



# Practicing Boldness Pride Sunday June 21, 2026

We are a progressive community of faith seeking to follow the teachings of Jesus, pursue justice and live God's love.

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



**A Note for Families / Folks of All Ages:** During the summer, we do not have church school, but young people are encouraged to check our narthex during the service for simple crafts or activities.

There are also clipboards with paper and coloring pages at the back of the sanctuary, for worshippers of any age to use during the service.

**PRELUDE**

*Gigue in E Minor*

Jean Baptiste Lully

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**THRESHOLD MOMENT**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: People of God, have you heard the Good News?

**All: Ours is a God with wide open arms!**

One: Boldly, joyfully, let us declare it: Like every one of God's creatures,

**All: We are loved, we are worthy, we are held!**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*Draw the Circle Wide*

"Songs of the Spirit" No. 93

**PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS**

**Source of Life, in breathtaking variety, you designed us and declared us beloved. When we grow timid with our love, when we withhold compassion for ourselves and others, or retreat to safety when the world needs our courage, forgive us. Teach us how to live and love boldly, showing up for each other as you unfailingly show up for us.**

**PRAYERFUL PAUSE**

**SUNG WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Libby Roderick

**How could anyone ever tell you, you were anything less than beautiful?**

**How could anyone ever tell you, you were less than whole?**

**How could anyone fail to notice that your loving is a miracle,**

**How deeply you're connected to my soul?**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

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\*Please rise, on your feet or in your hearts.

**\*SUNG RESPONSE**                      *Shine, Jesus, Shine* (Refrain)                      Graham Kendrick

**Shine, Jesus, shine**                      **Flow, river, flow**  
**Fill this land with your**                      **Flood the nations with**  
**love and justice!**                      **grace and mercy.**  
**Blaze, Spirit, blaze**                      **Send forth your Word, God**  
**Set our hearts on fire!**                      **And let there be life!**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**                      Carolyn Clark

One:     God of love and justice, as we read these ancient texts,  
**All:     Spark our curiosity and spur us to greater acts of care and courage.**

**SCRIPTURE**                      *Acts 4:13-24a, 29-31*

**SERMON**                      *Practicing Boldness*                      Christine Caulfield &  
Rev. Alison J. Buttrick Patton

**MOMENT OF CONTEMPLATIVE SILENCE**

**ANTHEM**                      *True Colors*                      Tom Kelly and Billy Steinberg,  
Arr. Neil Archer

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE\*\***

One: We come with joyful hearts for the gift of diversity  
and bodies of all colors, sizes, and genders; for the gift of love  
and different ways in which we can love one another;  
For the gift of community and families that extend beyond biology.  
So today, we pray:

**All: Increase our joy, O Holy One.**

One: We come with broken hearts for a society that makes tiny boxes  
and wants us all to fit into them; for love that is conditional  
and asks us to be who we aren't; for relatives that reject us  
and friends that forget us when we need them.  
So today, we pray:

**All: Deliver us from evil, O Holy One.**

One: We come with thankful hearts for strength and courage  
to be and exist in this world as we are;  
for dreams of new ways to dismantle systems of oppression;  
for love and hope knowing a different world is possible.  
So today we pray:

**All: Be with us today and always, O Holy One.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father-Mother in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kin-dom come; Your 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 Yours is the kin-dom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

## SUNG RESPONSE

*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

Ken Medema

**Lord, listen to your children praying**

**Lord send your Spirit in this place**

**Lord, listen to your children praying**

**Send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

## OFFERING INVITATION

Help us to live God's love and justice. You can make a secure gift by using the QR code, by going to [fccucc.org](http://fccucc.org) and clicking on "Donate," or by adding your contribution to the box at the back of the sanctuary.



## MUSICAL INTERLUDE

## BLESSING OUR GIFTS

## \*CLOSING HYMN

*In the Midst of New Dimensions*

Julian B. Rush

In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,  
Who will lead the pilgrim peoples wand'ring in their sep'rate ways?

**Chorus:** God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar, we your people, ours the journey, now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.

As we stand a world divided by our own self-seeking schemes,  
Grant that we, your global village, might envision wider dreams.

We are folks of every gender, all persuasions, old to young.  
Each a gift in your creation, each a love song to be sung.

Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain,  
May your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BENEDICTION\*\*

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**WORSHIP NOTES**

**Thank you** to this morning's ushers: Team D, Scott Berry, captain.

**Livestream:** Thank you to Alex Ratta for managing our worship livestream!

**The flowers on the altar** are in celebration of family, from Debbie and Jim Rideout.

**\*\* The Prayers of the People and Benediction** are by Rev. Claudia Aguilar Rubalcava, Avery Arden, Rev. Brooke Scott, and Matt Webb | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org).

**Welcome to Christine Caulfield!** An advocate for equal rights and treatment of people in the LGBTQ+ community, Christine has spent seven years at MaineTransNet, and currently serves on the board of the Equality Community Center in Portland. She is a former public high school teacher of 22 years, teaching history, civics and government, several electives, AP courses and a team-taught course that explored the origins of power and privilege in US history. She is a parent of two adult daughters, and a very proud grandparent of four.

**WEEKLY @ FCCUCC**

**Bible Study every Tuesday, 12:30 - 1:30 pm in Davidson Lounge:** Explore the scripture from the past Sunday, led by Rev. Steve Savage.

