

The First Congregational Church

Walpole, NH, United Church of Christ

August 9, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost



Dear God, be good to me; the sea is so wide, and my boat is so small.

– The Breton Fisherman's Prayer

*Struggle is a never-ending process. Freedom is never really won,
you earn it and win it in every generation.*

– Coretta Scott King

15 Washington Street Walpole, New Hampshire

www.walpolenhucc.org

Gathering Music / Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship: (Based on Psalm 105)

Leader: Give thanks to God and call on God's name.

People: Proclaim God's deeds among the peoples.

Leader: Sing praises to the almighty;
tell all of God's wonderful works.

**People: Glorify God's holy name;
let those who seek God rejoice.**

Leader: Seek strength in your God;
seek God's presence continually.

**All: Remember the wonderful works our God has done,
Miracles and judgments of the Holy One.**

Hymn TWC #20 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Prayer of Invocation and Confession (unison)

Almighty and everlasting God, you called worlds into being and made us in your image. Help us feel the movements of your spirit among us. Open our hearts to the ways you call us to know and serve you. We confess we have not loved you with our whole hearts. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have loved ourselves poorly. Forgive us, God. Renew our hearts so we may serve you boldly and joyfully, even as we offer you our silent confessions...

Words of Assurance

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you

Children's Message

Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Sung Amen

Scripture Lesson: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Matthew 14:22-33

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 #43 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Call to Offering

Doxology

Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, you heavenly host:

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Gracious God, we ask you to bless this offering and all who give their time, talent, and treasure for ministry in your name. Inspire us to use these gifts and our lives in ways that make your steadfast love known in the world. In Christ we pray. Amen.

Hymn NCH #491 *Awake, My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve*

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

Pastor: Reverend Richard Malmberg

Usher and Greeter: Linda Wright

Lay reader: Jane Malmberg

Guest Musician: Seth Phoenix

Zoom Director: Paul Looney

Deacon of the Month: Mike Brodeur

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

Please pray for:

Bill Sudsbury, Linda Graff, Bob Rhodes and Jim Smolnik

Prayers for our sister church in Zimbabwe

Members living in retirement homes: Becky Hubbard and Carol Lamp

On the cover: *Under the Wave off Kanagawa*, also known as “The Great Wave,” from the series *Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji*, Katsuchika Hosokai (1760–1849), woodblock print, Japan