

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



Music Sunday
April 26, 2026

WELCOME & CALL TO MINISTRY

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

PRELUDE

The Village Ringers

Danza arr. by J. Wayne Kerr

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 150)

Leader: Praise God!

People: Praise God with trumpets, lutes, and harps.

Leader: Praise God with voices of all ages.

People: Praise God with strings and pipes.

Leader: Let everything that breathes praise God.

People: May our words, voices, and music please God.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

HYMN*

#2 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee, vs. 1, 2,4

INVOCATION & LORD'S PRAYER

Holy God, we praise you with grateful hearts for all that you are. Today, we come before you to sing the songs of faith in ways that inspire and comfort, challenge and heal. May our words and music, our songs and tunes reflect our great love for you and for your creation. We pray in Jesus' name with the words he taught us...

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.

HYMN*

#90 Come, Christians, Join to Sing, vs. 1, 2

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 139: 1-3, 13-18

ANTHEM

The Image of God

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 100

ANTHEM

Sing, Rejoice, Clap Your Hands/Mark Patterson

The Cherub Choir

CHILDREN'S TIME

HYMN*

#56 For the Beauty of the Earth, vs. 1,2

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

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Call to Offering

Offertory

Hymn of Grateful Praise/arr. Joel Raney

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*

Holy God, as you give us a heart to serve you, bless these gifts so that our love, goodness, and mercy may be seen and felt in the community and in our world. Amen.

HYMN*

#8 All Praise to God for Song God Gives, vs. 1, 2, 3

SCRIPTURE READING

Colossians 3:12-17

ANTHEM

Goodness of God/arr. James Koerts

REFLECTION

HYMN*

#16 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing, vs. 1,3

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN*

#7 When in Our Music God Is Glorified, vs. 1, 2,5

BENEDICTION* - spoken and sung

POSTLUDE

Lord of the Dance/arr. Joel Raney

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

THANK YOU

Thank you Dave Sommerville and Diane Taylor for their musical gifts at today's service.

Thank you Bella Emmons, Gail Peck, Debbie Poole, Susan Sennello, Tom Tucker and Deacons for participating in today's service.

Thank you Peggy King for holding a special lesson with the children during CE today.

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.

Coffee Hour: Please join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall following today's worship to celebrate Thelma's 102nd birthday.

Women of the Bible study group meet in the Chapel on Monday's at 1:00 PM.

Wednesday Study: Join Rev. Marie on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in Room 3 for a study of the Book of Acts.

Lawn Mowing: We are looking for a few volunteers to mow our church lawn. Please fill in the sign up sheet placed on the bulletin board in the church lobby or email Carole: czeigler@nmchurch.org .

If you would like to **acknowledge a 2026 High School, College, Advanced Degree graduate**, please submit the student's name, degree, school to the office by Tuesday, May 26. Carole: czeigler@nmchurch.org

LOOKING AHEAD

Reception of New Member, Sunday May 3.

Annual Spring Meeting, Sunday, May 3.

Lunch and Learn, Wednesday, May 6

Airing of the Quilts, Friday and Saturday May 8 & 9

Craft Fair, Saturday, May 9.

Book of Remembrance Sunday is May 24th. Envelopes for donations are available at the entrances to the sanctuary. Kindly, list the names to be memorialized as well as the donor. Checks should be made out to the Book of Remembrance, First Congregational Church. Donations will be received until May 10th.

The New Milford High School Grad Party's first meeting will be on Monday April 27 from 5:30 – 6:30 in the parish house. Please email Nicole at coleylh@gmail.com, if you would like to help.

Mothers Day 2026

“A generous person will prosper: whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.”

Proverbs 11:25



Most of us had a mother, grandmother, or special person that made us feel seen. That feeling refreshed our spirits and gave us a sense of dignity.

Disasters and homelessness often destroy sanitation infrastructure, and the sense of dignity and refreshment

Hygiene Kits help physical health:

- Preventing Outbreaks: Hygiene kits are critical for curbing the spread of waterborne and communicable diseases, as well as respiratory infections in crowded shelters.
- Wound Care: Basic supplies help prevent minor cuts from becoming infected, which is a major risk in debris-filled environments.

Hygiene Kits also help psychological health:

The trauma of displacement can strip individuals of their sense of self.

- Restoring Dignity: The ability to wash one's face, brush teeth, or comb hair allows survivors to feel "more like themselves" and less like victims.
- Mental Resilience: Simple acts of self-care provide a sense of control and normalcy in chaotic situations, which is vital for long-term emotional recovery.

Imagine
Together

This Mother's Day, would you consider a gift of \$10.00 in honor or memory of someone that refreshed you or restored your sense of dignity? This will enable us to buy a complete kit in bulk from Church World Service.

Names in honor and in memory will be dedicated in our service on May 10th.

The form below will be in the bulletin on April 19th, April 26th and May 3rd. Please place these forms, and your contribution into the colored pew envelope and place in the collection plate. If you wish to make an e-payment on our website, please make sure to include your names in honor/memory in the notes.

Mothers Day 2026

Please place this form, and your contribution into the colored pew envelope and place in the collection plate.

Name(s) in honor of:

Name(s) in memory of:

Given by:

Amount enclosed:

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.

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

www.nmchurch.org | church@nmchurch.org

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



Thank You

TO THE

Jackson Family



FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK
AND DEDICATION IN

*making our church grounds
so beautiful!*