**Prayer Shawls, every Wednesday, 1 - 3 pm, Summer location changes weekly:** Text Lynne Lanctot at 318-1605 by Tuesday evening for location. New and experienced knitters welcome. Bring needles size 9, 10, or 11, and your own yarn, or check out the church yarn supply. Questions? Lynne: [lanctotla74@gmail.com](mailto:lanctotla74@gmail.com).

**Meetinghouse Choir and Handbell Choir** are on summer break. They will resume rehearsals at the end of August.

**COMING UP @ FCC UCC**

**TODAY: The Wabanaki Allies Working Group** meets from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm in Davidson Lounge.

**TODAY: Lemonade on the Porch!** Join us on the front steps after worship.

**Women's Spirit Circle, Tuesday, June 23, 7 - 8:30 pm, Community Room:**

Welcoming space for connection, reflection, and shared joy. All women, including LGBTQIA+ participants, are warmly invited. Nancy Brajtbord: [nancy.brajtbord@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.brajtbord@gmail.com); Pat Thatcher: [pat.thatcher123@gmail.com](mailto:pat.thatcher123@gmail.com)

**FCC On the Town, Thursday, June 25, Lady Mary Inn Tea Room, North Berwick:**

We will leave the church at 10:00 am for High Tea. Please RSVP by June 15 to Kathy Sahrbeck at 415-0170 or [kathrynsme@yahoo.com](mailto:kathrynsme@yahoo.com). \$45 per person. If cost is a barrier, contact Pastor Alison for assistance. We'd love to have you!

**Fair Fancy Crafters Workshop, June 27, 10 am - 3 pm, Laity Room (the Studio).**

Feel free to stop by as you are able. We welcome anyone who is interested in being -- or learning to be -- creative. We provide all materials and instruction. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Gin Gedney at 207-318-1581. We look forward to seeing you.

**New Member Sunday, June 28:** Join us as we welcome new members during worship. Curious about joining FCCUCC? See Pastor Alison if you would like to learn more: [revalisonpatton@fccucc.org](mailto:revalisonpatton@fccucc.org) .

**Lemonade on the Porch *and* Vigil, Sunday, June 28:** Join us on the weekend before 4th of July for a festive social hour and vigil on our front steps. We will honor and defend the rights of the immigrants who helped to build this country.

**Book Group, Sunday, June 28, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm:** Join FCCUCC member Chuck Warner and Pastor Steve to discuss *A Prayer for the Crown Shy*, by Becky Chambers.

**FCC ON THE TOWN Thursday, July 16,** We have tickets for "Singin' in the Rain" at Hackmatack Playhouse for a 2:00 matinee on Thursday, July 16. Tickets for those 65 and older are \$40, and \$45 for younger folks. Please RSVP as soon as possible to Kathy Sahrbeck at [kathrynsme@yahoo.com](mailto:kathrynsme@yahoo.com) or 415-0170.

**IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY**

**BTS Center's Summer Fiction Book Club** discusses *There are Rivers in the Sky*, by Elif Shafak, Thursday, July 23, 11:30 am – 1 pm on Zoom: "From the Booker Prize finalist, author of *The Island of Missing Trees*, an enchanting new tale about three characters living along two great rivers, all connected by a single drop of water. Check out Book Club details at <https://thebtscenter.org/fiction/>.

## MISSION AND SOCIAL WITNESS

### Children's Clothes Closet is now open to the public!

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays, 11 am - 1 pm • 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays, 12 pm - 2 pm

Interested in volunteering? Contact the office at [revalisonpatton@fccucc.org](mailto:revalisonpatton@fccucc.org). Messages will be passed on to Clothes Closet Coordinator, AnnElissa Leveque.

### Clothing Donations:

1. **Clean, wearable children's clothes of all sizes (including teens)** can be dropped off on the 5th floor, in the Children's Clothes Closet donation bin just inside the lefthand door.
2. **Adult clothes, shoes and accessories, both wearable *and* unwearable**, can now be deposited in the *Apparel Impact* Bin in the main parking lot. Upcycle and recycle to keep clothes out of our landfills! [www.apparelimpact.com/](http://www.apparelimpact.com/).

**Clynk Bags** are in the narthex (inside main entrance). Collect your returnable cans and bottles and return them to a Clynk collection site at Hannaford or other participating grocery stores. Scan the code on the bags and the refunds will automatically be donated to our FCC mission team. *Thank you!*

**Volunteer for Preble Street Food Hub:** On the last Friday of each month, we prepare meals at the Food Hub, 75 Darling Avenue, South Portland, for delivery to Preble Street satellite sites. Please join us! To learn more about how to volunteer, see the Weekly Word or contact Danna Wiggins at [dannawig2@gmail.com](mailto:dannawig2@gmail.com).

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### WHAT'S UP?

**Want to stay in the loop?** Make sure you are on our email list! To UPDATE or ADD your contact info, go to: [fccucc.org](http://fccucc.org) and select "Contact Us".

**Find us, like and follow us on social media. Now on Substack! @FCCUCC**



## Show off your FCCUCC Colors!

Now you can share your love for FCCUCC, thanks to FCC member Bryan Wiggins, who created a colorful design and found an environmentally sustainable company to bring us this lightweight, durable heather gray, 100% organic cotton shirt!



**To Place Your Order:** Choose from unisex sizes from XS to 4XL for \$30 per shirt by **July 31**, and we'll share the date for you to pick up, pay, and boldly share God's love and justice! Just go to:

<https://tinyurl.com/2d6f2r69> OR scan the QR code:

