

First Christian Church of Freedom
THE CHURCH IN THE VILLAGE ESTABLISHED IN 1858



***Combining
Traditional & Contemporary Worship***

Knute Ogren, Pastor

May 24, 2026

Prelude

Centering

“The wind loves to play with hair; hair loves the excitement that the wind brings into its life! Remember this when the wind blows and don't try to protect yourself from the wind! Let them have fun with each other!”

— Mehmet Mural Ildan, *novelist & playwright*

Welcome to First Christian

Call to Worship

Psalm 104: 31-34

May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
may the Lord rejoice in his works—

**who looks on the earth and it trembles,
who touches the mountains and they smoke.**

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

**May my meditation be pleasing to him,
for I rejoice in the Lord.**

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray. Almighty God:

**Your Holy Spirit enters all places, goes to every
corner of the world, blows the winds of goodness**

near and far, and seeks to fill hearts with peace and love. May the hearts of your people here at First Christian be shaped and molded by the love you want us to share. In the name of your Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***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

Announcements

***Hymn: Come, Holy Spirit, Fill This Place¹ #269**

Reading:

Acts 2: 1-21
Read by Linda Habif

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind,

and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? **Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.**” All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

**'In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.**

**Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit,
and they shall prophesy.**

**And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.**

**The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and
glorious day.**

**Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord
shall be saved.'**

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Reading:

1 Corinthians 12: 4-13

Read by Jennifer Brown

Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit,
and there are varieties of services but the same Lord,
and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same
God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is
given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common

good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Special Music: Spirit of the Living God²

Gospel:

John 20: 19-23

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive

the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

***Hymn:** Spirit³

#249

Prayers of the People

L: Lord in your mercy

C: hear our prayer

Offering

***Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

***Hymn:** Every Time I Feel the Spirit⁴

#592

Benediction

Traditional Irish Blessing⁵

May the road rise to meet you.

May the wind be at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face.

May the rains fall softly on your fields, and until we meet again,

May you keep safe in the gentle, loving arms of God.

Postlude

*Please stand, as you are able.

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⁴*African American Spiritual adapted and arranged by William Farley Smith, 1986. Copyright 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House*

⁵*Verses based on Ecclesiastes 3:2-8; adapted by Lori True, b 1961.*

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Visitors

We welcome your presence with us for worship this morning. Please sign the guestbook at the back of the church, and join us for coffee after the service in the Davidson Room.

Pastoral Visits

Should you want a pastoral visit or communion, please speak to Pastor Knute or one of the deacons. Also, if you notice that someone hasn't been in church for several weeks, please mention it to a deacon or the Pastor.

Deacons

Ed Barosky, Judy Blake, Ellie Bossdorf, Carol McIntire, Jim Osborne, Dianne Park, Marty Perreault, David Wilcox and Libby Wilcox

Today in Church

Head Usher: Mark McKinley

Coffee Hour: Pastor Knute and Dianne Park

The altar flowers are given by Lucy Kendall, given in memory of Marshall Kendall.

This Week in Church

Tuesday	Choir Rehearsal	7 PM
Wednesday	Ladies Guild	8:30 AM – 1 PM
Saturday	Food Pantry	10 AM - Noon
Sunday	Choir Rehearsal	9 AM
Sunday	Worship Service	10 AM

Prayer List

Family of Kathy Avery	Kelley O'Connell
Family of Todd Baker	Barb, Rick & Ed Pelton
Ellie Bossdorf	Marc Perreault
Nancy Bossi	Bob Phinney
John Bourque	Henry Rodriguez
Family of Sandy Boyle	Nancy Sarden
Susan Brown	Alan Scales
Family of Dorothy Brooks	Family of Bob Smart
Cecilia Costa	Dan Spear
Family of Bill Elliott	Ellie Stokes
Anna Hlushuk	Jim Tracey
Susan Jancetic	Robin Tyner
Alex Klotz	Family of Caitlin Veglia
Grace Kull	Barbara Veglia
Jean Marshall	Wheaton Family
Bill McIntire	Libby Wilcox
Matthew Meserve	Grandville Wilkins
John Mocerì	Marjorie Works
Gale Morris	

Our country's military personnel and their families, first responders and all those who serve the public good.

To ensure your prayer request is added to the list, please write down the information and place it in the offering plate or on the administrative assistant's desk. Also, please let us know if you wish to have a name removed from the list.

Food Pantry

Food Donations needed: *Anything!* The Food Pantry requests that donated food is not out of date and there are no open containers. There is always a need for clean plastic grocery bags and clean cardboard egg cartons.



Music – Art – Community

Dwayne Haggins

July 9

White Mountain Ramblers

July 23

Ben Cosgrove

August 13

Darlin' Corey

August 27

Church Contact Information

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Office Hours: Wed 9 am –1 pm, Thu 9 am –1 pm

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Mailing Address: PO Box 502, 12 Elm Street, Freedom, NH 03836-0502

Church email: fccf1858@gmail.com

Church website: firstchristianchurchoffreedom.org

Food Pantry

Vicki McVitty, Director, 603-539-2602

Doris Sirois, Co-Director, 603-539-1339

Dan Spear, Volunteer Coordinator, 603-539-1687

Scan the QR code to read the bulletin online

