



America!

God Shed
His Grace
on Thee.

JUNE 7, 2026 – FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

GATHERING MUSIC “The House I Live In” Robinson & Lampell

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING MUSIC “Meditation” Melton

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We come with joy and appreciation for the spacious skies of summer,

Many: and for purple mountains majesty, amber waves of grain, blue seas, and warm sun.

One: We come to worship the One who created all people in the divine image,

Many: and to celebrate the sacred dignity of every human being.

One: We come to remember those who marched, organized, voted, preached, served, and sacrificed so that liberty might shine more brightly for all.

Many: Their courage inspires us to continue the work of peace and justice and to renew our commitment to love our neighbors.

One: So let us ask our God to shed grace upon this land,

Many: and shape us into a community of reconciliation and hope. Amen.

* HYMN

O Beautiful For Spacious Skies

Katherine Lee Bates

Samuel Augustus Ward

O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies for am - ber waves of
O beau - ti - ful for pil - grim feet, whose stern, im - pas - sioned
O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing
O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the
grain, for pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties a -
stress a thor - ough - fare for free - dom beat a -
strife, who more than self their coun - try loved, and
years thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un -
bove the fruit - ed plain! A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God
cross the wil - der - ness! A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God
mer - cy more than life! A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May
dimmed by hu - man tears! A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God
shed all grace on thee, and crown thy good with
mend thine ev - 'ry flaw, con - firm thy soul in
God thy gold re - fine, till all suc - cess be
shed all grace on thee, and crown thy good with
broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.
nob - le - ness, and ev - 'ry gain di - vine.
broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.

Words 1893 Music 1882

JOYS & CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER


INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY

“Children of God”

Scott-Gatty

* DOXOLOGY



Praise God, who calls us to be free. Praise God, the source of lib - er - ty.

Praise God, who bids us use this gift. To reach out and give all a lift. A - men.

© John Danner

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of Abundance, bless these gifts and those who offer them. Use them to widen the circle of belonging, strengthen communities of compassion, and support those whose dignity and worth have too often been overlooked. May our ministry reflect the welcome of Christ, making room for every person at your table and helping to build a world where liberty, justice, and opportunity are shared by all. Amen.

SCRIPTURES

Hebrew Bible

Genesis 1:26-27

New Testament

1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 20-27

Gospel

Luke 10:25-37

MESSAGE

“With Liberty and Justice for All”

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Holy God, when we pollute the spacious skies and the shining sea, or do not share the amber waves of grain, forgive us. When we forget the principles of the past: freedom, tolerance, and welcome to all, forgive us. When we do not care for our country or when we care for our country more than we care for You, forgive us. And may your forgiveness become a powerful agent to change us and heal this land that we love. Amen.

* SHARING A SIGN OF PEACE

* HYMN

One Bread, One Body

John B. Foley



One bread, one bod - y one Lord of all,
one cup of bless - ing which we bless. And we, though
man - y through - out the earth, we are one
bod - y in this one Lord. Gen - tile or Jew,
Man - y the gifts,
Grain for the fields,
ser - vant or free, wom - an or man, no more
man - y the works, one in the Lord of all.
scat - tered and grown, gath - ered to one, for all.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Liberating God be with you!

And also with you!

Lift up your hearts with joy!

We lift them up to God!

Let us give praise to the Author of Freedom!

It is right to give our thanks and praise!

It is right, and a good and holy thing
to give our praise to You this day, Liberator of all Humankind.

You unleashed your creative power and a world blossomed.
You bestowed upon every living thing life and breath, color and
movement.

No matter how many battles we wage within and between ourselves and
against You, your promise, vision, and gifts of peace and abundance
continue.

And so we lift up our voices in celebration of You!

Holy, holy, holy are You!

We join all the prophets and saints!

Heaven and earth are full of your glory!

We join the parade of justice!

Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord!

We add our cries and exclamations!

Hosanna in the highest!

And we shout out:

Freedom, O freedom is coming, O yes, I know...

Freedom is coming O yes, I know!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & CONSECRATION

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of Abundance, You have fed us at Christ's table and reminded us that we are one body with many members. Send us into the world to reflect the hospitality we have received. May we honor the dignity of every person, celebrate diversity, and work for communities where liberty and justice truly belong to all. Strengthened by this meal, help us widen the circle of love and belonging until all your children know they have a place at the table. Amen.

