

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

THE ORDER FOR MORNING WORSHIP

November 26, 2023

Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

MEDITATIVE THOUGHT: “Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.” — William Arthur Ward

We invite you to listen to the music and abide in God's presence.

PRELUDE	“Choral Prelude on ‘Hollingside’”	Alec Rowley
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WELCOME Rev. Paula Gile

PASSING THE PEACE MOMENT OF CENTERING

GATHERING and PRAYING

*HYMN #292 “Breath on Me, breath of God” Trentham

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

One: Praise God, the giver of life.

All: Praise God, who blesses our world.

One: Praise God, who heals our wounds

ALL: Praise God, who cares for our needs.

One: Praise God, the giver and maker of all.

*INTROIT “God’s Love” Richard Shephard

PRAYER OF INVOCATION *(Unison)*

Generous God of abundance and life, thank you for the many gifts of our lives. Thank you for this time of worship, for your constant presence, for your healing love. Thank you, thank you, thank you. In gratitude and joy we pray. Amen

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

Sovereign God, we confess that life is hard. We don't always make the best choices, and all too often we realize the options before us are lacking. We are overwhelmed with the enormity of the world's problems. Sometimes, we turn away completely. Sometimes, we respond with our tribal allegiances first. Bitterness and resentment are easy guides. Help us seek wisdom and clarity, compassion and presence, hope and peace over shallow victories, material gain, and violence of the mind, body, or spirit. Bless us to be peacemakers, hope sharers, and love spreaders in the world for our neighbors and for your glory. Amen

WORDS OF GRACE

Friends, God is merciful and journeys with us as we navigate uncertain terrain. God is still at work in us and through us that we might have flourishing and abundant lives in community with one another. Receive the grace God grants to begin anew when our journey stalls or diverts from the path of the kingdom. That grace is yours

ANTHEM

“With A Voice of Singing”

Martin Shaw

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

“Pastoral Amen”

Laura Belanger

*HYMN #14

“How Can I Say Thanks”

My Tribute

REFLECTING

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 1: 15-18

Ed LeBel

MEDITATION

“Thanks for Nothing”

Rev. Paula Gile

Moment of Silent Meditation

COMMITTING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

“Jesus, My Sure Defense”

Christian Fink

*DOXOLOGY

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

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Generous God, we bring the gifts of ourselves and our abundance. Magnify and multiply these offerings to meet the needs before us. Continue to cultivate the spirit of generosity among us and make us good stewards as we allocate the use of these gifts in your name. Amen

FINDING FAITH IN WHAT WE DO

*HYMN “Christ Triumphant, Ever Reigning” Guiting Power
See Insert

***BENEDICTION**

ORGAN POSTLUDE "Toccata on 'Lift Up Your Heads'" Gilbert Martin

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

If you are new or visiting the area, we give you a special welcome.

Visit our website for the monthly newsletter (Belfry) and past sermons.

www.uccsanbornton.org

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

Watch us on our YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAeFubn0S3JWWB0xKxiNgHw>

Hearing Devices: We have hearing assistance devices available. Please see Clif for assistance.

Altar Flowers: 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 - Please sign up to bring snacks for fellowship so the Hospitality committee can plan accordingly!

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 Pastor Paula or fill out a prayer request from our website.

Worship begins when Laura Belanger plays three chimes before starting the prelude. At that time, respecting our on-line family, please limit conversation so that our friends at home can hear the prelude.

Scripture Reading – Ed LeBel

Ushers - Barbara Osler and Cheryl Provost

ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Fruits - First Fruits is in need of toiletries and food for the food shelf.

It's Stewardship Time - If you weren't able to bring in a pledge card last week please bring it in soon or email Laurie Greci, Financial Secretary with your pledge.

Our Annual Christmas Fair is in less than a week - Saturday, December 2nd, 9am-2pm in the Undercroft. There will be regular posts on our Facebook page, with teasers about what we will be selling. Please share those posts with your friends!

We DO need your donations!

Pease let the following people know if you plan to donate:

Gently used books ~ **no textbooks or dictionaries please** Susan Bayer and Mary Ruth Scott

Baked goods ~ **packaged and ready to sell** Barbara Osler and Mae Burke

Other items:

★ If you have a holiday decoration or ornament in good condition, we would gladly accept it. When donating, please ask yourself if you would buy it. 😊

★ If you are making a new item for the sale, please suggest a price for each item.

We will have a wonderful collection of newly handcrafted gifts & decorations, vintage decorations, books, baked goods and SOAP. We have 3 custom made soaps that will be for sale at the Fair. Plymouth Soapworks helped us design a soap that celebrates our pipe organ, another that highlights our memorial stained glass windows, and a final one that reminds us to celebrate the Advent Season. We are especially thrilled that Robert Ladew is creating wood soap trays that can be added to your soap purchase.

First Fruits Christmas Baskets We are collecting donations for First Fruits Christmas Baskets. Our list of needed items is as follows: 20 containers of mustard, 20 cans of pineapple slices, 20 cans of cream of mushroom soup and 20 bottles of juice. Thank you for your donations! We will be collecting them on the pew in the narthex in the first few weeks of the advent season.

Save the date! Family and Community Christmas Carol sing-a-long December 17th @ 4pm in the sanctuary. Carols and secular songs of the season for the whole family to enjoy. Invite your neighbors and friends!



www.uccsanbornton.org

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November

26	Sunday	10:00	Worship Services in-person and Live Streaming
29	Wednesday	9:30	Crafting in the Undercroft - the last one!

December

1	Friday		Set-up for Annual Christmas Fair
2	Saturday	9am - 2pm	Annual Christmas Fair - bring a friend!
3	Sunday	10:00	Worship Services in-person and Live Streaming 1st Sunday in Advent
5	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>7:00</i>	<i>Choir Rehearsal</i>
6	Wednesday	10:00	Seekers
10	Sunday	10:00	Worship Services in-person and Live Streaming 2nd Sunday in Advent
14	Thursday	7:00	Choir Rehearsal
17	Sunday	10:00	Worship Services in-person and Live Streaming 3rd Sunday in Advent
17	Sunday	4:00	Community Family Christmas Carol Sing in Sanctuary
20	Wednesday	10:00	Seekers
24	Sunday	10:00	Worship Services in-person and Live Streaming 4th Sunday in Advent
24	Sunday	7:00	Christmas Eve Service
31	Sunday	10:00	Worship Services in-person and Live Streaming