



First Congregational Church of Walpole, UCC

September 19, 2021, Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost 10am

I am not concerned that I am not known; I seek to be worthy to be known.

-- Confucius

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSICAL INTROIT

God, Reveal Thy Presence (insert)

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Based on Psalm 54)

Leader: Save me, O God, by your name, and vindicate me by your might.

People: **Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.**

Leader: For the insolent have risen against me, the ruthless seek my life.
They do not set God before them.

People: **But surely, God is my helper; and upholds my life.**

Leader: With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you; I will give thanks to your name, O
God, for all that is good.

All: **For God has delivered me from every trouble.
My eye has looked in triumph on my troubles.**

HYMN *A Morning Prayer*

TWC#360 (insert)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)

God of sunrise and ocean depth, creator of all that lives and breathes, we are amazed by your creation. We await the movements of your Spirit among us and within us. We seek to please you through songs of praise, acts of kindness, and righteous relationships. Yet, even as we seek to follow you, we become lost. We become enchanted by noise of our own making. Rather than serve you by serving your children in need, we pursue our most shallow desires, and ignore the deepest needs of the spirit. Forgive us, we pray. Accept the broken hearts we offer and make them new. Help us to hear your call as we open ourselves to you in silence...

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SHARING THE PEACE OF GOD

Leader: May the peace of God
be with you.

People: And also, with you.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN *Children Of God*

NCH#533 v.1,3,4 (insert)

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: Jeremiah 11:18–20; James 3:13–4:3, 4:7–8a; Mark 9:30–37

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Leader: For the Word in Scripture, for the Word among us,
for the Word within us:

All: **Thanks be to God!**

SUNG RESPONSE (2 Times)

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
And a light unto my path

SERMON

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY (Old Hundredth)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, the Word in flesh born low;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Gracious, generous God, we give thanks for the opportunity and ability to give this offering of what you have given to us. Inspire us, each, and all, as we dedicate it to ministry in your name. Give us wisdom, compassion, and joy as we travel the paths of service and discipleship together. All this we pray in Christ. Amen.

HYMN *O For A World* NCH#575 (insert)

BENEDICTION RESPONSE “GO NOW IN PEACE”

Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true. Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others
so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

POSTLUDE

Music Director: Amy Cann
Zoom Director: Paul Looney
Liturgist: Chuck Shaw
Scripture Reader: Ellie Shaw
Ushers and Greeters: Ann Looney and Sandy Pickering
Church Staff:
Pastor, The Reverend Richard Malmberg
Office Administrator, Jane Vesper
Treasurer, Tracey Martin
Church:
Office Hours M-F 9 am -12 noon
Telephone: 603-756-4075
Email: walpolechurch@yahoo.com
Website: www.walpolenhucc.org

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following people: **Don Schulte**, Joe and Linda Graff's brother-in-law,
Cheri Watson, and **Bob Rhodes**.

Please contact Jane Vesper with your prayer requests at 603-756-4075.

Members living in retirement homes.
Patsy Campbell, Gina Nason, Rick Prentiss, Virginia Putnam
Maplewood, 201 River Road, Westmorland, NH 03467

Our sister church in Chiredzi, Zimbabwe

September 19, 2021, Scriptures

Jeremiah 11:18–20

It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew.
then you showed me their evil deeds.
But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.
And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,
“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!”
But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind?
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

James 3:13–4:3, 4:7–8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so, you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so, you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Mark 9:30–37

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Leader: For the Word in Scripture, for the Word among us, for the Word within us:

All: Thanks be to God!

INTROIT:

God, reveal thy presence! As we now adore thee
And with awe appear before thee
Thou art in this temple - All within, keep silence!
Gather now in deepest reverence.
Bow Thine ear to us here —
Hear, O Lord, the praises that thy church now raises

OPENING HYMN: WC 360 A Morning Prayer

Awake, my soul, and with the sun
thy daily stage of duty run;
shake off dull sloth, and early rise
to pay thy morning sacrifice.

Lord, I my vows to Thee renew.
Disperse my sins as morning dew;
guard my first springs of thought and will;
and with Thyself my spirit fill.

Direct, control, suggest, this day,
all I design or do or say,
that all my pow'rs, with all their might,
in Thy sole glory may unite.

MIDDLE HYMN: NCH 533 Children Of God

Children of God, lift hearts to one another,
where pity dwells, the peace of God is there.
To worship rightly is to love each other,
each smile a hymn, each kindly deed a prayer.

Follow with reverent steps the great example
of Christ whose holy work was doing good.
So shall the wide earth seem a holy temple,
each loving life a psalm of gratitude.

Then shall all shackles fall, the stormy clangor
of wild war music o'er the earth shall cease.
Love shall tread out the baleful fire of anger,
and in its ashes plant the tree of peace.

CLOSING HYMN: NCH 575 O For A World

O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,
where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,
where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.

We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.

O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

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+ Add to contacts