

THE SANBORNTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Established November 13, 1771

THE ORDER FOR MORNING WORSHIP

April 21, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

PASSING THE PEACE and WELCOME Sue Long
ONE: Peace of Christ be with you.
ALL: And also with you!

WE ARE AN ACTIVE CHURCH - FINDING FAITH IN WHAT WE DO

MOMENT OF CENTERING Sue Long
We invite you to listen to the music and abide in God's presence.

PRELUDE Prelude on "O Blessed Spring" James Biery

GATHERING and PRAYING

*HYMN #17 To You, O God, All Creatures Sing Lasst Uns Erfreuen

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

One: God calls us through green pastures and dark valleys.

All: We gather to hear the hopeful, loving word of our good shepherd.

One: God calls us to be shepherds as well! And God's flock is quite large.

All: We gather to learn how to nurture and protect all of God's children.

INTROIT Come Into This Place of Peace Laura Belanger

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION** (*Unison*)

**Wondrous Creator, we would ask that you fill us with your spirit
this morning, but you already have.**

**You have filled our eyes with budding trees, our ears with birdsong,
and our noses with the scent of rich soil,
pregnant with your resurrection promise.**

**You have held our bodies lovingly in the palm of your green Earth
as we prepared for worship.**

**We pray that we feel your spirit already within us,
and see it within every beloved being of your creation. Amen.**

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Now we confess all those things that keep us from knowing and spreading
God's love.

***CONFESSION**

**O God, you long to hold us in a loving embrace,
and we wander away seeking comfort in things that do not last.**

**You have charged us with stewarding your creation,
and instead we exploit it mercilessly for our own ends.**

**You teach us how to be good shepherds to our siblings in need,
and yet we close our ears to their cries, hoarding your gifts for ourselves.**

We repent and strive to turn our feet to your path once again. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Thankfully, our redemption is grounded in God's everlasting love and mercy,
not in our countless failed attempts to do the right thing. We are beloved. And
as many times as we try, fail, and try again, we are forgiven.

ANTHEM How Shall I Sing That Majesty? Tune, Coe Fen, arr. Ryan Hebert

PASTORAL 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 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

CHORAL RESPONSE Prayer of Julian of Norwich Carson P. Cooman
God, of your goodness, give yourself to me, for you are enough for me. Only in you do I
have everything. Amen. Julian of Norwich (1342-c.1416)

*HYMN #247 My Shepherd Is the Living God Consolation

REFLECTING

GOSPEL [John 10:11-18](#) Joyce Dunwoody
SCRIPTURE [1 John 3:16-24](#) Alison Thatcher

REFLECTION "Good Shepherding" Alison Thatcher
Moment of Silent Meditation

COMMITTING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC Trio on "In Babilone" Michael Bedford

*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. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of Abundance, we thank you for the plentiful gift that is this Earth.

**Remind us that the more we give of ourselves to tend it,
the more gifts it will yield.**

**We pray that the portion we give back this morning will be like fresh soil
turned into the garden to nourish the next crop.**

May that next crop be peace, love, and justice for your world. Amen.

*HYMN #556 God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens Holy Manna

*BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE Postlude Cantique Théodore Dubois

*We invite you to be seated to listen to the postlude;
if you need to leave, please do so quietly. Thank you.*

***As comfortable, please rise.**

WELCOME to Sanbornton Congregational Church, UCC

Visit our website to read our newsletter (The Belfry) www.uccsanbornton.org

Follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/sanborntonuccchurch>

Watch us on our YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAeFubn0S3JWWB0xKxiNgHw>

Today we welcome Alison Thatcher, Member in Discernment, as our guest pastor.

Alison is a member of Plymouth Congregational UCC where she serves as the office administrator and leads the anti racism task force. She is also a member in discernment in the Merrimack Association. She lives in Ashland with her husband, seven year-old child, one cat, and two bunnies.

Bulletins for youth, puzzle minded folk and young at heart, are available each week in person as you enter the sanctuary, via [this link](#) and by email. They are filled with puzzles that relate to the readings each week.

