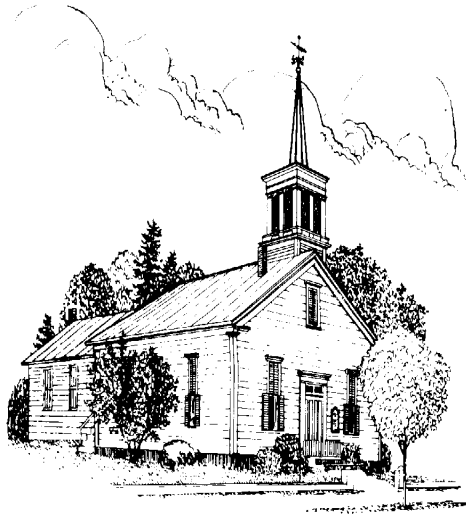


First Christian Church of Freedom
THE CHURCH IN THE VILLAGE ESTABLISHED IN 1858



***Combining
Traditional & Contemporary Worship***

Knute Ogren, Pastor

June 21, 2026

Prelude

Centering

“There are two basic motivating forces: fear and love. When we are afraid, we pull back from life. When we are in love, we open to all that life has to offer with passion, excitement, and acceptance. We need to learn to love ourselves first, in all our glory and our imperfections. If we cannot love ourselves, we cannot fully open to our ability to love others or our potential to create. Evolution and all hopes for a better world rest in the fearlessness and open-hearted vision of people who embrace life.”

—John Lennon

Welcome to First Christian

Call to Worship

Psalm 69: 16 -18

Answer me, O Lord, for your steadfast love is good;
according to your abundant mercy, turn to me.

Do not hide your face from your servant,
for I am in distress—make haste to answer me.

Draw near to me; redeem me;
set me free because of my enemies.

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray. Almighty God:

C: We gather this morning with hearts of thanksgiving, minds of curiosity, and spirits that are lifted from the pits of fear. You are always working to melt our fears, to mold us for justice, to fill us with courage, and use us for goodness in this broken world. We are yours, and we ask that you open our hearts to what you want from us, for us, and with us. We pray in a spirit of love. 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**

#35

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:** Lead On, O Cloud of Presence¹

#633

Reading:

Jeremiah 20: 7-13

Read by Eve Klotz

O Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. For whenever I speak, I must cry out; I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. If I say, "I will not mention him or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him and take our revenge on him." But the Lord is with me like a terrifying warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous; you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

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

Reading:

Romans 6: 1-11
Read by Mark McKinley

What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

Special Music: His Eye Is On the Sparrow²

Gospel:

Matthew 10: 24-39

“A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! “So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. “Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law, and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household. “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever does not take up the

cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

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

Sermon

***Hymn:** How Firm a Foundation

#618

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:** Leave It There³

Insert

Benediction

Traditional Irish Blessing⁴

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.

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: Bill Carney and Kate Chaput

The altar flowers are given by Linda Habif, given in honor of her daughters.

This Week in Church

Tuesday	Choir Rehearsal	7 PM
Wednesday	Ladies Guild	8:30 AM – 1 PM
Sunday	Choir Rehearsal	9 AM
Sunday	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



**First Christian is hosting and welcoming everyone to
VBS (Very Blessed to Serve) JULY 13-17**
Visit freedomchurchnh.org to learn more.

Prayer List

Family of Kathy Avery	Gale Morris
Family of Todd Baker	Kelley O'Connell
Ellie Bossdorf	Wendell Packard
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
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

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

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Evelyn Lamprey, Administrative Assistant,

603-539-6484, fccf1858@gmail.com

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

Visit freedomchurch.org to read today's
bulletin online.

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