



First Congregational Church UCC – Founded 1812
PO Box 12, 2 Church Street
Ellsworth, Maine 04605
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ellsworthucc.org facebook.com/fccellsworth

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

*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
NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

August 10, 2025

10 a.m.

RINGING THE BELL

9:45 a.m.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

PRELUDE

*Stardust (The Light in Me)
Everywhere*

Matthews
Stevens

WELCOME

INTROIT

Grace, Love, and Fellowship

Fettke

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

One: We have been called to walk the faithful road, a pilgrimage whereby we are drawn closer to God and neighbor.

All: We are here because we believe strongly that our God is good, and that we live in that goodness. We are here to proclaim our faith and to seek direction along this journey of faith.

One: Come together, then, to be God's people. Follow Christ and listen for the good things that God has done. Rise up in praise and thanksgiving.

All: We will share with others the goodness that we have found in God. May our lives be an expression of that goodness.

*HYMN

Open my eyes, that I may see

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*PRAYER IN REMEMBRANCE OF HIROSHIMA & NAGASAKI (August 6)

O God, we look with awe upon your creation: the beauty, the intricate connections of life with life. But we observe with horror the human record of desecration and abuse. You look with love upon our relationships while we gaze with terror upon the ways we have devised to destroy the human family. Nothing short of a radical change will bring us to strength, to responsibility, to zeal. Fill us with your Spirit. Open us to stirrings of compassion. Uphold us by your protecting Word that, like the disciples, we might discover that your grace will return us to fidelity, trust, justice, and love. 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

Amazing Grace

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

God of Hope, open our eyes to your presence among us that we may hear your word with clarity and a sureness of hope, as we follow you in all righteousness. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament

Genesis 15:1-6

pew Bible p.11 OT

Epistle

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

pew Bible p.198 NT

Gospel

Luke 12:32-40

pew Bible p.65 NT

SERMON

Venturing Forth in Faith

Rev. Bowie

*HYMN

They'll Know We Are Christians

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MORNING PRAYERS

Joys & Concerns

Silent Prayer & Pastoral Prayer

Prayer for those Celebrating Birthdays: Scotty, Jane

Response

Amen

West

OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES

OFFERTORY

Lead Me, Lord

Goodine

*DOXOLOGY

46

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Generous God, you pour out blessing and cover us with gifts of love. Accept these offerings for the sake of your children, that they may proclaim your mercy and embody your grace. In Jesus' name we ask it. Amen.

*HYMN	<i>We call ourselves disciples</i> (vs. 1, 2 & 5)	357
BENEDICTION		
RESPONSE	<i>Peace of Christ</i>	Cagle
POSTLUDE	<i>Wayfaring Stranger</i> <i>God Made</i>	Appalachian trad. Stevens

Remembrance Prayer from *Touch Holiness*, ed. by Ruth C. Duck & Maren C. Tirabassi
© 1990 The Pilgrim Press

Atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki: On August 6 and 9, 1945, the United States detonated two atomic bombs over the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, respectively, during World War II. The aerial bombings killed between 150,000 and 246,000 people, most of whom were civilians, and remain the only uses of nuclear weapons in an armed conflict. Japan announced its surrender to the Allies on August 15, six days after the bombing of Nagasaki and the Soviet Union's declaration of war against Japan and invasion of Manchuria. The Japanese government signed an instrument of surrender on September 2, 1945, ending the war. - Wikipedia.org

Bliss Matthews, *Guest Musician*
Lynn Hall, *Organist*
Martin Vachon, *Liturgist*
Rev. Keith Bowie, *Transitional Minister*
Myrna & Bob Vallette, *Ushers*
Lois Stevens, *Greeter*
Ruth & Troy Tainter, *Facebook, WDEA & Zoom*
Katharine Schrader, *August Deacon*

We welcome back singer songwriter Bliss Matthews to worship this morning. Bliss is studying Audio Engineering at the College of the Atlantic. Originally from Chincoteague Island, Virginia, Bliss has called New England home since 2021. Outside of the studio, Bliss loves to volunteer, garden, climb trees, surf, and sail.

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

P o t R o a s t S u p p e r

Saturday, August 23, 2025

Serving 5:00 to 6:30 pm



*Beef pot roast, mashed potatoes, carrots,
green beans, salad, rolls, 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 Lois Stevens immediately about the ways you can help.**

THE WELCOME TABLE SERVED 90 MEALS ON AUGUST 6.

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