

First Congregational Church of Walpole, UCC November 17, 2024, 10:00 a.m. - Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

I am born a human being; what I have to acquire is being human.

-Abraham Joshua Heschel

Humble because of knowledge; mighty by sacrifice.

-Rudyard Kipling

Architecture is a visual art, and the buildings speak for themselves.

—Julia Morgan

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 16)

Leader: God is my chosen portion and my cup; God holds my lot.

People: Boundaries have fallen for me in pleasant places;

I have a goodly heritage.

Leader: I bless God, who gives me counsel.

People: In the night also, my heart instructs me.

Leader: I keep God always before me.

People: Because God is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

All: Therefore, my heart, is glad, and my soul rejoices;

my body also dwells secure. God shows me the path of life.

HYMN* TWC #2 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION* (unison)

God, creation declares you are good. We gather here and now to offer our praise. We cannot thank you enough, and the memory of our sin weighs on our hearts and minds. We confess we have not loved you with our whole hearts. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. I have loved myself poorly. Forgive me; forgive us, we pray. Teach us the joy of your way and give us courage to follow where you lead. Help us sense your presence, offering silent prayers in our hearts...

WORDS OF ASSURANCE*

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST*

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

LORD'S PRAYER (trespasses)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

SUNG AMEN

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: Daniel 12:1-3; Mark 13:1-8

Daniel 12:1-3

¹ "At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ² Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³ Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

Mark 13:1-8

¹ As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" ² Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down." ³ When he was sitting

on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" ⁵ Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. ⁷ When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

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)

Psalm 119:105

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

SERMON

HYMN* NCH #488 Be Still, My Soul

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY* Old Hundredth

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION* (unison)

God, we offer this portion of the abundance you provide. Bless these gifts and all we offer of time, talent, and treasure, so they may be employed faithfully in your service. Inspire us with wisdom and guide us with compassion, so that your light shines from all we say, all we do, and all that we are. In Christ we pray. Amen.

HYMN* NCH #485 O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

BENEDICTION

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

The First Congregational Church of Walpole, NH is an Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ. Open and Affirming (ONA) is the United Church of Christ's (UCC) designation for congregations, campus ministries, and other bodies in the UCC which make a public covenant of welcome into their full life and ministry to persons of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.

Pastor: Reverend Richard Malmberg
Ushers and Greeters: Bonnie and Dale Woodward

Lay reader: Becky Pearson **Zoom Director**: Paul Looney

Church Staff:

Office Administrator: Jane Vesper Treasurer: Tracey Martin

Music Director: Anna Dunn Clerk: Linda Wright

Church Office Hours: M - F, 9 a.m.-12 noon

Telephone: 603-756-4075

Email: walpolechurch@yahoo.com. Website: www.walpolenhucc.org

Please pray for:

Bob Rhodes, Dean Prentiss, Bill Sudsbury, George Jeffrey, Chuck Shaw, Linda Smith, Linda Jeffrey, Ann Rogers, Stephen Hill, Dave Adams, Carole Hill, Keith Sayers, Brenda Turner, Marie Robbins.

Members living in retirement homes:

Becky Hubbard, Carol Lamp

The flowers on the altar today are given by Bruce and Jan Martin in loving memory of Harley, Jr. Richard and John.

Convenient Online Giving to the First Congregational Church of Walpole is available through our website. Thank you for your support!

https://apps.digigiv.org/o/walpolenhucc

The deacon of the month of November is Michael Brodeur.