

“No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here”



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEW MILFORD
March 1, 2026

WELCOME & CALL TO MINISTRY

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

PRELUDE

Air on the G string/J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: I look to the hills, where do I find help?

People: Our help comes from God who made heaven and earth.

Leader: God keeps our lives.

People: God journeys with us every single day.

Leader: God protects us, loves us, and leads us.

People: God is with us forever.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

GLORIA PATRI*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen, Amen.

HYMN*

All People that on Earth do dwell #18

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & LORDS PRAYER

God of salvation, you shower our lives and our world with love, yet we too often turn away from your blessing. There are little annoyances each day, but they pile up into a mountainous burden that becomes a curse in our lives. Free us from our unwise choices, O God. When we are distracted and confused, redirect our attention to the abundant opportunities to experience your love. During this Lenten journey, focus our hearts on you, that we may choose the blessing of salvation offered us each day through Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray saying...

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Choral Response

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 121

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Call to Offering

Offertory

God So Loved the World/John Stainer

Song of Presentation*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below;
praise God above ye heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Offering Prayer*

Generous God, you shower us with gifts, including the greatest gift of all, our savior, Jesus Christ. In thanksgiving and praise, we offer you our time, our money, our very selves. In these actions, we proclaim our intention to be a blessing in your world. Amen.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

#361 in Hymnal

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

*The Deacons will serve communion. Gluten free crackers are in the center cup.
Please hold the bread and juice until we partake as a group.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Holy God, we thank you for feeding us at your table. Lift up our eyes so we will know that You are with us always. Help us listen for the voice of Christ, so we can follow where he leads. May we find the Holy Spirit dwelling within us so that we can help renew and restore Your world. Amen.

HYMN*

If You Will Trust in God to Guide You #565

Church School children will process to the Parish House during the last verse.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 3:1-17

Choral Response

SERMON

God So Loved the World

Choral Response

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN*

How Firm a Foundation #61

BENEDICTION* - spoken and sung

POSTLUDE

When I Survived the Wondrous Cross/arr. Lowell Mason

**All are invited to stand in body or spirit*

THANK YOU

Thank you to Hannah Albright, Jan McCarthy and Deacons for participating in today's service.

The flowers at today's service are from Mary Schenzer's memorial service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All Are Welcome Here: For your comfort, listening devices are available by the front doors of the church. Additionally, services are live streamed in the chapel, should you need to step out of the service for any reason. Simply turn on the TV. Please see a Deacon if you need assistance.

The Online Church Merchandise Store is now open.

Coffee Hour: Please join us downstairs in the Fellowship Hall following today's service.

Confirmation class will meet in the Chapel after today's service.

Women of the Bible Study Group meet in the Chapel Monday's at 1:00 PM.

Lunch and Learn will meet on Wednesday, March 4 at 12:30 PM in the Taylor Room.

Lenten Study: Join Rev. Marie in a Lenten Study on the Gospel of Matthew on Wednesday's at 7:00 PM in the Chapel.

Chapels Stitchers will meet in the Chapel on Sunday, March 8 at 12:30 PM.

Women's Fellowship will hold a kitchen garden craft night on Saturday, March 21 at 4:00 PM in Fellowship Hall

New Member Class will be held on Sunday, March 22.

We are collecting filled easter eggs thru March 29. Eggs can be dropped off a the office or left in the large basket outside of the Sanctuary.

The Russell Ayre Scholarship application deadline is Friday April 24, 2026.

The First Congregational Church United Church of Christ

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 am - 2:00 PM

(860) 354-8232 Voicemail Available 24/7

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Rev. Marie Bacchiocchi | revmarieb@nmchurch.org | 732-874-0528



If you are interested in making a donation, **Digital Giving** is available.

Please scan the QR Code to donate.

We kindly ask that you use the comment feature to direct your contribution.



Your continued support for the church is appreciated.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEW MILFORD

CHURCH MERCH STORE IS OPEN!

Show your church pride in style this March!

Grab your new favorite hoodie, tee, hat & more —
and support our church at the same time!



♥ A percentage of every sale
comes back to our church!

Your purchase helps support
the ministries and programs we love.



Store Open **All Month of March**
(March 1st – March 31st)



Shop Here:

https://imagesultd.net/fcc_of_nm/shop/home

Don't miss out — once March ends, the store closes!



OR SCAN FOR
LINK