

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



**First Congregational Church of New Milford  
June 28, 2026**

**WELCOME & CALL TO MINISTRY**

**LIGHTING THE CANDLES**

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Come let us worship with great joy the God who greets us.

**People: Let us praise God who lifts our hearts and spirits.**

Leader: Let us open our hearts to Christ who welcomed friend and stranger alike.

**People: We are grateful for the hospitality and friendship that are offered here.**

Leader: Thanks be to God who has welcomed each one of us.

**People: We have found a welcoming presence in this house of the Lord.**

## **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\***

#286 This Is the Day

### **INVOCATION & LORD'S PRAYER**

**Holy God, we take comfort and courage in your presence. Through your love and light, helping us to place our trust entirely in you. Help us to lovingly put you before all else, knowing that your steadfast love shepherds us onto paths unknown. We pray with the words Jesus 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.**

Choral Response

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

### **OFFERING OUR GIFTS**

Call to Offering

Offertory

Oh My My/Twila McBride Labar & Toni Clay

### **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, through your steadfast love, the teachings of Jesus, and the empowering winds of the Spirits, you have taught us to share what we have, our time, talent, and treasure, with those in need. As we serve our neighbors, we serve Christ. Bless what we bring before you now in gratitude for Your many gifts. Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S TIME

### HYMN\*

#548 The Old Rugged Cross

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

### SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 10:40-42

Choral Response

### SERMON

God's Welcome

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Choral Response

### HYMN\*

#636 Abide with Me

### BENEDICTION\* - spoken and sung

### POSTLUDE

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

Today's liturgy has been adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual.

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.

**Imagine**  
Together



Your continued support for the church is appreciated.

## THANK YOU

- **Debbie Poole** - Deacon on Duty
- **Lily McGee** - Acolyte
- **John Motavalli** - Scripture Reader
- **Dave Somerville and Diane Taylor** for their gift of music at today's worship.
- **Mike Bensema, Mike Curley and Susan Sennello** - Ushers
- **To everyone** who chose our hymns 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 the Fellowship Hall following today's service.

Join us for a **Congregational Meeting today** during coffee hour for a Deacon vote and for an update on the Steeple.

**Lawn Mowing Sign-Up:** We are still in need of volunteers to mow our church lawn every other week. Please sign up on the chart posted on the bulletin board located in the church lobby or email Carole at: [czeigler@nmchurch.org](mailto:czeigler@nmchurch.org).

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

**The Scholarship Team's Annual Tag Sale** will be held on Saturday, July 18 in Fellowship Hall. Donations will be accepted at Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, July 15-17 from 6:00 pm to 8:00pm. We do not accept large furniture items or clothing. Volunteers are needed to sort, sell and remove the unsold items. Please consider volunteering.

### **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](http://www.nmchurch.org) | [church@nmchurch.org](mailto:church@nmchurch.org)

Rev. Marie Bacchiocchi | [revmarieb@nmchurch.org](mailto:revmarieb@nmchurch.org) | 732-874-0528

**Vacation Bible School  
June 2026**



**As our VBS week comes to a close, we wanted to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude for allowing your child to participate in our program. It has been a joy to spend the week with them!**

**Songs:**

**If Your Saved And You Know It:** Performed by Crew 1

**Wise Man Foolish Man:** Performed by Crew 2

**This Is How I Pray:** Performed by Crew 3

**Anything But You:** Performed by Crew 4

**Philippians 4:13:** Performed by Crew 5

**Snowball Mountain Day:** Performed by All



**CREW 1:**

Olivia Pouders, Anna Hester, Madison Bergeman, Juliet Henderson, Abigail Gaynor, Elyse Roma

**CREW 2:**

Brynn MacDonnell, Katie Simmons, Kenzie Strell, Kayleigh Strell, Eden Roma, Aiden Sarsfield

**CREW 3:**

Charlotte Fusca, Eleanor Dempster, Hailey Buturla, Douglas Gallik

**CREW 4:**

Poppi Crandell, Maggie Pouders, McKenzie Bergeman, Lucas Sudwischer, Lily Crandell

**CREW 5:**

Amanda Szylosy, Gabby Javois, DJ Hammer

**Directors:** Carol McKay, Katie McKay, Jack Costable, Jan McCarthy.

**Decorations & Scenery:** Jack Costable, Olivia Pouder, Katie Johnson, Corey Johnson, Kellie Jackson.

**Snacks:** Sharon Schuster

**Music:** Mariann Schirizzo, Terri Hudak

**Indoor Games:** Leslie Schlemmer, Carole Schwarzmann

**Outdoor Games:** Dylan Henderson, Grayson Kamp

**Crafts:** Meg Wittman, Gio Thomas, Allie Ryan

**Kitchen:** Bill Jackson, Cristina Jackson, Deanna Jackson, Sandy Gammons, Pinky Maningas, Anne Olson, Deb Tormey

**Photography:** Mike Bensema

**Moms:** Allie Ryan, Caitlyn Henderson

**Helpers:** Ryan Simmons, Charlie Dressel, Henry Dressel, Patrick Sarsfield, Parker Hall, Eli Maningas

**Bulletin production:** Carole Zeigler

**Special Thanks to the women from Methodist Church of New Milford!** Teri Hudak, Lynn Singleton, Ohyeun Lee, Valerie.

**Special Shout-Out** to Reverend Marie Bacchiocchi for morning prayer and spiritual guidance, and Peggy King for storytelling.



**A heartfelt THANK YOU is extended to all our VBS volunteers for their dedication and hard work!**

