



What We Expect

PRIDE Sunday

June 21, 2025

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.

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST 

A Note for Families / Folks of All Ages: We worship all together this morning. There are clipboards with paper and coloring pages at the back of the sanctuary, for worshippers of any age to use during the service.

PRELUDE

For All the Children

David Lohman

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Rev. Alison J. Buttrick Patton

SUNG SUMMONS

Spirit of Life

**Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.**

THRESHOLD MOMENT

SUNG SUMMONS, repeat:

Spirit of Life

CALL TO WORSHIP *

One: Listen! Listen for the voice of God, naming us all: Holy. Beloved. Cherished. Valued.

All: We believe you delight in us!

One: Make us people who recognize and proclaim your beauty and goodness in unexpected places.

All: Surprise us. Challenge us. Transform us.

One: We trust in you, Holy One, to reveal to us the sacredness of every life, of every way of being, of every physical expression of your Spirit.

All: May it be so!

***OPENING HYMN**

All the Colors of the Rainbow

See Bulletin Back Cover

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

One: Holy One, today we celebrate *all* the colors,
Admire and give thanks for every *body*. [cont. next page]

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

All: Today we also name out loud the damage that is done
When people, laws and systems
Deny the countless shapes that love can take,
Dismiss a person's own sense of self,
Or denigrate the folks who live outside the white-cis-hetero frame.

One: Today we lament too many bright sparks extinguished,
Too many shining souls made dim.

All: We call upon the Source of Love: Help us to banish all shades of harm
and revive the lights that sputter because of hostility's bluster.
Bless all the beauty, all the goodness, all the people.

PRAYERFUL PAUSE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you.

***SUNG RESPONSE** *Shine, Jesus, Shine!* Graham Kendrick

Shine, Jesus, shine! Fill this land with Creator's glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze. Set our hearts on fire!
Flow, River, flow. Fill the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your Word, God and let there be light!

TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Emma Campbell

One: This is the sacred story of God's Holy Spirit let loose in the world.

All: Holy Spirit, come! Open our ears, spark our curiosity and inspire our faithful responses to your Word. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Mark 14:12-16

SERMON *What We Expect* Rev. Alison J. Buttrick Patton

MOMENT OF CONTEMPLATIVE SILENCE

ANTHEM

Al Shlosa D'varim

Allan E. Naplan

This is a lyrical setting of a popular maxim from Pirkei Avot (Jewish morality laws).
English translation:

*The world is sustained by three things:
by truth, by justice, and by peace.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father-Mother 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.

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

You can make a secure online gift by using the QR code, going to fccucc.org/donate, or by adding your contribution to the box at the back of the sanctuary. Thank you!



MUSICAL INTERLUDE

BLESSING OF THE GIFTS

CLOSING HYMN

Help Us Accept Each Other

#376

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

Join us for lemonade on the front porch after worship.

WORSHIP NOTES

****This morning's Call to Worship** was written by enfleshed.com and used by permission.

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

The flowers on the altar are given in memory of loved ones by Debbie and Jim Rideout.

WEEKLY @ FCC UCC

Tuesday Bible Study will continue, every Tuesday, 12:30 - 1:30 pm in Davidson Lounge:

While Pastor Steve is on his much-deserved sabbatical, a loyal group of FCC UCC members has decided to continue their Tuesday tradition of worship reflection. All are welcome!

Meetinghouse Choir, Handbells and Handchimes are on summer recess. Rehearsals will resume on August 27.

SUMMER AT FCC UCC

Art Exhibit - *Interconnected: Exploring Our Kinship With God's More-Than-Human Creation*, continues: View Earth Day-inspired quilts, paintings and photographs created by members and friends of FCC UCC, in the hallway outside the sanctuary. Let this diverse collection of images inspire your reflections about our relationship to God's more-than-human creation!

CONTINUES TODAY! History of Gospel Music by Terry Foster, Sundays - June 15, 22, 29, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm in the sanctuary: Join our co-director of music Terry Foster for an exploration of the history of gospel music via lecture, conversation, video and live music. With questions contact: terry@fccucc.org.

Lunch-n-Games, Sunday, June 20, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm: Our Game Nights have been a hit, so we're adding a *Game Day*! Join us for lunch and board games in Wright Pavilion.

Pop-Up Choir on Sunday, June 29. Come at 8:30am and we'll learn a song or two to sing in church at 10:00 am. Everyone is welcome!

Handbell Workshops coming this summer:

The FCCUCC handbell director will be presenting two workshops this summer. Each hour-long workshop will be presented twice:

Bell Basics

Wednesday, July 23, 11:00 am-12:00 pm

Wednesday, August 13, 6:00 pm-7:00 pm

For those who want to learn how to ring handbells and play in the choir or are just curious about how the instrument works.

Advanced Ringing Techniques

Wednesday, July 23, 6:00 pm-7:00 pm

Wednesday, August 13, 11:00 am-12:00 pm

For ringers with at least one year of ringing experience who would like to learn more advanced techniques.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Sharon Potter at handbells@FCCUCC.org.

Pop-up Handchime Choir on Sunday, August 10. Come at 8:30 am to learn a song or two to play during 10 am worship.

MISSION CORNER

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

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 and select "Contact Us" then select "Contact Info Update Form."

Also, look for us on Facebook: facebook.com/fccucc,

on Instagram: instagram.com/fccucc_s.portland

and on our YouTube channel: youtube.com/@FCCUCCSouthPortland



IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY

Bless Project Opening Night, June 26, 4-6 pm, South Church UCC,
8 Temple Street, Kennebunkport, The Community House:

- Experience the Blessing Booth
- Eat small bites and have a glass
- Participate in the Bless Weaving

Free and Open to the Public.

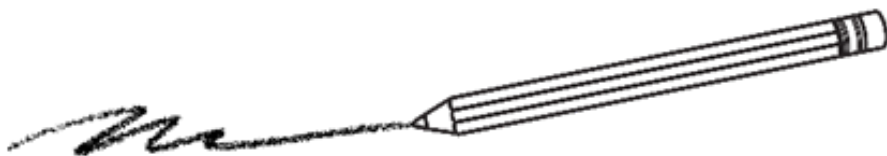
Want to join Pastor Alison for this event? Interested in carpooling? revalisonpatton@fccucc.org

For more info about the event:

Info@southchurchucc.org Bless@southchurchucc.org



Doodles, Notes and Reflections...



All The Colors of the Rainbow (Tune: Abbots Leigh)

All the colors of the rainbow
live unseen in daily light,
but their splendors find expression
when released to human sight;
so the church reveals most beauty
where diversity is real:
breadth of race and class and gender,
room for doubt, and space to heal.

All the body's parts are wanted,
nor can one despise the rest:
head and hand must work together,
as must eye, ear, throat, and chest;
so the church needs all its members
for a range of ministries:
varied gifts with one great mission,
"Do this for the least of these."

Every language gains more music
when the words for peace appear:
Pax, Salaam, Eirjini, Heiwa,
Pace, Santi, Frieden, Mir.
Though our tongues make sounds that vary
all bespeak a common home:
longing for the end of conflict
and new life in God's Shalom.

Teach us, God, our need of others;
through them help us fully live.
Wean us from our selfish habits;
let us listen, learn, forgive.
May we see your longed-for image
in each human heart and face,
and behold how those around us
can be channels of your grace.

