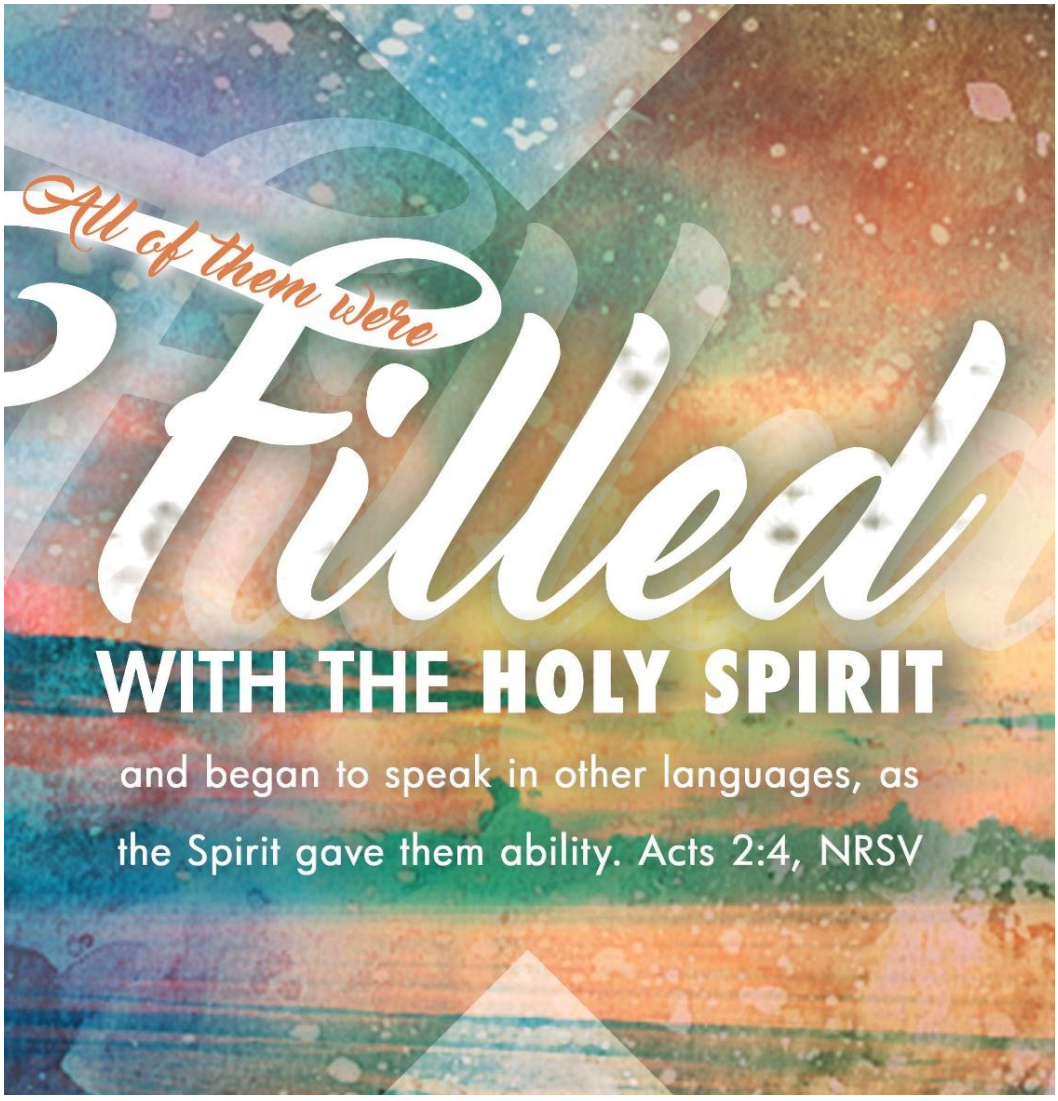


THE FIRST CHURCH

NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Congregational – United Church of Christ

†

Gathered December 16, 1685

No matter who you are, whom you love, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Morning Worship

Pentecost

June 8, 2025 9:00 AM

*If it is comfortable for you to do so, please stand.

