

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



***Combining  
Traditional & Contemporary Worship***

*Knute Ogren, Pastor*

*June 7, 2026*

## Prelude

## Centering

"Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma - which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition."

— Steve Jobs

## Welcome to First Christian

### Call to Worship

Psalm 50: 14-15

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,  
**and pay your vows to the Most High.**

"Call on me in the day of trouble;

**I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me."**

### Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray. Almighty God:

**C: You sent Jesus to a broken world, a world filled with people who are not perfect. He gave each one love and showed that they had value. He invited everyone to follow Him. Shape our hearts to be ready to listen to the invitation of Jesus. Help us to follow in His way of love, mercy, humility, and generosity. In a spirit of love, we pray. Amen.**

## Announcements

**\*Hymn:** Great Is Thy Faithfulness<sup>1</sup>

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**Reading:**

Genesis 12:1-9  
*Read by Gail Lamothe*

Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother’s son Lot and all the possessions that they had gathered and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran, and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east, and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

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

**Reading:**

Romans 4: 13-25  
*Read by Ron Spicer*

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression. For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), and the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore "it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, **25** who was handed over for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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

**Special Music:** My Faith Has Found a Resting Place<sup>2</sup>

**Gospel:**

Matthew 9: 9-13

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with Jesus and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

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

**Sermon**

**\*Hymn:** All are Welcome<sup>3</sup>

Insert

**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.**

## **Holy Communion** *(Please stand)*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O God. You created the heavens and the earth. You bring snow and rain to a thirsty world. You give sunlight and time to land so that your creation can eat. Harvests are plenty. Your people are fed. You nourish our bodies so that we can nourish the world with your mercy, justice, peace, and love. Your Spirit enters all spaces and places, equipping people with courage and strength. Your awesome power humbles the whole of creation, yet you meet us where we are with delicate tenderness. With all the saints who have come before, we praise you.

On the night in which he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, broke it, gave it to His disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup, gave thanks, gave it to all to

drink saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me."

In this meal, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

### **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**

*This is a holy feast for all people. If you wish to participate, you are invited! This is the Lord's table. All are welcome.*

*The congregation comes forward to receive the gifts.*

*At First Christian, we have bread and we have gluten free crackers. In the cups, we have grape juice.*

*For those not wishing to receive communion today, an invitation of a blessing is offered. To the pastor, say, "Blessing." Adults accompanying children forward can assist the pastor with direction so that all are included in the manner in which each one wishes.*

*Come forward using the main aisle. Receive the bread (or blessing) from the pastor and eat it. Continuing to the deacon, receive the grape juice and drink it. Return to your seat using the side aisle, placing your cup in the basket on the front pew.*

**\*Hymn:** Come, Share the Lord<sup>4</sup>

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### **Post-Communion Prayer:**

Let us pray,

**You fill us with gifts of love. You offer forgiveness. You give grace and goodness. You grant your mercy and compassion. Send us forth from this place with hearts for service and care. May people in this community be shaped by our desire to love and to serve. We pray in a spirit of love. Amen.**

**\*Hymn:** Lord of the Dance<sup>5</sup>

Insert

### **Benediction**

*Traditional Irish Blessing<sup>6</sup>*

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**

## 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:** Gail Lamothe and Ron Spicer

The altar flowers are given by Judy Blake, given in thanks for all of God's Blessings.

## This Week in Church

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

## 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.

## Prayer List

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

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.

## **Church Contact Information**

**Knute Ogren**, Pastor, 860-573-6783

[pastorknute@freedomchurchnh.org](mailto:pastorknute@freedomchurchnh.org),

**Carolyn Olzerowicz**, Music Director, 603-569-5711,

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**Evelyn Lamprey**, Administrative Assistant,

603-539-6484, [fccf1858@gmail.com](mailto:fccf1858@gmail.com)

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

**Office Number:** 603-539-6484

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

**Church email:** [fccf1858@gmail.com](mailto:fccf1858@gmail.com)

**Church website:** [firstchristianchurchoffreedom.org](http://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*



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