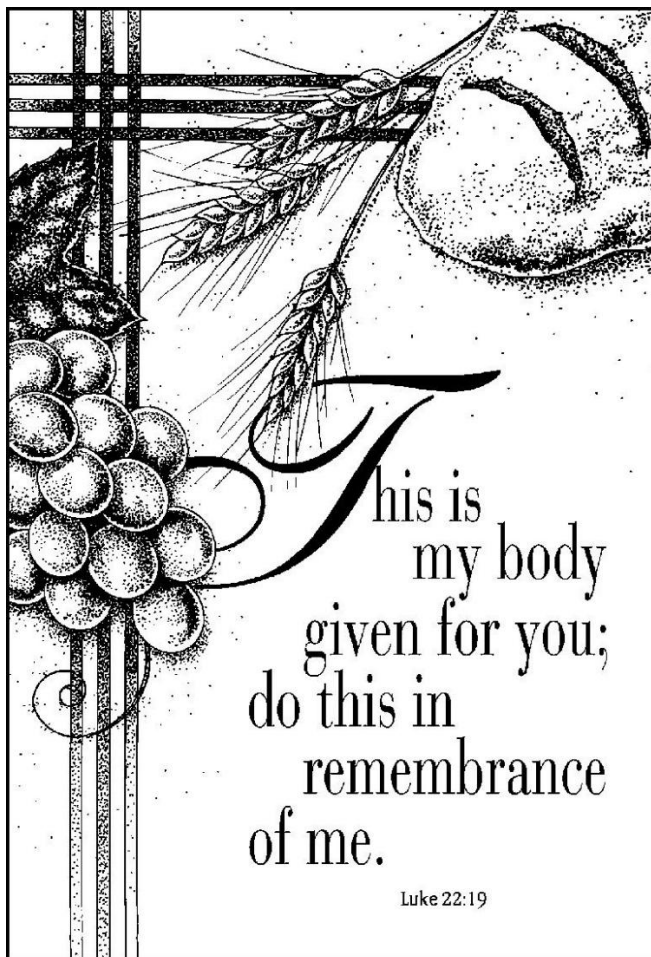


The First Congregational Church

Walpole, NH, United Church of Christ

Sept. 6, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost



15 Washington Street Walpole, New Hampshire
www.walpolenhucc.org

Gathering Music / Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship: (Psalm 119:33-37)

Leader: Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,
and I will observe it to the end.

**People: Give me understanding, that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.**

Leader: Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.

**All: Turn my heart to your decrees and not to selfish gain;
be gracious to me according to your word.**

Hymn TWC #212 *What Wondrous Love is This*

Prayer of Invocation (unison)

God of all creation, we come today seeking to be guided by your Word in the fellowship of Christ's Body. We seek the inspiration of your Holy Spirit among friends gathered here. Help us discover our passion for your service and joy in the Communion of the Saints. Meet us, touch us, here and now, as we open our hearts to you in silence...

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: Ezekiel 33:7-11; Matthew 18:15-20; Romans 13:8-14

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.

A Few Words

Linda Wright

Hymn TWC #788 *There's A Quiet Understanding*

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 of 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.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Prayer of Confession (seated, in unison)

Sovereign God, we confess that we have not lived the lives of which we are capable. We have gifts that we have not used, and gifts we have misused. We have not loved you with our whole hearts, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have turned our backs on our sisters and brothers in need, and in doing so, shut the doors of our hearts to the love you offer them through us. Forgive us, we pray. Cleanse and renew our hearts, that we might resume the path of discipleship with courage, strength and endurance, even as we offer you the silent confessions of our hearts...

Words of Assurance

Communion Prayer (seated, in unison)

Gracious God, we now dedicate these elements to become sacraments of ministry, signs of your work and witness among us. Do bless this bread and this fruit, and in the common sharing of them bless us all by the outpouring of your Holy Spirit. In this meal we remember Christ's sacrifice and his call that we also might serve. May we become bread for the journey and fruit for the spirit among all people. Amen.

Communion Hymn

TWC #776

Let Us Break Bread Together

Communion of the People

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

We give thanks, O Lord of Life, that you have refreshed us at your table and refashioned us in your hope for community. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us into the world as Christ's witnesses with courage and in peace. All this we pray in the name of your son, our friend and teacher, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn TWC #669 *God of Grace and God of Glory*

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

Usher and Greeter: Dale and Bonnie Woodward

Lay reader: Nancy Sloan

Music Director: Anna Dunn

Zoom Director: Paul Looney

Deacon of the Month: Kathy Yardley

Telephone: 603-756-4075

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, Janet Martin and Carol Lamp