APPROACH TO GOD

Let us keep silence as we prepare for worship.

TOWER CHIME Norma MacKinley-Smith

MEDITATION "Isn't it amazing that we are all made in God's image, and yet there is so much diversity among his people?"
- Desmond Tutu

PRELUDE *Nun bitten wir den heiligen Geist* D. Buxtehude
Now ask we, the Holy Ghost *(1637 – 1707)*

INTROITUS VENI CREATOR Plainchant
9th century

Veni, Creator Spiritus,	Come Holy Spirit, creator, come
Mentes tuorum visita,	from your bright heavenly throne,
Imple superna gratia,	come take possession of our souls
Quae Tu creasti pectora.	and make them all your own
Qui dicentis Paraclitus	Thou who art called Paraclete
Altissimi donum Dei	Blessed gift from God above
Fons vivus ignis caritas	The living spring, living fire
Et spiritalis unctio	Sweet unction and true love

MEN'S CHOIR

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God of wind and fire,
People: When You send Your Holy Spirit, we become a new creation.
Leader: God of mighty oceans and still waters,
People: When we receive Your baptism, we are born again.
Leader: God of bread and wine,
People: When we eat at Your table, we are made one with You and one each other.
Leader: So pour out Your Spirit upon us and may our hearts and our hands be open wide to receive Your gifts of abundant life. Amen.
People: Thanks be to God---Father, Son and Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen.

***HYMN 239** *Come Down, O Love Divine* DOWN AMPNEY

(see next page)

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Loving God, we know that in every generation You call forth prophets to proclaim Your word. We give You thanks that You are still speaking even today. Your Spirit inspires the young to see visions of a new creation and elders to dream of a time not yet known. Yet we confess that we fail to hear Your voice when it comes from a surprising people in unexpected places. Convinced that we are right, we miss the Good News of Your reconciling love. Forgive us, God. Restore us with humility and awaken us anew to Your presence and Your promise. Amen.

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Come Down, O Love Divine

Bianco da Siena, c. 1367
Tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833-1890

DOWN AMPNEY 6.6.11.D.
R. Vaughan Williams, 1872-

THE HOLY SPIRIT

CCLI # 3034682

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS **Genesis 11:1-9**

Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. And as they migrated from the east, they came upon a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar.

Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a namefor ourselves; otherwise we shall be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth."The LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which mortals had built. And the LORD said, "Look, they are one people, and they have all one language; and this is only the beginning of what they will do; nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. Come, let us go down, and confuse their language there, so that they will not understand one another's speech." So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. Therefore it was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"

But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

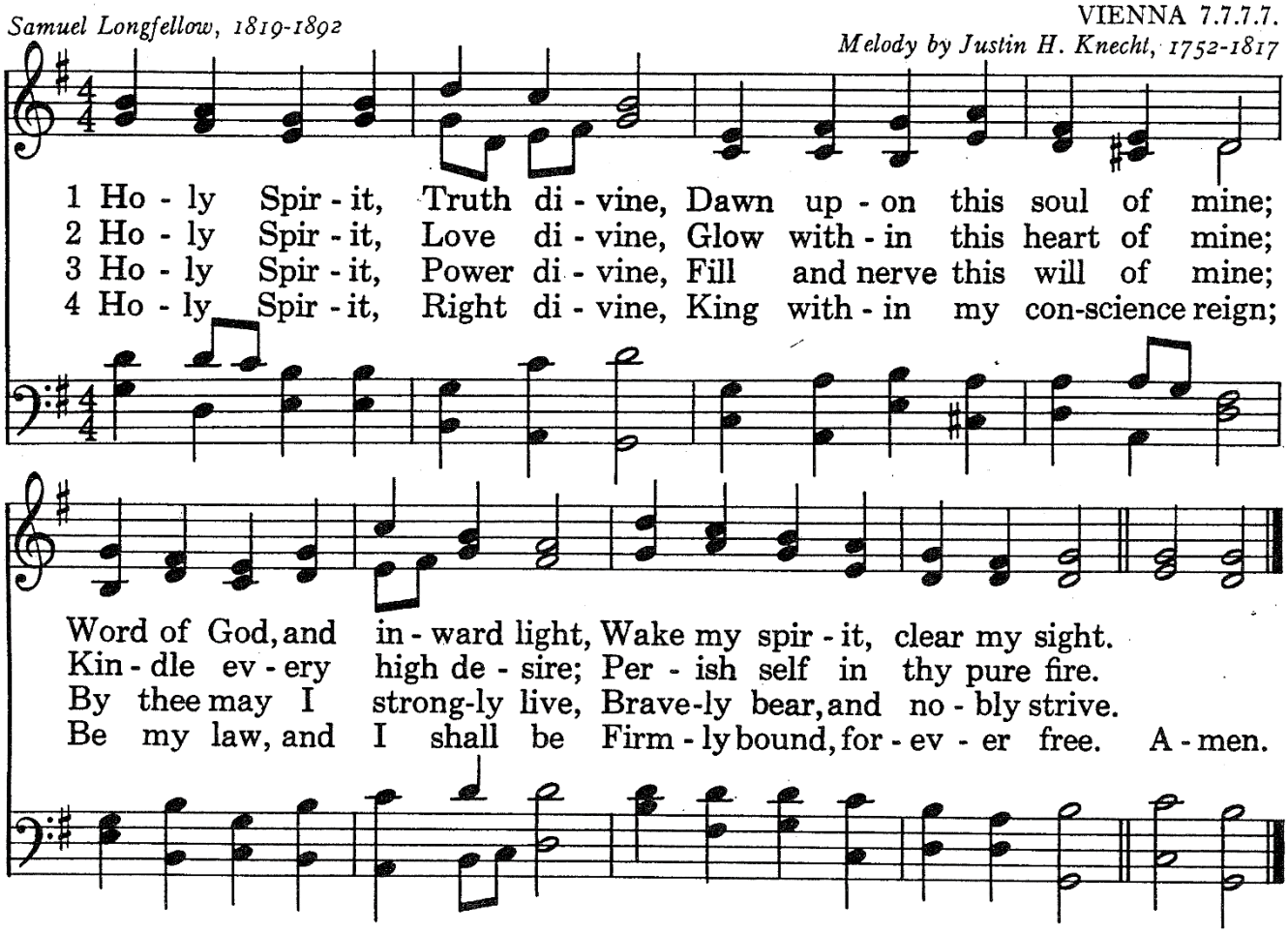
GRATIA TIBI *Thanks Be to Thee* T. Tallis
(1505 – 1585)

ANTHEM *This Little Light of Mine* Traditional Spiritual
arr. Helvey

SERMON "Voices Together" Rev. Dr. Andrew W. Armstrong

***HYMN 243** *Holy Spirit, Truth Divine* VIENNA
(see next page)

Holy Spirit, Truth Divine



THE HOLY SPIRIT

CCLI # 3034682

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

THE PROMISE OF PENTECOST

Leader: Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord fills the world.

People: Let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God. Alleluia!

Leader: With tongues of fire, the Spirit kindles the apostle's zeal.

People: They declare in new tongues the wonderful works of God.

Leader: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. And blessed be his kingdom now and forever.

People: Alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit!

All: Fill the hearts of Your faithful people with your love. Alleluia!

PRAYER CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYERS and PASTORAL PRAYER

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 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.

PRAYER RESPONSE *Holy, Holy, Holy* F. Schubert
(1797 – 1828)
arr. Ehret

OFFERTORY *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* J. S. Bach
(1685 – 1750)

***DOXOLOGY 515** OLD HUNDRETH LM

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (Unison)

Holy God, You have given Yourself to us in Creation, in Christ, in the Spirit. We now give back to You: this money that seems so little; this worship that seems so small; these words that never quite get it right. Receive what we offer and transform it by the power of Your Spirit into: more than enough money, praise, and proclamation of Your kingdom come through Jesus Christ. Amen

***HYMN 245** *Gracious Spirit, Dwell With Me* REDHEAD NO. 76

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Alternative tune, RATISBON, *No. 43*

CCLI # 3034682

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTUS** *Grant Us To Do With Zeal* J. S. Bach
(1685 – 1750)
arr. Treharne

POSTLUDE *Choral* M. Duruflé
from *Prélude, Adagio et Choral varié sur le thème du "Veni Creator" – Op. 4* *(1902 – 1986)*

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED; OUR SERVICE BEGINS

Have you remembered The First Church in your will?

AV TEAM: Lee Hauenstein and Dale Neth

LICENSING: CCLI (print) 3034682; CCLI (streaming) 20119862; CCS 12820; OneLicense A-736284

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HEARING AIDS AND LARGE PRINT OF HYMNS AND PRAYERS
ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

PLEASE USE THE VARIOUS CARDS IN THE PEW RACKS TO HELP KEEP THE STAFF INFORMED OF YOUR PASTORAL NEEDS. YOU MAY ALSO SUBMIT PRAYER CONCERNS ONLINE. FIND THE **PRAYER REQUEST** BUTTON ON THE WORSHIP PAGE FOR ANY PRAYER CONCERNS YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH REV. NANCY.

PENTECOST

Music at First – Pentecost 2025

The First Church of Nashua

Joseph R. Olefirowicz, CAGO - Minister of Music

Men's Choir

TENOR 1

Steve Everitt
Harry Nordyke
Scott Taylor

TENOR 2

John Englander
Charlie Morris
Craig Neth
Joseph R. Olefirowicz

BASS 1

Joshua L. Gore
David Hotham
Don Smith-Weiss
Bill Thompson

BASS 2

Mark Cleveland
Ray Crowell
George Gardner
Ken Heider
Scott Oglesby
Bill Thorp

Summer Worship Schedule

June 1st – September 7th, 2025
One Service at 9:00 am
In-person Worship and Livestream
WSMN 95.3 FM, 1590 AM
Sunday School and Nursery Care on break through the summer

RALLY DAY – Sunday, September 14th
One Service at 10:00 am
In-person Worship and Livestream
WSMN 95.3 FM, 1590 AM
Sunday School and Nursery Care resume

Church Happenings and Outreach - New/Current

SUNDAY SCHOOL/NURSERY CARE – Sunday School and Nursery Care are on a break for the summer months. Busy bags are available at the Welcome Center for children who attend worship with their family. We look forward to seeing you on **Rally Day, September 14th at 10:00 am!**

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION- The last event until the Fall for the Women's Association will be our Spring potluck and Yankee Swap on **Monday, June 9th at 6 PM in the dining room**. This is such a fun evening and we hope to see many new faces. It's such a terrific way to get to know other women in the church. We will have a true potluck where you can bring your favorite dish to share....main dish, salad, dessert and you don't have to sign up for what you will bring. The Yankee Swap gifts should be kept to the $10-$15 range. Sign up at the Welcome Center.

HOLIDAY FAIR COMMITTEE- The Holiday Fair is well underway. If you would like to participate in planning, volunteering, or preparations, the next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, June 10th at 10 am in room 15.** The Holiday Fair will take place November 7th-9th. We look forward to seeing you!

WOMEN'S CHOIR – Women of The First Church are invited to sing in worship on **Sunday, June 29th at 9:00 am**. There will be one rehearsal on **Wednesday, June 25th at 6:30 pm**. Contact Joseph Olefirowicz with any questions jolefirowicz@tfcucc.org

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STORIES FROM THE CAMINO DE SANTIAGO- Join us **Sunday, June 29th at 10:15 AM** in the Dining Room for a special presentation following worship. Rev. Andy will be sharing reflections, stories, and photos from his recent walk along the Camino de Santiago—a centuries-old pilgrimage route in Spain. Whether you're curious about the spiritual journey, the physical challenge, or just enjoy a good story well told, you won't want to miss it. **Beverages and pastries will be provided**—come for the fellowship, stay for the inspiration!

