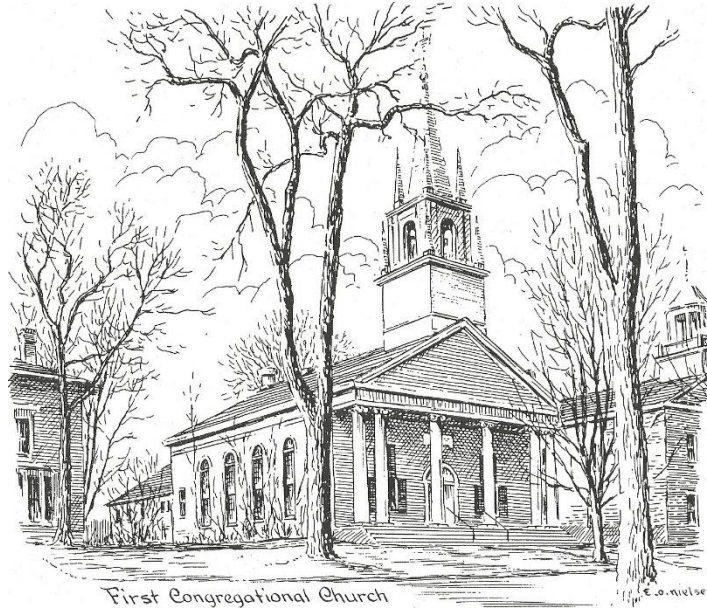


First Congregational Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
An Open and Affirming Church



We welcome you to the First Congregational Church of Wiscasset.

VISION: We are on a journey to reflect God's love, embracing diversity and affirming the dignity and worth of all.

MISSION: Together we strive to praise God, grow in faith, cultivate love, spread joy, care for all people and God's creation, promote peace, and do justice.

September 20, 2026

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AND JUST PEACE SUNDAY

We welcome all to our worship service, whether present in the sanctuary, joining us on streaming video, or watching our service in the future.

Spiritual Contemplation Quotes for the week:

(Proverbs 17:9)

Colvin

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Wisdom cries out in the streets, calling us away from the paths of destruction and division.

P: We gather today to listen, to learn, and to choose the radical way of love.

L: God's justice and peace embrace; righteousness and wholeness kiss our broken world.

P: We leave behind our borders, our armor, and our fears. We are ready to worship the God of peace.

* OPENING HYMN *‘All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name’* Red Hymnal No.107

OPENING INVOCATION TO PRAYER

Gracious and Healing God, we enter Your presence carrying the heavy burdens of a fractured world. You have shown us the way of shalom, yet we so often wander into conflict and indifference. Kindle a fire of justice in our hearts today. Cleanse our spirits, open our ears to hear Your gentle wisdom, and tune our hands to build bridges instead of walls. Anoint this time of worship so that our praise may become a catalyst for peace in our communities and across the earth. In Your holy name, we pray. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS: After each Joy or Concern, please respond:

Pastor: “God,” Congregation: **“Hear our prayer.”**

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE *'Let Peace Prevail on Earth'*

Global Mission Partner Prayer: Haiti

MORNING PRAYER AND SILENT MOMENTS FOR PERSONAL PRAYER

ANTHEM ‘*Chester*’ Text & Music by William Billings (1778)

SCRIPTURE LESSON **Psalm 106:34-36; Matthew 7:1, 3-4; Phil 3:20-21** *Psalm*
106:34-36 New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

They did not destroy the peoples as the Lord commanded them, ³⁵ but they mingled with the nations and learned to do as they did. They served their idols, which became a snare to them.

Matthew 7:1,3-4 Judging Others

‘Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. Why do you see the speck in your neighbor’s eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? Or how can you say to your neighbor, “Let me take the speck out of your eye”, while the log is in your own eye?

Philippians 3:20-21

But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation so that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

L: This is the Word of God.

P: Thanks be to God.

* HYMN ‘*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*’ (text 1707, Isaac Watts; tune 1790, Edward Miller) **Page 7**

SERMON ‘*Ben Franklin Speaks.....*’

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY ‘*How Firm a Foundation*’ Anonymous. (Printed 1787)

* DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.**

DEDICATION PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

* CLOSING HYMN *'I Corinthians 13'* (text 1707, Isaac Watts; tune 1838, Carl Glaser)
Page 8

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTORY RESPONSE

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

'Prelude in G Minor'

J. S. Bach

You are invited to sit for the postlude.

* * * * *

"Our worship ends, let our service begin"

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Those serving you today:

Usher: Ann Dunlevy

Reader: Veronica Hogue

Flowers: Ron Sanchez

Online Streaming: Tom Clement

Organist: Janet Cappers

Please join us for fellowship, coffee or tea, and refreshments in Fellowship Hall following worship.

Happy September Birthdays to Abbie Beckford, Gail Burke, Dianne Davis,

Sherri Dunbar, Pam Frenier, Laurie LaBar & Ron Sanchez

Help Yourself Shelf Wish List

* jarred spaghetti sauce * 1lb. white rice * drink mixes * canned chicken * tuna * * cereal
* SPAM * mayo * baked beans * toothpaste * dish soap * cat litter *

Announcements

Today's sermon is presented to you by **Ben Franklin!**

Correction- We thank **Nancy Shaul** for the church's new handmade communion vestibule!

