

An asterisk () indicates times when you are invited to stand. Selections in **BOLD** are responses spoken by the congregation.*

Welcome and Announcements

Deacon

Prelude

Prelude
Don Luis Milan (c. 1500 – c. 1561)

Norman McFarlane

Call to Worship

Isaiah 58: 9, 11

Deacon

One: When we call...

All: God will answer.

One: When we cry for help...

All: God will say, "Here I am".

One: When the way before us is uncertain...

All: God will guide us and satisfy our longings.

One: Our God, Who answers, guides, and says "Here I am", is now among us.

All: With grateful voices, let us worship this God together!

Gathering HymnFor the Beauty of the Earth*

PH 66

Message for All

Sarah Pradhan

Deacons will collect Joy and Concern cards at this time.

It is a "we all worship together Sunday." There will be no Sunday School. After the message for all, children are welcome to spend time in the playground or sit with their grownups.

Unison Prayer of Invocation

You are with us always, Holy One! You were with us last week when we worshiped in a different place. You were with us as we departed last Sunday, and remained at our sides throughout the past seven days: guiding us...consoling us...sharing our joys...surprising us. This morning, you have beckoned us to another place of worship, where your Spirit will continue to guide, console, bring joy and surprise us. Our senses are alert, our souls are hungry, our minds are open now. Inspire us, we pray, to be transformed and empowered to serve in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Scripture

Deacon

As we hear the words of scripture

Let us listen in the words for the Word of God.

I Corinthians 2: 1-5, 12-13 (*New Revised Standard Version*)

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

The grass withers and the flower fades
But the Word of God shall stand forever

Communion Meditation “The Many Forms of Sacrifice” The Rev. Chuck Ericson

Prayers of the People for the World The Rev. Chuck Ericson

The Lord’s Prayer The Rev. Chuck Ericson

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, now and forever. Amen.

Choir Anthem *Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether*
Harold W. Friedell (1905-1958)

Holy Communion

Invitation:

One: As we gather here this day, we remember that many others are also gathered to celebrate this sacrament.

All: Like us, they are sharing the bread and the cup at many tables in houses of worship nearby and far away.

One: Some receive in person, and some receive virtually at home.

All: However the sacrament is offered, may we remember that this is the ultimate symbol of unity.

One: Our table is set and all of God’s children are welcome.

All: Our table is open and all of God’s children receive grace, love, and hope.

One: This welcome, this bounty, and this experience of Christ’s saving love...

All: ...are all celebrated here at this table, and at tables like ours all around the world.

Prayer of Consecration:

One: O Savior Christ, in whose way of life lies the secret of all life, and the hopes of all the people, we pray for quiet courage to meet this hour. We did not choose to be born or to live in such an age. But let its problems challenge us, its discoveries exhilarate us, its injustices anger us, its possibilities inspire us, and its vigor renew us, for your Kingdom’s sake.

All: Bless this cup and this bread, that they may nourish us for the journey together in hope. Amen.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of your Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***Benediction**

The Rev. Chuck Ericson

***Parting Song** *God Be With You 'Till We Meet Again (modified)*

**God be with You till we meet again.
By God's counsels guide, uphold you.
God will place arms all around you.
God be with you till we meet again.**

Postlude

Orgelstück
Julius Gloger (19th century)

Norman McFarlane

Today's Communion Liturgy is adapted from "Jesus Sets the Table for the World, Service Prayers for World Communion Sunday" prepared by the UCC Southern Asia Initiative of Global Ministries.

Our Guest Minister

Rev. Chuck Ericson is a retired UCC minister who currently lives in Hebron with his wife Jane. He began his education in the Wethersfield public schools and followed that up receiving a B.S. in Psychology from Trinity College and an M.Div. from Andover Newton Theological School. Chuck served as pastor of the Bolton Congregational Church for 32 years and more recently served as an Interim Regional Minister as the Southern New England Conference of the UCC was being formed. He has assisted church leaders in preparing for pastoral transitions, searching for interim and permanent pastoral leadership, and mediating conflicts. Chuck, a longtime supporter of the Silver Lake Conference Center, has also been active as a facilitator and trainer and served as the Director and Primary Teacher for the Hartford Seminary's Associates in Christian Education program for 12 years.

Chuck enjoys hiking, golf, songwriting and playing guitar and in 2007 released a CD featuring 12 original Christmas themed songs entitled "Pause".

OneLicense A-722137 grants permission for music use

This is an Open and Affirming Church

We affirm the dignity and worth of every person, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, race, mental or physical ability or sexual orientation. We offer sacraments and rites to all who enter our circle of faith. We celebrate the gifts that each person brings to Granby Congregational Church and invite them to share in all areas of its service, leadership, activities, responsibilities and privileges.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!