

First Congregational Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

An Open and Affirming Church

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

207-882-7544, www.uccwiscasset.org



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.



November 9, 2025

**TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
REMEMBRANCE / HONOR ALL VETERANS 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.

FOR YOUR CONTEMPLATION

“Peace demands the most heroic labor and the most difficult sacrifice. It demands
greater heroism than war. It demands greater fidelity to the truth and a much more
perfect purity of conscience.” Thomas Merton

PRELUDE *Adagio for Strings* Samuel Barber

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT *I Love You, Lord* Laurie Klein

* CALL TO WORSHIP

L: The vine emerges from the earth, nourished and nourishing.

P: It rises without visible connection; roots hidden, promise unknown.

L: Strong to withstand storms, fragile when plucked too soon.

P: So it is that we grow...nourished by invisible connections to the living God,

ALL: called to nourish that which is seen and that which is yet buried within.

* OPENING HYMN *O Beautiful For Spacious Skies* No. 532

INVOCATION TO PRAYER

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

HONORING AND REMEMBERING VETERANS OF ALL ARMED FORCES

* LITANY AND RESPONSIVE READING

L: For all who have served in the armed forces to ensure our freedom,

P: We honor you.

L: For the families who kept the home fires burning and provided
continuous support for their soldier(s),

P: We thank you.

L: For the wounds you have suffered at the hands of war

P: For the times of loneliness you have felt on the battlefields of life

L: For the sacrifices you have made

P: For the times you were not thanked

L: For the times you chose courage in the face of fear

P: For the times you were not shown compassion

L: For the difficult decisions you had to make

P: For the losses you have suffered

L: We thank you now

P: We honor you now

ALL: YOUR SACRIFICE WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN!

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

Pastor: "God," Congregation: **"Hear our prayer."**

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

Global Mission Partner Prayer this week: Sri Lanka

MORNING PRAYER

SILENT MOMENTS FOR PERSONAL PRAYER

THE 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.

CHORAL RESPONSE *Hear Our Prayer, O God* George Whelpton

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 15:9-14; 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Liturgist: This is the Word of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

* HYMN *My Country 'tis of Thee* No. 531

FIRST PERSON SERMON 'Four Chaplains'

OFFERTORY PRAYER

CHORAL OFFERTORY *In the Stillness of this Moment* Joseph Martin

* PRESENTATION WITH THE 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

* CLOSING HYMN *God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand* No. 537

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 God 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 *Postlude on "Materna"* Chad Staten

You are invited to sit for the postlude.

* * * * *

“Our worship ends, let our service begin”

Minister and Teacher: Rev. John Hogue
Music Director: Joel Pierce

Those serving you today:

Ushers: Jan Shaw and Judith Sutter

Online Streaming: Raegan Eddy

Reader: Deb Olson

Flowers: Carol and George Peck in honor of their seventh wedding anniversary

Please sign the condolences card for Ruth Gilbert who lost her husband Scott and get-well card for Jackie Lowell. These cards are located on the display table next the usher’s bench in the back of the sanctuary.

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John 15:9-14

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Final Messages and Greetings

Keep alert; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.

This is the Word of God.

Thanks be to God.

New Revised Standard Version Updated Version

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

1. O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
 2. O beau - ti - ful for pil - grim feet, whose stern, im - pas - sioned stress
 3. O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
 4. O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years

for pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain!
 a thor - ough - fare for free - dom beat a - cross the wil - der - ness!
 who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life!
 thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears!

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed all grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed all grace on thee,

and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
 con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.
 till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, and ev - ery gain di - vine.
 and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

531

1. My coun - try, 'tis of thee, sweet land of lib - er - ty,
 2. My na - tive coun - try, thee, land of the no - ble free,
 3. Let mu - sic swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees
 4. Our gra - cious God, to thee, au - thor of lib - er - ty,

of thee I sing; land where my fa - thers died, land of the
 thy name I love; I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and
 sweet free-dom's song; let mor - tal tongues a - wake; let all that
 to thee we sing; long may our land be bright with free-dom's

pil - grims' pride, from ev - ery moun - tain side let free-dom ring.
 tem - pled hills; my heart with rap - ture thrills like that a - bove.
 breathe par - take; let rocks their si - lence break; the sound pro - long.
 ho - ly light; pro - tect us by thy might, great God, our King.