September 26- Lumos Coldplay concerts in the sanctuary, 6:00pm & 8:00pm

September 27- Congregational meeting after worship

Coming Up This Week

Monday, September 21

Rev. John's Office Hours 9:00am-12:00pm

Office Hours 9:30am – 1:30pm

Faith Development meeting 6:00pm

Mah Jongg 6:00pm – 8:30pm

Tuesday, September 22

Rev. John's Office Hours 9:00am-12:00pm

Office Hours 9:30am – 1:30pm

Wednesday, September 23

Rev. John's Office Hours 9:00am-12:00pm

Office Hours 10:00am – 2:00p

Feed Our Scholars Packing 11:00am

Sunday, September 27

Sunday Worship 10:00am

Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall following worship

Global Mission Partner this week: Haiti

House of Hope cannot fully list the joy that the partnership with Global Ministries brings to our work in Christ's service; more than 150 children receive healthcare whenever they fall ill, and 85 families receive food kits to alleviate their hunger. From September 2025 to May 2026, more than 425 food kits were distributed to these families, representing an average of 2125 meals shared.

Through Global Ministries' mission this year, 72 children who previously lacked the opportunity to attend school returned to the classroom, 30 families living in shelters secured decent housing, and 27 female heads of households gained the opportunity to run a business activity to transform their lives and those of their families. House of Hope thanks God for using it as a bridge to bring hope to the hopeless and light to those dwelling in the darkness of misery; we also thank Global Ministries for using us as a channel to revitalize families withered by poverty, and for giving children the chance to return to school instead of growing up to become gang members in the country.

First Congregational Church UCC

PO Box 350, 28 High Street, Wiscasset, ME 04578

Minister and Teacher: Rev. John Hogue

revjohnwiscassetucc@gmail.com

Pastoral Care – 207 955-0055

Music Director: Bradley M. Krueger

Sexton: Mary McKinney

Office Administrator: Hilary Atwood

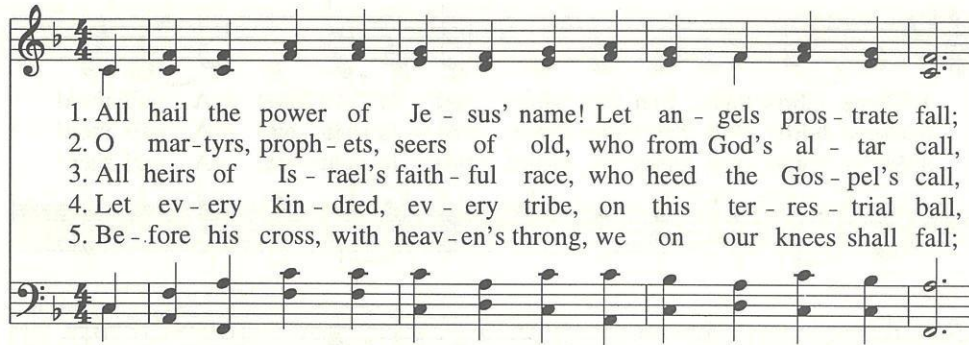
Church Office Email – fccw@myfairpoint.net

