELCOME TABLE, our free community meal, serves take-out only.

Please call the church on Wednesdays **before 11 a.m.**, 667-8321,  
to reserve a meal. Donations always gratefully received.

**NOTE TIME CHANGES**

*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*