

## Sunday, July 12, Pentecost 7

First Church of Christ, Congregational, United Church of Christ  
North Conway, New Hampshire

### WELCOME

### PRELUDE

*Andantino in F Major*  
Composer – J.C. Beckel (1811-?)

Floyd W. Corson, Organ

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Isaiah 55:10-13*

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

***Please show your joy without voice by raising your hands in praise.***

For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

***Please show your joy without voice by clapping.***

Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

***Please show your joy by doing the wave through the gathering.***

### REFLECTIVE MUSIC

*Adagio* from Sonata No. 1  
Anne Polak and Chris Russian, Flutes

Composer J.B. Loeillet

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND THE SUNG LORD'S PRAYER

***Please respond to each petition by placing your hands over your heart, then opening your arms to receive God's forgiveness.***

Holy God, giver of seeds and all that is required for them to grow, we come today to confess that we have not always been receptive to the seeds of your teaching.

***Heart, open arms***

We have too often been the hard path, unwilling even to hear the message you present to us. We turn away and continue to make choices that hurt ourselves and others because the seed of your teaching can't even take root.

***Heart, open arms***

Sometimes, we are the rocky path that takes in your word and gets very excited about what you've called us to do, only to lose interest or hope and allow the seed of your teaching to die away.

***Heart, open arms***

Then, too, we can be the thorn-infested soil that takes in the seeds of your teaching but then chokes off any change in our lives or the lives of others with fears, doubts, and the influence of others who sway us from our convictions.

***Heart, open arms***

Forgive us for the many times that we have been bad soil.

***Heart, open arms***

Remind us that we have often been good soil, flourishing with your Word in our lives and working daily to build your realm on earth. Give us courage to till more good soil in our lives as we hold on to the promises of Jesus, who taught us so much. We assure ourselves of your love as we pray as Jesus taught us, 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 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.**

### TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

*Scattered Seeds*

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF GOD'S PEOPLE (Please offer your prayers silently)

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Gerry Tilton, Licensed Minister

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Let Me Shine, Shine, Shine*

Chancel Choir

Composer M.W. Chaplin (Arr. By H. Ades)

Let me shine, shine, shine with God's love divine,  
Shining through, bright and true in my life.

Let me live, live, live with God's love to give.

Flowing sure, sweet and pure, in my life.

Let me show the way, tell the world today

That this love from above heals all strife.

Let me shine, shine, shine with God's hand in mine,  
Lasting all my life.

Let me sing, sing, sing with God's love to bring:  
Sing a song loud and strong all around.

Let me shout, shout, shout both inside and out  
So each word can be heard all around.

Let my self reveal how I think and feel,

That in me others see what I've found,

Let me sing, sing, sing, let God's praises ring,

Here and there, everywhere, all around.

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

*Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23*

**SERMON**

*Paradigm Shifts are Hard*

Rev. Dr. Ruth E. Shaver

**REFLECTIVE MUSIC**

*Allegro from Sonata No. 1*

Composer J.B. Loeillet

Anne Polak and Chris Russian, Flutes

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Allegro in C Major*

Floyd W. Corson, Organ

Composer – J. Pachelbel (1653-1706)

**Announcements**

Worship with us at First Church of Christ, Congregational, United Church of Christ, North Conway, New Hampshire, for the Seventh Sunday of Pentecost Season, Ordinary Time, July 12, 2020.

We invite you to subscribe to our channel, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4xGhkZ9fG6YvNtYZMf5VmQ>; to join us at [www.facebook.com/firstchurchcncnh](https://www.facebook.com/firstchurchcncnh); and to sign up for our e-mail list at <https://us7.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=75178dd4263ff96f247ef8db4&id=7331230504>.

Please consider a donation to support our missions and ministries: First Church of Christ, PO Box 401, North Conway, NH 03860. The Third quarter mission donation is dedicated to the Veterans. You may also support Vaughan Community Service, Inc., online at [www.vaughannh.com](http://www.vaughannh.com) or by check to VCS, PO Box 401, North Conway, NH 03860.



If you have an article for the August Congregate Tidings, please submit it to Bonnie at [churchoffice@firstchurchcnc.com](mailto:churchoffice@firstchurchcnc.com) by July 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Evelyn Porter has been designated as The Coordinator of the Diaconates' Ministry of Greeting.** If you would like Evelyn to send a card from the church to someone who is ill, grieving, celebrating, or who just needs a "pick-me-up" note, please call her at home at 603-496-2314 or send her an email at [hambro35@yahoo.com](mailto:hambro35@yahoo.com).