



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
ALL SAINTS DAY & HOLY COMMUNION

November 1, 2026

10 a.m.

PRELUDE

Grand Isle
Ave Verum

arr. Lasky
arr. Page

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT

I come with joy

Wren

I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved and free,
In awe and wonder to recall his life laid down for me.

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

One: Today, we gather to remember the saints who have gone before us,
whose love and faith continue to shape our lives.

All: We give thanks for their lives and the love that lives on through us.

One: Jesus calls blessed those who mourn, those who seek peace, and those
who show mercy.

All: We rejoice in a God whose blessings reach beyond the world's expectations.

One: From every nation, every people, and every walk of life, God gathers
us together in love.

All: In God's kingdom, no one is forgotten, no one is excluded, and there is room for everyone!

One: Come, let us worship the God of yesterday, today, and forever!

All: With grateful hearts and joyful spirits, we worship God!

*HYMN

All who hunger, gather gladly

419

*GATHERING PRAYER (unison)

Loving God, we gather with grateful hearts, remembering the saints who have gone before us and the love they shared. Remind us that your blessings are found not in power or privilege, but in mercy, compassion, and grace. Open our hearts to welcome others, comfort those who mourn, and share your love freely. May we be a people who make room for everyone, just as you have made room for us. Amen.

SPECIAL MOMENT

CHORAL ANTHEM

Come, Share the Lord

Leech

You may follow the text in the hymnal, #408.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Gracious God, open our hearts and minds as we hear your Word today. Help us to listen with understanding, receive with faith, and respond with love. May your Spirit guide us, challenge us, and inspire us to live more fully in your grace. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

New Testament
Gospel

Revelation 7:9-17
Matthew 5:1-12

pew Bible p.221 NT
pew Bible p.3 NT

**SERMON The world tells us who matters. Jesus tells us who is blessed.
And Revelation shows us that, in God's kingdom,
there is room for everyone.**

HOLY COMMUNION

*Hymn *Let us break bread together* 425

Invitation to Communion

Prayer of Consecration

Sharing the Bread & Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dedication (unison)

Gracious and loving God, we give thanks for this sacred meal and the love that welcomes us all to your table. Nourished by your grace and strengthened by your Spirit, may we carry your love beyond these walls . Open our hearts to those in need, guide our hands in acts of compassion, and help us build a world where everyone knows they belong. May our lives reflect the generosity of your love, today and always. Amen.

*HYMN *For all the saints* (vs 1,3,5) 637

MORNING PRAYERS

Joys & Concerns

Prayer for those Celebrating Birthdays: Victoria

Silent Prayer & Pastoral Prayer

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.

Choral Response

Amen

Greek

OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES

OFFERTORY

Deep Peace

Dixon

*DOXOLOGY

46

*DEDICATION

*HYMN

In Christ there is no east or west

687

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

For all the saints

arr. Hopson

I come with joy, words Brian Wren 1968 © 1971 Hope Publishing Co.| CCLI License # 11546442 Streaming 20543232
Music *The Southern Harmony* 1835 harm. by Charles H Webb 1987 © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

Lynn Hall, *Organist*
Nancy Sargent, *Choral Director*
Andy Elliott, *Pastor*
Mark Remick, *Liturgist*
Rev. John A. Lacey, *Communion Prayer of Consecration*
Rhyne Robidoux & Donna Shea, *Ushers*
Lois Stevens, *Greeter*
Ruth & Troy Tainter, *Facebook, WDEA & Zoom*
Katharine Schrader, *November Deacon*

Thank you for sitting in the front half of the sanctuary today.

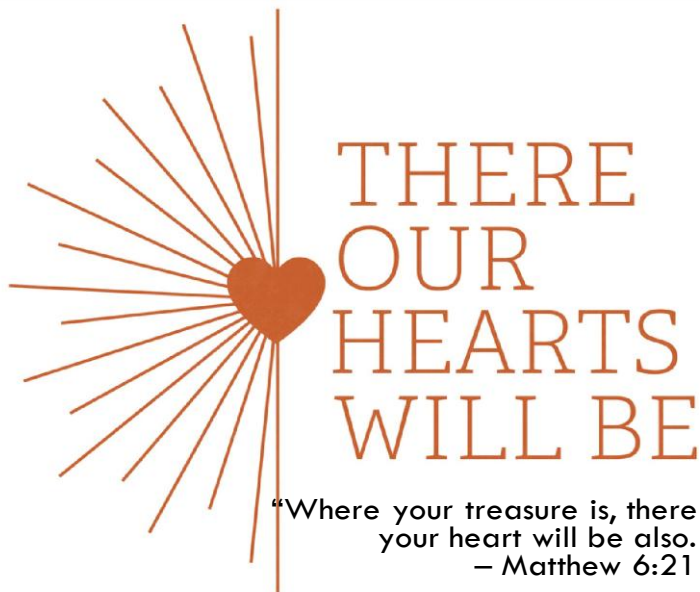
**Worship is broadcast live through
WDEA AM 1370, Facebook, and Zoom.**

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. Kindly fill out a yellow visitor's card that you'll find in the pew rack. Please join us for coffee after the service. If you have any questions, please ask an usher.

While the church steeple is being cleaned and repaired, we are not ringing the bell at the beginning of morning worship. Once this project is completed, we will restore this item to the Order of Worship.





In Matthew 6, Jesus calls us to a way of living that resists the temptation of “showy religion.” He cautions against practicing faith merely to be seen, warning that such attention-seeking empties the act of its power. Instead, he points us toward the “secret place,” the quiet intimacy where trust in God shapes our hearts and where generosity takes root.

This invitation is not a rejection of religious practice but a re-orientation of it. Jesus expects his followers to give, pray, and fast: not if, but when. These are regular, disciplined acts of faith. What matters is the intent: whether these practices reflect genuine trust in God or simply seek human approval.

Like the Puerto Rican yagrumo leaf that turns toward the heavens before the rain, our generosity turns us toward the Source of all life. The tree’s silver side catches the light, not to boast of its brilliance, but to signal expectancy: a quiet trust that nourishment is coming.

In the same way, **our hidden acts of generosity and prayer reflect God’s light, not our own.**

Jesus' words also challenge our understanding of value and reward. We often want recognition, but Jesus urges us to trust God with the timing of the reveal — or whether it is revealed at all. In God's economy, the real reward of generosity is transformation, not applause. "Where your treasure is," Jesus says, "there your heart will be also."

Our giving, praying, and fasting are ways of training our hearts to desire what God desires. Generosity, then, becomes both inward and outward, rooted in the secret life with God, yet shining in compassion and justice. It is the overflow of love, not the performance of piety.

THE WELCOME TABLE SERVED 132 MEALS ON OCTOBER 28.

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.**, 207-667-8321, 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