To receive these by email, send a request to us at uccsanbornton@gmail.com.

Hearing Devices: Clif is happy to provide anyone with an assistive hearing device for today's worship service.

Altar Flowers: Thank you Joyce Dunwoody for bringing the lovely daffodils last week for the altar. Altar flowers donations are always welcome! If you would like to place flowers on the Altar in memory or honor of someone or if you just want to bless the congregation, please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the Undercroft and bring the flowers Sunday morning.

Fellowship Snacks - The Hospitality committee welcomes your donation of snacks for our weekly time of fellowship after church. The sign up sheet is in the Undercroft and ready for your name. THANK YOU!

Prayer Requests: If you would like to make a prayer request to be lifted during worship, please write it down on the "prayer request" sheet in the back of the sanctuary. Those at home can email uccsanbornton@gmail.com or fill out a [prayer request](#) from our website.

Scripture Reading – Joyce Dunwoody

Ushers - Brendan Morrison & Clif Mills

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Seekers meet on the first and third Wednesday of every month at 10 am in the Undercroft.

Crafting in the Undercroft meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. We welcome anyone who wants to be creative, write, paint, glue, tie knots, sit and socialize! You do NOT need experience in crafting. If you would like to craft but can't make it on Wednesdays, we have "home crafters" who are working on small projects during the week. See Sue Long if you want to be connected with one of our crafters for an at home project!

First Fruits - Donations can be left in the cart in the back of the sanctuary. First Fruits is always in need of our contributions, especially toiletries.

Please send announcements and calendar additions for the bulletin to our church email: uccsanbornton@gmail.com by Friday at 9am to be included in Sunday's bulletin. Thanks!

WANTED - Spring clean-up for our church grounds - Have you noticed that we need a little plant and shrubbery maintenance around our building? Is that your talent? This is a form of stewardship we are in need of. Sign-up downstairs ASAP! 🌻

Employment opportunity Are you looking for a few extra dollars in your pocket each week? If you are available for a few hours on Mondays and Thursdays, have a reliable car and would like to support Bread and Roses, please see Brendan Morrison for more information.

*OLD HOME DAY preparations are underway!
Please take a look at the sign-up sheet in the Undercroft for
ways to help before July 13, 2024 and on Old Home Day.*

SUMMER CAMPS

The Horton Center has many opportunities for campers of ALL AGES! There is a poster on the bulletin board in the Undercroft that outlines the 2024 schedule.

<https://www.hortoncenter.org/summer-sessions>



The Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) has summer choral residencies (for all ages) all over the United States this summer, including Washington, D.C. Visit

rscmamerica.org/2024-residencies for more information.



The New Hampshire Conference is planning to have a delegation of youth from across the state attend the Regional Youth Event (for grades 7-12 and their youth leaders), July 28-31. Significant scholarship support is available. If you would like to be a part of the New Hampshire team attending the Regional Youth Event, please register

<https://www.silverlakect.org/campsession/18183657> and then please send a copy of your registration confirmation to grankin@nhcucc.org.



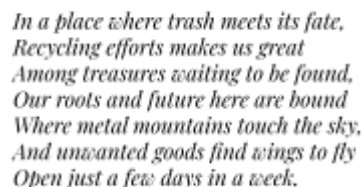
COMMUNITY EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS

National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day On Saturday, April 27, from 10 am to 2 pm the Sanbornton Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration will host DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day at locations across the country. DEA and its partners will collect tablets, capsules, patches, and other solid forms of prescription drugs. Liquid products, such as cough syrup, should remain sealed in their original container. The cap must be tightly sealed to prevent leakage. The Sanbornton Police Department is located at 573 Sanborn Road. This is a **free and anonymous** disposal of unneeded medications.