Church Office Phone – 207 882-7544

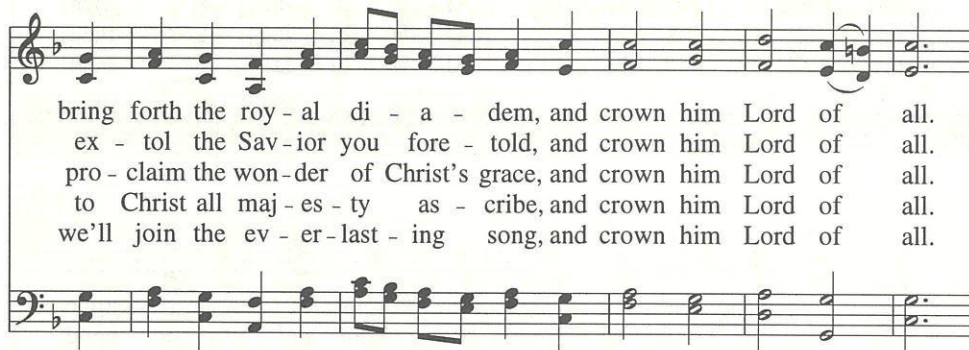
Church Website – www.uccwiscasset.org

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

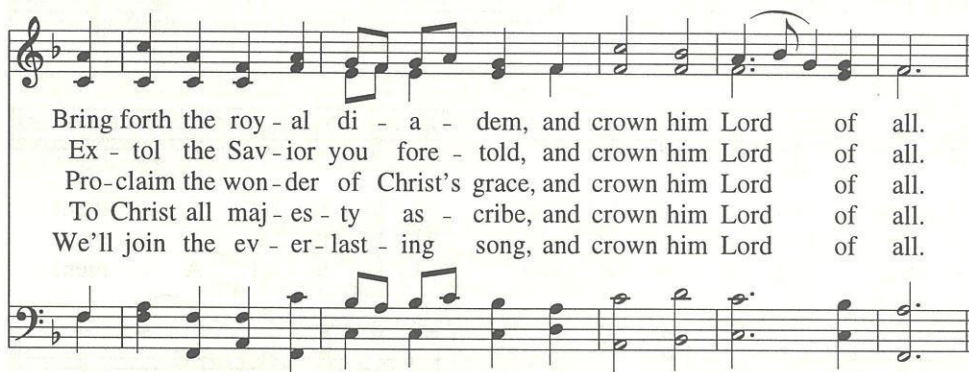
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1. All hail the power of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
 2. O mar - tyr, proph - ets, seers of old, who from God's al - tar call,
 3. All heirs of Is - rael's faith - ful race, who heed the Gos - pel's call,
 4. Let ev - ery kin - dred, ev - ery tribe, on this ter - res - trial ball,
 5. Be - fore his cross, with heav - en's throng, we on our knees shall fall;



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all.
 ex - tol the Sav - ior you fore - told, and crown him Lord of all.
 pro - claim the won - der of Christ's grace, and crown him Lord of all.
 to Christ all maj - es - ty as - cribe, and crown him Lord of all.
 we'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown him Lord of all.



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WORDS: Sts. 1-4, Edward Perronet, 1779, 1780, alt.; st. 5, John Rippon, 1787, alt.
 MUSIC: Oliver Holden, 1793

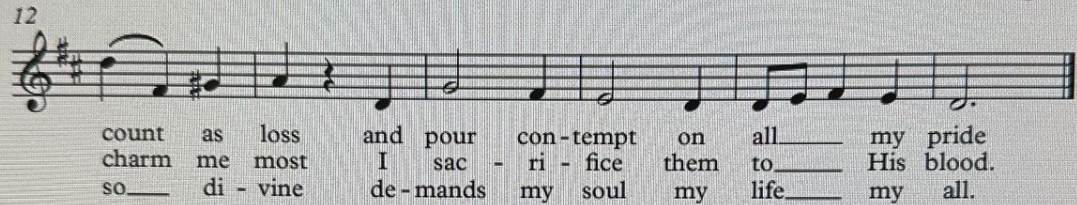
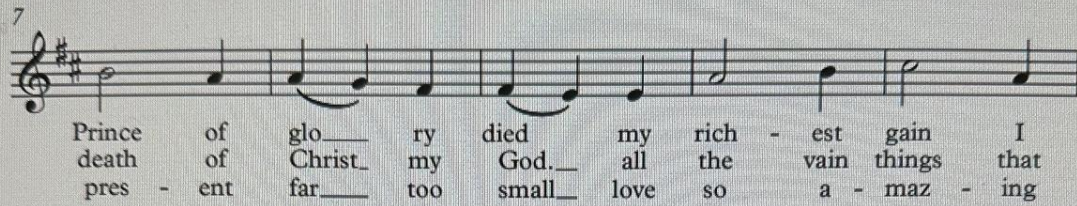
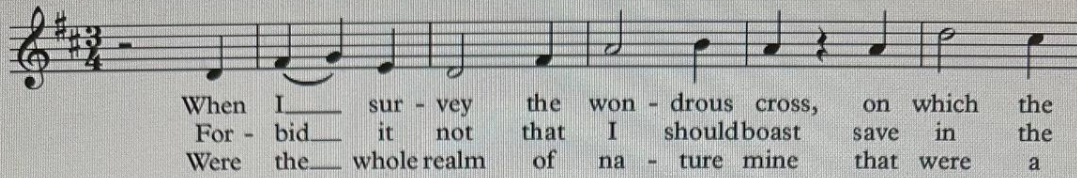
CORONATION
 CM w. repeat

Edward Perronet, for a time an associate of the Wesleys, later became a Congregational minister. Rippon altered Perronet's text and added several stanzas of his own.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Isaac Watts (1707)

Miller (1790)



Isaac Watts | Corinthians 1...



Let Pharisees of high esteem their faith and zeal declare
All their religion is a dream if love be wanting there.

HYMN CXXXIII. (C. M.)

Love and Charity, 1 Cor. xiii. 2—7, 13.

I.

LET Pharisees of high esteem
Their faith and zeal declare,
All their religion is a dream
If love be wanting there.

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HYMNS.

BOOK I.

II.

Love suffers long with patient eye,
Nor is provok'd in haste ;
She lets the present inj'ry die,
And long forgets the past.

III.

[Malice and rage, those fires of hell,
She quenches with her tongue ;
Hopes and believes, and thinks no ill,
'Tho' she endures the wrong.]

IV.

She nor desires nor seeks to know
The scandals of the time ;
Nor looks with pride on those below,
Nor envies those that climb.

V.

She lays her own advantage by
To seek her neighbours good ;
So God's own Son came down to die,
And bought our lives with blood.

VI.

Love is the grace that keeps her pow'r
In all the realms above ;
There faith and hope are known no more,
But faints for ever love.