WORDS: Samuel F. Smith, 1831, alt.
 MUSIC: *Thesaurus Musicus*, London, 1744-45

AMERICA
 664.6664

Smith was a first-year student at Andover Theological Seminary when he wrote this text. It was first sung by children at Boston's Park Street Congregational Church, under the direction of Lowell Mason.

NATIONAL SONGS

537 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

Trumpets, before each stanza (optional)

1. God of the a - ges, whose al-might-y hand
 2. Thy love di-vine hath led us in the past;
 3. From war's a - larms, from dead-ly pes - ti - lence,
 4. Re - fresh thy peo - ple on life's toil-some way;

leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band
 in this free land with thee our lot is cast;
 be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense;
 lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day;

of shin - ing worlds in splen-dor through the skies,
 be thou our rul - er, guard-ian, guide, and stay,
 thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease;
 fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,

our grate - ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise.
 thy word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.
 thy boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.
 and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

WORDS: Daniel C. Roberts, 1876, alt.
 MUSIC: George W. Warren, 1894

NATIONAL HYMN
 10 10.10 10

Episcopal minister Roberts wrote this hymn for Brandon, Vermont's celebration of the Centennial of American Independence.

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

Please take note of the colored paper prayer slips in the pew rack. These are for you to write a word or phrase of prayer or concerns. Fold it and place it in the offering plate. It will only be shared with Rev. John.

Happy November Birthday to Harry Green, Rev. John Hogue, Mary McKinney, Deborah Olson, Karl Olson, Margot Stiassni, and Jan Whitfield.

Help Yourself Shelf November Wish List

Cereal * Coffee * tea * Canned stew and soup * Baked Beans * Pasta * Ramen * Canned meats * Condiments * Pancake mix * Toothbrushes * Pet Food & litter

Help Yourself Shelf Thanksgiving Wish List

Turkey stock * Pie crusts * Instant Potatoes * Mayonnaise * * Canned Pumpkin * Spices * Brown sugar * Sweetened condensed milk * Tea * Hot cocoa * Coffee * Cake and brownie mix * Pudding mix * Molasses

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, a brainstorming session following Coffee Hour where the main goal is to come up with as many ideas as possible for fundraising events in 2026.

Wednesday November 19, Church Council meets via Zoom at 6:30pm.

Winter Coat and Warm Weather Gear Collection

The Youth Group is sponsoring a drive to collect items for folks in need of warmth and comfort in the upcoming winter months. These can be dropped off in Fellowship Hall. The drive will run through to the end of November and donations will go to the St. Philip's Bargain Basement.

Organ Society Christmas Wreath Sale

Wreaths will be available for pick-up on Tuesday November 25th or Sunday November 30th. Please pre-order by Thursday November 20th. Order forms are available from the ushers, on the table in the Narthex, in Fellowship Hall and in the church office.

Sunday, November 9	Choir Practice 8:10am Sunday Worship 10:00am Coffee Hour following worship in Fellowship Hall. Outreach Team brainstorming meeting after Coffee Hour The Chosen 5:30, including potluck supper
Monday, November 10	Rev. John's Office Hours 9:00am – 12:00pm Mah Jongg 6:00 – 8:30pm
Tuesday, November 11	Rev. John's Office Hours 9:00am – 12:00pm Office Hours 9:00am – 12:00pm Ecumenical Council for Homeless Prevention (for Lincoln County) meeting 1pm – Rev. John to attend Sheepscot Valley Chorus 7:00pm in Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, November 12	Rev. John's Office Hours 9:00am – 12:00pm Office Hours 9:00am – 12:00pm Organ Society Meeting 9:30am Rev. John UCC Advanced Boundary Training 10am Feed Our Scholars packing 11:00am in the activity room Upstairs Rev. John UCC Community of Practice 1:30pm Book Study 4pm – 5:30pm in the parlor followed by potluck supper
Thursday, November 13	Office Hours 9:00am – 12:00pm
Sunday, October 16	Choir Practice 8:10am Sunday Worship 10:00am General Mission Offering to be collected Worship and Music Team meeting after Coffee Hour The Chosen 5:30, including potluck supper



First Congregational Church UCC
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