

First Congregational Church Wolfeboro

United Church of Christ, An Open and Affirming Congregation

Sunday, September 12, 2021 10 am ~ "No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

Welcome!

We are so glad you could join us this morning to worship in our beautiful sanctuary. Our new Interim Minister, the Reverend Donna Lee Muise, will be guiding the First Congregational Church of Wolfeboro, UCC, through the coming months as we seek to ready ourselves to call and receive a new settled pastor.

As we worship safely inside together, we are asking all people to mask to help protect our most vulnerable and to social distance. Please pick up your individually packaged communion elements on your way into the service on Communion Sundays. Offering plates are located in the gathering space for you to drop off your offering before or after worship. Join Rev. Donna Muise after the service outside on the front sidewalk where she will greet you.

In case you are unfamiliar with our traditions, the * indicates that those who are able are encouraged to stand, but you may remain seated if that is more comfortable. **Bold type** indicates unison participation.

Order of Worship

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Andante Grazioso
from Piano Concerto No. 11 in A Major

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God.

People: And the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul.

People: The decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple.

ALL: Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.

* HYMN

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

481 (Red Hymnal)

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Holy God, you call to us from the depths of our hearts, where we long for connection with you and with one another. You call to us from our sacred stories, where God, Christ, Spirit create, challenge, comfort. Guide us, we pray, on an adventure of hope, and help us see with your eyes, the ways which lead to beloved community. Hear us as we pray as Christ Jesus taught us to say,

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.

RESPONSE

Halleluja

236 (Black Hymnal)

CHANCEL STEPS

Welcome Back!

Children of all ages are invited to come forward and take a place on the chancel steps. Please wear your masks, bring your backpacks with you, and leave space between you and the next person! Rev Donna will give out the back pack tags which say, "Be Kind. Be Love. Be You."

Blessing of the Backpacks

Friends, this school year, may you be curious and kind, gentle and strong, brave and loving.

Prayer of the Congregation

Pastor: God of fresh starts and new beginnings we bring ourselves, our big feelings, and our backpacks to you for your blessing. In our backpacks, we carry blank pages, sharpened pencils and pointy crayons; and in our hearts we carry big feelings, curious questions, and dreams of a great school year!

Pastor & Youth: God, our friend who always loves us, be with us as we ride the bus, as we walk and talk, as we buckle seatbelts, zip up jackets, and put on shoes. Whatever this year, bless our journey into something new.

ALL: God, we thank you for the teachers, helpers, caregivers and leaders, who will guide our children and help each one to learn and to grow. God, you are so full of wonder, please fill the hearts and bless the hands of all our children starting a new school adventure this year. Amen!

Dismissal to Sunday School

This Little Light of Mine

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine (3x)
Let it shine! Let it shine! Let it SHINE!**

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 50: 4-9a
Mark 8:27-38

(OT pg 697)
(NT pg 41)

THE MORNING WORD

The Rev. Donna Muisse

* HYMN

I've Got a Feeling

458 (Black Hymnal)

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONSE

Lord, Let Us Seek You Out

A. Campbell

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

All-knowing God, teach us to use these gifts to create greater access, insights and wisdom for people within and outside of these walls. Let it be so! Amen.

* HYMN

Fairest Lord Jesus

227 (Red Hymnal)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Victor's Crown: Crown Him with Many Crowns

George J. Elvey,
arr. Bethany K. Smith & Mary McDonald

The Chancel Flowers

*Are given by Jack and Dotti Kay
in celebration of the 54th Anniversary of their wedding
at FCCW on September 9, 1967*

Participants in the Service

Ushers:
Steve & Norma Metz

Worship Leader:
Norma Metz

Assisting Deacon:
Connie Turner

Coming Up

A note from Rev. Donna

Rev. Donna's scheduled office hours are **10-4 on Mondays and Wednesdays; 10-1 on Tuesdays and Thursdays**. On Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-4 she is available to visit people in our community.

If you're interested in a visit, phone call or zoom visit from her, please call the office and to set something up that's convenient for both. Rev. Donna has an open door policy, so feel free to drop in if you're in the neighborhood! Donna's email is revdonna@wolfeboroucc.org or call 603-569-1555 (office), 603-309-6963 (cell) to be in touch.

Rally Sunday

Welcome to Rally Sunday!! Sunday school resumes today after chancel steps. We will be heading outside for games and t-shirt decorating before our all church picnic. Sunday school Registration forms are available in the back of the sanctuary. We are looking for **volunteer teachers and nursery help. Please contact the office for an opportunity to help!** We are using

new curriculum called Compassion Camp. It is an At-Home/Virtual VBS/or in-person curriculum where kids and their families can explore what it means to have compassion for others, ourselves, and the world.

Compassion Camp: Be Kind. Be Loved. Be You.

Church Picnic

Our annual church picnic will take place after worship outside on Brewster Field. We will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, juice, water and dessert. **All are Welcome!**

Acolytes

Does your child want to acolyte this year? Let the church office know!

Confirmation

If you have a child, age 12 or older and interested in Confirmation classes please let us know! Confirmation with Rev. Donna will start in January and students will be confirmed on Pentecost ~ 6/5/22.

Becoming a member

Are you interested in joining our church? Please contact the church office or Rev. Donna. We hope to accept new members the end of September.

Chancel Flowers

We are looking for chancel flowers to decorate our sanctuary on Sunday mornings. You may give it in memory of a loved one or to celebrate a special event. Take the arrangement home or have a deacon deliver it to someone and brighten their day. **(We are particularly looking for September 26 - October)** If you are interested in donating flowers, a plant or artwork one Sunday, please contact Wendy Monbouquette at wmonbo@gmail.com.

Drivers Needed

Can you pick up one of our members and bring them to church on Sunday? If you are interested in driving please **let the church office know. We are looking for drivers in September.**

Wolfeboro Reads

The Most Loving Place in Town: A Modern Day Parable for the Church Please join Pastor Bill Petersen (ASEC) and Pastor Donna Muise (FCCW) as we gather via Zoom on **Tuesdays, September 14th, 21st, and 28th 4:00-5:15 pm** for reflection and discussion. Join Zoom Meeting using the link in our weekly email.

Church Sexton

We are looking to hire a part-time Sexton. The role of is to help provide for the care and maintenance of the church buildings and grounds. If interested or want to learn more please contact the **church office**.

KIND (GWAVCoop)

We are helping to look for gently used bicycles (mountain bikes) to donate to the Kingswood Youth Center. Having additional bicycles enables the Center to take a larger group of kids out on the rail trail. Please contact Krista at krista@wolfeboroucc.org

Contact Us

Sunday Worship Services:

7:30 am - Cate Park
10:00 am - 115 South Main Street

Office Hours:

Monday & Wednesday
9:30 am - 12:30 pm
Tuesday & Thursday
12:00 pm - 3:00 pm
or call for an appointment

Staff:

The Rev. Donna Muise
revdonna@wolfeboroucc.org
603-309-6963 (cell)

Krista Marschner
krista@wolfeboroucc.org

Andy Campbell
acampbell@brewsteracademy.org

Physical Address:

115 South Main Street
Wolfeboro, NH 03894
603-569-1555

Mailing Address:

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Wolfeboro Community TV

Channel 25
FCCW, UCC Worship
Sundays: 3 am, 3 pm,
Mondays: 3 am, 3 pm

Online Streaming of Worship Services:

FCCW YouTube
Pick the FCCW service of
your choice.

LORD, LET US SEEK YOU OUT

Andy Campbell

Lord, let us seek you out in each oth - er, Lord, let us seek you out for each
oth - er, Lord, let us seek you out in com - mun - i - ty, Lord,
teach us who to be, teach us who to be to - geth - er.