* HYMN

God Bless America

Irving Berlin

God bless A - mer - i - ca, land that I
love. Stand be - side her and guide her through the
night with a light from a - bove, From the moun - tains, to the
prai - ries, to the o - ceans white with foam.
God bless A - mer - i - ca, my home sweet home.
God bless A - mer - i - ca, my home sweet home.

* FINAL BLESSING

* SENDING MUSIC

“This Is My Country”

Raye & Jacobs

WHAT CAN FAITHFUL PEOPLE DO TO PROMOTE CIVIL RIGHTS?

- Build relationships across lines of race, class, age, and sexual identity.
- Participate in civic life through voting, peaceful demonstrations, advocacy, or volunteer service as an act of love for your neighbors.
- Attend public meetings and speak out when vulnerable populations are targeted.
- Learn about an issue affecting a marginalized group and contact an elected official about it.
- Challenge hateful rhetoric wherever it appears.
- Donate to organizations working for civil rights and legal justice.
- Support the dignity of immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers.
- Advocate for racial justice.
- Attend a Pride Parade and stand publicly with LGBTQ+ people.
- Perform one concrete act of kindness for someone who cannot repay you.

Electronic Donations

You can make an electronic donation using this QR code.



Today's Worship Team

Minister
Director of Music
Organist
Musicians

Rev. Marie Lucca
Robert Knapp
Emily Knapp
FCC Bell Choir

Meetings & Upcoming Events

Monday, June 8	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
Tuesday, June 9	6:00 pm	Finance
	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
Thursday June 11	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Knitting
Saturday, June 13	8:00 am	Men's Group
Sunday, June 14	9:30 am	Band Rehearsal
	10:30 am	Worship
	6:30 pm	Missions
	7:00 pm	Diaconate
Sunday, June 21	10:30 am	Blessing of the Animals
Tuesday, June 23	6:00 pm	Strawberry Social



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday, June 21, 2026, 10:30 am



Everyone is invited to bring their pets for a special blessing during our outdoor worship service. Stuffed animals are also welcome!

If you have more of a "stay-at-home" pet or if your beloved pet has left this world, please bring a photo.

Donations of pet food, towels, leashes, etc. will be collected for the benefit of the MSPCA at Nevins Farm in Methuen, MA.



STRAWBERRY SOCIAL & BAND CONCERT



**ENJOY THE BEGINNING OF SUMMER
ON OUR CHURCH LAWN**



**TUESDAY
JUNE 23RD**



6:00 PM — 8:00 PM



**LIVE BAND
PERFORMANCE**

Due to the increased cost of strawberries and supplies, monetary donations will be greatly appreciated. Use the QR code below for electronic donations or checks can be made payable to

First Congregational Church, memo: Strawberry Social.

Raffle items are also needed!



Any questions, contact:
EMILY KNAPP, JANICE MURPHY, KRISTEN ARSENAULT

THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US!

First Congregational Church is an engaging congregation rooted in Christian tradition, but open to new expressions. With openness of heart and responding to God's compassionate grace, we reach out in service to the community and the world! If you would like to learn more about our congregation and its ministries or would like a call or visit from our pastor, please complete the visitor card found in the pews and place it in the offering basket.

EXTRAVAGANT WELCOME

We are an **"Open and Affirming"** congregation of the **United Church of Christ**, which means that wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. Because we believe that all people are created in God's image and thus are blessed and loved equally by God, we welcome persons of every age, gender, race, national origin and ethnicity, marital status, family structure, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, mental and physical health and abilities, economic and social status, political affiliation, education, and faith background. We also welcome and encourage all people to participate and share their talents and energy in worship and sacraments, leadership positions, ordained ministry, lay ministry, learning, service, mission, and fellowship.

A COMMUNITY THAT AIMS FOR HOSPITALITY

We have large-print programs, hearing assistance devices, wheelchair and elevator accessibility, and all-gender restrooms. We also serve gluten-free bread and grape juice during our communion services. For those wishing to worship with us virtually, we live stream our services at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84545128875>. While we strive to anticipate needs, please share any ideas you have for ways to expand our hospitality for all.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

We encourage children to actively participate in our worship service; this is where they learn the most about the Christian family — by experiencing it! Children are encouraged to sing, clap, wiggle, fidget, offer prayer requests, share a sign of peace, and receive communion.