



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.*

*Hearing devices and large print hymnals are available—
please ask an usher if you require them.
Thank you for silencing electronic devices before worship begins.*

****Please stand as you are able.***

**ORDER OF WORSHIP
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

April 26, 2026

10 a.m.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

PRELUDE

*On Jordan's Stormy Banks
Meditation*

arr. Wagner
arr. Hopson

WELCOME

INTROIT (all) *Surely the presence of the Lord* 263
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

One: There are voices calling for your attention—fear, doubt, and everything in between.

All: But we have come to hear the voice of the Shepherd.

One: There are mountains that stand in our way—things we've learned to live with.

All: But we have come to follow the One who leads us through.

One: Jesus says, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them."

All: We are listening. We are ready to follow.

One: Come, not as spectators, but as people ready to move.

All: We worship the One who moves mountains.

*HYMN *Savior, like a shepherd lead us* 558

*GATHERING PRAYER (unison)

Good Shepherd, we come surrounded by many voices, but today we choose to listen for Yours. Quiet our fears, steady our hearts, and open us to Your leading. You know the mountains before us, give us courage to follow You through them. Lead us into the life You promise. Amen.

SPECIAL MOMENTS & 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.

PIANO SOLO

It is Well with My Soul

arr. Walz

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Good Shepherd, speak to us through Your Word today. Open our ears to hear Your voice, and our hearts to receive it. Move what stands in the way and lead us into Your truth. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

New Testament

Acts 2:42-47

pew Bible 104 NT

Gospel

John 10:1-10

pew Bible p.90 NT

SERMON **When the Shepherd Speaks, Mountains Move**

*HYMN *Guide me, O thou great Jehovah* 622

MORNING PRAYERS

Joys & Concerns

Silent Prayer & Pastoral Prayer

Prayer for those Celebrating Birthdays: Bailey, Michelle, Jon, Mary

Response (all) *Lead me, Lord* 593

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness,
Make thy way plain before my face. For it is thou, Lord,
Thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES

OFFERTORY *Lord, We Come to Ask Your Blessing* Landes

*DOXOLOGY 46

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN *I have decided to follow Jesus* 344

*BENEDICTION

Surely the presence, words & music Lanny Wolfe © 1977 Lanny Wolfe Music
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Lead me, Lord, text from Psalms 5:8 & 4:8, music Samuel S. Wesley, 1861 | Public Domain

Lynn Hall, *Organist & Pianist*

Andrew Elliott, *Pastor*

Michael Hall, *Liturgist*

Sue & Ken Farkas, *Ushers*

Lois Stevens, *Greeter*

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

Cindy Sargent, *April Deacon*

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



VISITORS, GUESTS, AND SEEKERS ARE WELCOME

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.

THE WELCOME TABLE SERVED 150 MEALS ON APRIL 22.

WELCOME TABLE, our free community meal, serves take-out only on Wednesdays from 2-3:30 p.m. 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*