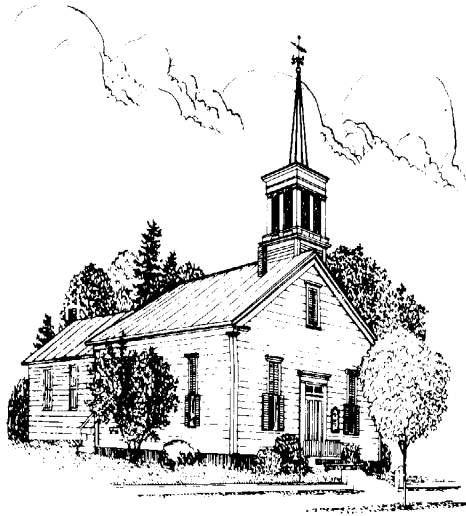


First Christian Church of Freedom
THE CHURCH IN THE VILLAGE ESTABLISHED IN 1858



***Combining
Traditional & Contemporary Worship***

Knute Ogren, Pastor

June 28, 2026

Prelude

Centering

“I had crossed the line. I was free; but there was no one to welcome me to the land of freedom. I was a stranger in a strange land.”

—Harriet Tubman

Welcome to First Christian

Call to Worship

Psalm 89: 15-18

Happy are the people who know the festal shout,
**who walk, O Lord, in the light of your
countenance;**

they exult in your name all day long
and extol your righteousness.

For you are the glory of their strength;
by your favor our horn is exalted.

For our shield belongs to the Lord,
our king to the Holy One of Israel.

Prayer of the Day

L: Let us pray. Almighty God:

**C: Today is the day you made, and we welcome it.
We welcome the blessings you give — including the
blessing of living differently. Grow in us the desire**

to welcome all of our neighbors into living a life that is different: a life of humility ... of goodness with God ... of amazing grace ... and of love for every single one. We pray in a spirit of Jesus, the lover of all souls. 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: O God of Vision¹**

#288

Reading:

Genesis 22: 1-14

Read by Marty Perreault

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. And the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." And the two of them walked on together. When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham,

Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place “The Lord will provide,” as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

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

Reading: Romans 6: 12-23 (from *The Message* by Eugene Peterson)
Read by Jennifer Brown

That means you must not give sin a vote in the way you conduct your lives. Don't give it the time of day. Don't even run little errands that are connected with that old way of life. Throw yourselves wholeheartedly and full-time—remember, you've been raised from the dead!—into God's way of doing things. Sin can't tell you how to live. After all, you're not living under that old tyranny any longer. You're living in the freedom of God. So, since we're out from under the old tyranny, does that mean we can live any old way we want? Since we're free in the freedom of God, can we do anything that comes to mind? Hardly. You know well enough from your own experience that there are some acts of so-called freedom that destroy freedom. Offer yourselves to sin, for instance, and it's your last free act. But offer

yourselves to the ways of God and the freedom never quits. All your lives you've let sin tell you what to do. But thank God you've started listening to a new master, one whose commands set you free to live openly in his freedom! I'm using this freedom language because it's easy to picture. You can readily recall, can't you, how at one time the more you did just what you felt like doing—not caring about others, not caring about God—the worse your life became and the less freedom you had? And how much different is it now as you live in God's freedom, your lives healed and expansive in holiness? As long as you did what you felt like doing, ignoring God, you didn't have to bother with right thinking or right living, or right anything for that matter. But do you call that a free life? What did you get out of it? Nothing you're proud of now. Where did it get you? A dead end. But now that you've found you don't have to listen to sin tell you what to do, and have discovered the delight of listening to God telling you, what a surprise! A whole, healed, put-together life right now, with more and more of life on the way! Work hard for sin your whole life and your pension is death. But God's gift is real life, eternal life, delivered by Jesus, our Master.

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

Special Music: We Are the Hands of Christ²

Gospel:

Matthew 10: 40-42

(Jesus said): “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

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

Sermon***Hymn:** We Call Ourselves Disciples³

#357

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:** They’ll Know We Are Christians⁴

#494

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.

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: Mary Marchand and Jane Hartnett

The altar flowers are given by Mark McKinley, in memory of Paul Marlin.

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
Lee and Meg	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,

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

colzerowicz@gmail.com

Evelyn Lamprey, Administrative Assistant,

603-539-6484, 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

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.

¹Words: Jane Parker Huber ©1981 Presbyterian Publishing/Westminster John Knox/Geneva Press Used by permission Onelicense.net #720765

²Words John Parker; Music Joel Raney- ©2004 Hope Publishing Company Used by permission Onelicense.net #720765

³Words by Jim Miller- ©1995 Christian Board Of Publication Used by permission Onelicense.net #720765

⁴Words and Music - Words and Music Peter Scholtes ©1966, 1991 Lorenz Publishing Corporation Used by permission Onelicense.net #720765

⁵Words and Music Lori Ture ©2003 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission Onelicense.net 720765

Tickets available online at freedomchurch.org, or by cash or check at the Freedom Village Store or the Church during office hours and Sunday Coffee Hour.

Tickets will also be available at the door the evening of the performance.

EVENINGS *on* ELM

Summer music series
2026

JULY 9 6:30 PM

DWAYNE HAGGINS

HAILED AS "THE JOHN LEGEND OF ROCKABILLY," HAGGINS UNLEASHES SURPRISING VOCAL ACROBATICS THAT MAKE EVERY EMOTIONAL NUANCE FEEL UTTERLY INEVITABLE.

BENEFIT FOR
FOOD PANTRY · FREEDOM LIBRARY
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT. · FREEDOM SCHOOL PTO

12 ELM STREET, FREEDOM NEW HAMPSHIRE
[FIRSTCHRISTIANCHURCHOFFREEDOM.ORG](http://FirstChristianChurchOfFreedom.org)

Illustration by: www.frogprints.com