



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

*Hearing devices and large print hymnals are available—
please ask an usher if you require them.
Please stand as you are able.

Thank you for silencing electronic devices before worship begins.

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

July 6, 2025

10 a.m.

RINGING THE BELL

9:45 a.m.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

PRELUDE

*God of Our Fathers
America the Beautiful*

arr. Lau
arr. Kruger

WELCOME

INTROIT

Enter, Rejoice

Ruspini

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

One: Call upon the Lord! I asked for help and I was healed!

**All: We asked for freedom, and we were given liberty beyond measure!
Praise God!**

One: Sing to the Lord, all you faithful; give thanks to God's holy name.

All: God turned our mourning into dancing! The Great Tailor took away the sackcloth and dressed us up in celebration! Our hearts sing without ceasing! O Lord our God, we will always give you thanks!

*HYMN

Eternal Father, strong to save

85

*CALL TO CONFESSION

One: God's love has been shown to us in Jesus Christ, yet we sometimes live as if that made no difference to us. Let us confess to God.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Healing River, Source of Life, forgive our lack of faith in you. Heal our diseases and wash away our sin. Free us from our demons and from every desire that enslaves us. Help us always to come to those shores where the rivers of your love can make us clean and whole; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are those who seek the face of God. Everyone who asks, receives, and the one who seeks, finds. Blessed are those who ask for forgiveness, for they shall be forgiven. Blessed are those who repent, for they shall be freed to live fully in the present.

*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 (unison)

Your Word, O Lord, is our inspiration and our light. Your Word is power, wisdom, and comfort. Guide us today as we listen to the Word and fill us with understanding and with the desire to change. Speak Lord! Your people listen! Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament	2 Kings 5:1-14	pew Bible p.311 OT
Psalms	Psalms 30	pew Bible p.468 OT
Epistle	Galatians 6:1-10	pew Bible p.168 NT

SERMON **Healed and Restored by a Stranger** Rev. Bowie

MORNING PRAYERS

Joys & Concerns

Silent Prayer & Pastoral Prayer

Prayer for those Celebrating Birthdays & Anniversaries:

Wendy, Myrna & Bob, Nancy, Jay, Lyle, Becky & Andy

Response *Amen* Robinson

HOLY COMMUNION

*Hymn *Let us break bread together* 435

The Great Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution & Sharing the Elements

(Communion liturgy continued next page →)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

O God, we give you thanks for this meal that nourishes us, body and soul. May it sustain us as we confront evil that keeps us from living the lives you intended for us and for all creatures and creations. Until every life can be lived abundantly, be our guide, our hope, and our comforter. Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES

OFFERTORY	<i>Crossin' the River</i>	Parks
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*DOXOLOGY		46
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*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN	<i>O beautiful for spacious skies</i>	720
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BENEDICTION

RESPONSE	<i>This is My Song</i>	Sibelius
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POSTLUDE	<i>My Country, 'Tis of Thee</i>	arr. Parks
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Lynn Hall, *Organist & Flautist*

Rev. John A. Lacey, *Liturgist*

Nancy Sargent, *Pianist*

Rev. Keith Bowie, *Transitional Minister*

Cathy Engel & Cindy Sargent, *Ushers*

Lois Stevens, *Greeter*

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

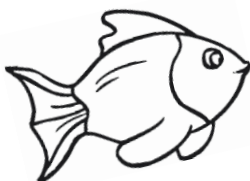
Steve Merchant, *July Deacon*

Come with hope or despair, expectation or disappointment, and seek God even as God seeks you. We pray that your experience of worship enriches and sustains you in the week ahead. If you are visiting, we hope you will introduce yourself to those around you and to the Pastor. Please join us for coffee after the service. If you have any questions, please ask an usher.

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

Baked Haddock Supper

***Saturday, July 26, 2025
Serving 5:00 to 6:30 pm***



*Baked haddock, mashed potatoes, carrots,
green beans, salad, rolls, homemade pies and
beverages (coffee, tea, lemonade)*

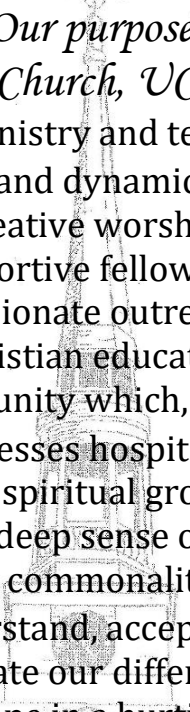
**\$12 per person
\$25 per family (2 adults, 2 children)**

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

THE WELCOME TABLE SERVED 90 MEALS ON JULY 2.

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.



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