Music in Worship Next Week

Sunday, June 15, 2025 – First Sunday after Pentecost, Trinity Sunday

9:00 Joseph R. Olefirowicz, baritone

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

SUN JUN 8	9:00 am	Worship, Livestream, Radio Broadcast
MON JUN 9	6:00 pm	Women's Association Potluck (dining room)
TUE JUN 10	10:00 am	Holiday Fair Planning (room 15)
	4:00 pm	Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter
	7:00 pm	Thank You Project (room 10)
THU JUN 12	10:00 am	Thrift Shop (last date until Sept.)
	6:30 pm	Quilt Guild (dining room)
SAT JUN 14	11:00 am	Sisters in Sobriety (dining room)

SUMMER MUSIC SCHEDULE 2025

Each summer, while the music ministry ensembles are on summer break, members of The First Church and the outside community bring their music offerings to our summer worship service at 9am.

The following individuals and seasonal ensembles will enhance our worship services...

June 8	**MEN'S CHOIR (TTBB)**
June 15	**JOSEPH R. OLEFIROWICZ, baritone**
June 22	**NICOLE PLUMMER, mezzo soprano**
June 29	**WOMEN'S CHOIR (SA)**
July 6	**KATIE WEISS, soprano**
July 13	**TIMOTHY SKINNER, clarinet**
July 20	**JOHNATHAN STERLING, piano**
July 27	**SUMMER CHOIR (SATB)**
August 3	**DEBBIE NORDYKE, mezzo soprano**
	HARRY NORDYKE, tenor & guitar
August 10	**RICHARD BENEFIELD, organ**
August 17	**SUSAN COBB, soprano**
August 24	**CRAIG PLUMMER, tenor**
August 31	**JOSEPH R. OLEFIROWICZ, piano**
September 7	**MARK A. CLEVELAND, bass-baritone**

THE FIRST CHURCH

NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

STAFF

Senior Minister, *Rev. Dr. Andrew W. Armstrong*, aarmstrong@tfcucc.org
Associate Minister, *Rev. Nancy Haynes*, nhaynes@tfcucc.org
Minister of Music, *Joseph R. Olefirowicz-MA,CAGO,* jolefirowicz@tfcucc.org
Church Business and Marketing Manager, *Dianne Smigliani*, dsmigliani@tfcucc.org
Office Manager, *Tasha Drew,* tdrew@tfcucc.org
Christian Formation Coordinator, *Amanda Steere*, asteere@tfcucc.org
Interim Sexton, *Bruce Lund,* blund@tfcucc.org

Pastors Emeriti, *Rev. James S. Chaloner and Rev. Dr. Jeffrey C. Evans*

WELCOME

A warm welcome is extended to all who are attending this worship service. A special greeting to those who are visiting or worshiping with us for the first time. Please fill out the **visitor card** found in the pew racks. Fill out the back of the card, and put it in the offering plate or hand it to a minister, Usher or Deacon so we may acknowledge your visit. Join in the time of fellowship, in Fellowship Hall, following worship. If you have any questions about the life and ministry of The First Church please seek out the individuals wearing colored nametags; they are members of the various boards and committees.

INFORMATION

The First Church was gathered on December 16, 1685 as The Church of Christ in Dunstable. On the same day Thomas Weld was ordained and settled as minister of the church. The current building, built in 1894, is the tenth building to house the First Church community. In 1961, the church entered fellowship with the United Church of Christ. We welcome into our membership any who will own the covenant of The First Church and seek to continue the ministry of Jesus Christ in the community and world. Those interested in joining the church should contact the church office for information. The Sacrament of Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month and the Sacrament of Baptism on the last. The First Church is supported almost entirely by pledges. Every member is expected to make a financial pledge according to their ability.

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care is available to all in need. Please keep the ministers informed of occasions of sickness, sorrow, and joy. Let the church office know if you or a family member or friend are hospitalized.

COMMUNICATIONS

If you have a change of address, phone number, or email address, please let the church office know so that we may keep our records current. All information for the weekly bulletin must be in the office by noon on Tuesday. All information for the monthly newsletter must be in the office by 4:00 PM on the second Monday of the month (August through May).

All use of the building must be scheduled by the Office Manager.

THE FIRST CHURCH

One Concord Street - Nashua, New Hampshire 03064 - 603-882-4861

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00am-noon and 1:00-4:00pm, Friday 9:00am-noon

www.tfcucc.org