

**First Congregational Church**  
**Our Church in Worship**

October 20, 2024 10:00 AM  
Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

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PRELUDE *Adoration* – Florence B. Price Adam Peithmann

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Christopher Stevens

\*OPENING HYMN NO. 543 *Blessed Assurance*

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive) — Based on Isaiah 49:13; 12:5 Rev. Barbara Papagian

Leader: Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth;

**People: break forth, O mountains, into singing!**

Leader: For the Lord has comforted his people and will have compassion on his suffering ones.

**All: Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Let us sing to God!**

OPENING PRAYER (Unison) Rev. Christopher Stevens

**You have brought us, O God, to another Lord’s Day, when we are privileged to worship you with our brothers and sisters in Christ. May we have unity of mind and heart as we open ourselves to the movement of your Holy Spirit. As your love grows within us, may we have rich fellowship with you and with one another. In Christ’s name. Amen.**

MUSICAL OFFERING *Christ Has Broken Down the Wall* Chancel Choir

Christ has broken down the wall. Let us join our hearts as one. Christ has broken down the wall. We’re accepted as we are. Through God’s love all is reconciled. We’re accepted as we are. Cast aside your doubts and fears. Peace and love, freely offered here; cast aside your doubts and fears. We will tear down the walls! God has called us one and all. Christ has broken down the wall.

*Those involved with Sunday Friends may leave for their activity.*

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Barbara Papagian

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

SILENT MEDITATION

OUR LORD’S PRAYER (Unison)

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

\*HYMN NO. 636 *Abide with Me*

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT *Resilience Reigns*

OUR MORNING OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

\*DOXOLOGY (Hymn No. 46)

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

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

**God of unending grace, although there are times in our lives when we question why, and when we wander from our path of faith, we still are forever grateful for this gift of life that is ours. And we now pray that what we give will make this world better. We give our gifts, therefore, with grateful hearts through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING Job 2:1-10

SERMON *Satan’s Second Ace Up His Sleeve* Rev. Christopher Stevens

\*CLOSING HYMN NO. 552 *Standing on the Promises*

BENEDICTION

As we depart the house of the Lord, may we walk with a new vision, a new insight and renewed faith that enables us to see more clearly God’s presence and direction for our lives. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

POSTLUDE *Toccata* – Douglas E. Wagner

\*You are invited to stand if you wish.

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## SCRIPTURE READING

### **Job 2:1-10 (New International Version)**

<sup>1</sup> On another day the angels came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came with them to present himself before him. <sup>2</sup> And the Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the Lord, "From roaming throughout the earth, going back and forth on it." <sup>3</sup> Then the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil. And he still maintains his integrity, though you incited me against him to ruin him without any reason." <sup>4</sup> "Skin for skin!" Satan replied. "A man will give all he has for his own life. <sup>5</sup> But now stretch out your hand and strike his flesh and bones, and he will surely curse you to your face." <sup>6</sup> The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, then, he is in your hands; but you must spare his life." <sup>7</sup> So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord and afflicted Job with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the crown of his head. <sup>8</sup> Then Job took a piece of broken pottery and scraped himself with it as he sat among the ashes. <sup>9</sup> His wife said to him, "Are you still maintaining your integrity? Curse God and die!" <sup>10</sup> He replied, "You are talking like a foolish woman. Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?" In all this, Job did not sin in what he said.

# First Congregational Church



**October 20, 2024**

**Manchester, New Hampshire  
United Church of Christ**

508 Union Street · Manchester, NH · 603-625-5093

Sunday Worship 10:00 AM

*You are welcome here! An Open & Affirming Congregation*