Old Home Day Town-Wide Scavenger Hunt April 20 - May 31

If you're familiar with geocaching, it's much like that! There are ten clues and ten locations to visit throughout town anytime between April 20th and May 31st. At each location, there is a canister in a handicap accessible spot also accessible during all hours on weekdays and weekends. This is fun for all ages and we hope you include all of the generations in your family! Two winners will be chosen, to be our two Grand Marshals: one to honor our roots, one to embrace our future.

Here's the first clue



*In a place where trash meets its fate,
Recycling efforts makes us great
Among treasures waiting to be found,
Our roots and future here are bound
Where metal mountains touch the sky,
And unwanted goods find wings to fly
Open just a few days in a week,*

FREE Adult Potluck, sponsored by The Sanbornton Recreation Department, happens every 3rd Wednesday of the month, 11 am - 1 pm, at the First Baptist Church Vestry, 17 Church Lane, Sanbornton. Along with a good meal, listen to the guest speakers scheduled.

May 15, 2024: Erinn Sopinsky from Strategic Caring Solutions will be there to give a presentation about the services provided to help assist families with how to manage assets during a crisis, with proper legal documents, creating long-term care plans and other various types of care before and during times of crisis.

June 12, 2024: Chief Dexter, Sanbornton Fire Chief

July 17, 2024: Katy Magoon-Fredette, Registered Dietician., will talk about the RD program that Hannaford offers. She will bring a fun summer recipe demo that can be eaten.

Sanbornton's Town Wide Yard Sale is planned for Saturday, May 11, 2024. Maps will be created as the date gets closer. To be included on the map, add your address to the list on We Love Sanbornton's Facebook page.

A puzzle from this week's youth bulletin.

Shepherds who don't value their sheep run away when wolves come. But what does the Good Shepherd do?

Find the answer to each math problem.

Use the code to find what the Good Shepherd does.

1 = A 5 = H 9 = O 13 = W

2 = D 6 = I 10 = P 14 = Y

3 = E 7 = L 11 = R

4 = F 8 = N 12 = S

$\frac{\quad}{3+2}$ $\frac{\quad}{7-4}$ $\frac{\quad}{9-2}$ $\frac{\quad}{5-4}$ $\frac{\quad}{6+8}$ $\frac{\quad}{6+6}$

$\frac{\quad}{4-2}$ $\frac{\quad}{11-2}$ $\frac{\quad}{9+4}$ $\frac{\quad}{3+5}$ $\frac{\quad}{7-2}$ $\frac{\quad}{3+3}$ $\frac{\quad}{6 \times 2}$

$\frac{\quad}{12-5}$ $\frac{\quad}{3 \times 2}$ $\frac{\quad}{2 \times 2}$ $\frac{\quad}{5-2}$ $\frac{\quad}{11-7}$ $\frac{\quad}{2+7}$ $\frac{\quad}{7+4}$

$\frac{\quad}{9-4}$ $\frac{\quad}{11-5}$ $\frac{\quad}{3+9}$ $\frac{\quad}{24-12}$ $\frac{\quad}{8-3}$ $\frac{\quad}{2+1}$ $\frac{\quad}{1+2}$ $\frac{\quad}{4+6}$

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 Established November 13, 1771

April 2024

21	Sunday	10:00	Worship Service in-person and Live Streaming with Alison Thatcher, Member in Discernment
<i>Belfry articles due soon - Send articles to uccsanbornton@gmail.com</i>			
24	Wednesday	10:00	Crafting in the Undercroft
25	Thursday	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
28	Sunday	10:00	Worship Service in-person and Live Streaming with The Rev. Dr. Nancy A. De Vries, HR

May 2024

1	Wednesday	10:00	Seekers
2	Thursday	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
5	Sunday	10:00	Worship Service in-person and Live Streaming with Burrett McBee
8	Wednesday	10:00	Crafting in the Undercroft
9	Thursday	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
11	Saturday		Town Wide Yard Sale
12	Sunday	10:00	Worship Service in-person and Live Streaming with Rev. Rebecca Macinni <i>Mother's Day</i>
15	Wednesday	10:00	Seekers
15	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Church Council Meeting - Zoom



www.uccsanbornton.org