

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 9, 2026 | Order of Worship | *Congregational responses are in bold*



Prelude

Helena Hyesoo Kim

Welcome

Deacon Theresa Hammond (she/her)

Call to Worship

Led by Deacon Theresa Hammond (she/her)

In storms of grief

May God's peace enfold us

In times of fear

May God's peace enfold us

When the way forward is unclear

May God's peace enfold us

When we are weary and worried and worn

May God's peace enfold us

When the storm rages

May God's peace enfold us

And when the new day dawns, as it always does,

May God's peace enfold us

Hymn (*please rise in body or spirit*)

I've Got Peace Like a River

No. 478 in the Black Hymnal

Centering Words

The Peace of Wild Things | Wendell Berry

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

We Pass the Peace of Christ

Anthem

The European Anthem (Ode to Joy) | arr. Colin Kirckpatrick

First Church Orchestra

Celebration of Gratitude

"If the only prayer you said was thank you, that would be enough."

-Meister Eckhart

As we name the abundant blessings of our lives (anniversaries, birthdays, clean-and-sober milestones, and many more!), we offer a gratitude gift in any amount, so that the blessings we have received from God may be multiplied and shared with all who long to experience God's extravagant welcome in this church and beyond.

Please consider using a gratitude heart, located in the racks in the pews, if you choose to make a gratitude gift.

We Sound the Bell

A Message for all Children of God

Pastor Spencer Law (he/him)

♪ Go now in peace, go now in peace
May the love of God surround you!
Everywhere, everywhere you may go ♪

Sharing Our Sacred Story

Read by members of Chris Reiner and Kathleen Kilbride's family

Reader: Friends, hear what the Spirit is saying to the church today.

✦ 1 Kings 19:9-12

Inclusive Bible Translation

✦ Matthew 14:22-33

Inclusive Bible Translation

Reader: This is the story of life for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God

Sermon

The Rev. Emily C. Goodnow (she/her)

Hymn *(please rise in body or spirit)*

*How Can I Keep From Singing
No. 476 in the Black Hymnal*

Prayers of the People

Pastor Spencer Law (he/him)

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 sins as we forgive those who have sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offertory Music

Selections from 16 Chorales | arr. Mayhew Lake
First Church Orchestra

Words of Thanksgiving *(please rise in body or spirit)*

Praise God, from whom blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that Love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication *(please rise in body or spirit)*

Loving and Holy God, we ask that You would pour out Your blessing on this offering today. Guide us in Your way and use these gifts to make our church and our world even more:

We call out words like “joyful, kind, just” to bless our church and world

Benediction

Postlude

Helena Hyesoo Kim



All are warmly welcome to join us downstairs following worship for Snack & Chat! Whether you bring a dish or simply bring yourself, there's a place for you at the table.

With gratitude for the gift of vacation, Rev. Emily & Pastor Spencer are away 8/10-8/17. Rev. Raymond Clothier will guest preach on 8/16 & Rev. Neil Wilson from the Lovell UCC Church is on call for pastoral emergencies. Please contact the church office if you need support during this time.

Save the date: On August 16th, Rev. Raymond Clothier, who was our Interim Pastor before Emily was here, will return to visit and lead worship

Service Credits:

Call to Worship written by the Rev. Emily C. Goodnow.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL GUILD PIE SALE

The Guild's Annual Pie Sale is on **Saturday, August 15th**. Doors open at 9 am and close when we sell out of pies! Pies are \$20 each. If anyone would like to help and bake a pie, you can sign up online or on the sign-up sheet on the table in the lobby (where you can also find aluminum pie plates, if needed).

FIRST CHURCH SEA DOGS TRIP!

Take me out to the ballgame, take me out to the crowd... Sign up now for an all ages outing to see the Portland Sea Dogs play the Reading Fightin' Phils on Sunday, August 23rd! We'll provide round trip bus transportation from the church free of charge. The bus will depart from First Church at 11:30am and return to the church at 5:30 pm.

PADDLE & PRAY BOAT CHURCH

Mark your calendar for Boat Church, an outdoor worship service on Highland Lake on **Saturday, August 29th at 2 pm!** We'll gather at the Nicholsons' home and beach for an informal worship service, light refreshments, and time together on the water. Stay tuned for more details during the announcements in worship

MID-YEAR GIVING STATEMENTS

Mid-Year Giving Statements (Jan. 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026) will be sent out by the end of July. If we have your email address, you will receive via email, otherwise you will receive your statement via mail.

Online
Giving



This
Week's Email



Subscribe to
the Weekly Email



FIRST CHURCH MINISTRY LEADERS

Ministers

All of Us

Senior Pastor

Rev. Emily C. Goodnow (*she/her*)

Minister for Intergenerational Innovation

Pastor Spencer Law (*he/him*)

C.E. Coordinator

Sandy Wissmann (*she/her*)

Director of Music Engagement

Cassie Cooper-Ricci (*they/them*)

Guest Musician

Helena Hyesoo Kim

Office Manager

Kylie Morel (*she/her*)

Co-Moderators

Rosemary Wiser (*she/her*)

Marita Wiser (*she/her*)

Treasurer - Asst. Treasurer

Peter Clark (*he/him*)

Gail McBride (*she/her*)

Trustee of the Week

Kevin Murphy (*he/him*)

Deacon of the Week

Theresa Hammond (*she/her*)

Greeters-Hospitality

Lynn Welbourn, Glen Jukkola, & Peter
Oberg

C.E. Leaders

Jess & Edna Engstrom

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

- Worship, 10 am, the Rev. Emily C. Goodnow preaching
- Snack & Chat, fellowship hall, following worship
- Trustees' Meeting, 11:30 am

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

- Jeanette's Closet, 9-11 am
- *Tiny Tots is on hiatus until September 15th*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

- Guild Pie Sale, 9 am

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

- Worship, 10 am, the Rev. Raymond Clothier preaching
- Snack & Chat, fellowship hall, following worship
- Deacon's Meeting, 11:30 am
- Personnel Committee Meeting, 11:30 am

Church office is open 9 am - 12 pm, Mon-Fri
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