

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

THE ORDER FOR MORNING WORSHIP

March 23, 2025

Third Sunday in Lent

WELCOME

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

PASSING THE PEACE and MOMENT OF CENTERING

ONE: Peace of Christ be with you.

**ALL: And also with you!**

MOMENT OF CENTERING

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

PRELUDE            O Sacred Head, Now Wounded            Bach/Pachelbel

**GATHERING and PRAYING**

\*HYMN #108            Isaiah the Prophet Has Written of Old            Judas and Mary

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O God, you are my God.

**People: I seek you, my soul thirsts for you;  
my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land  
where there is no water.**

Leader: So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,  
beholding your power and your glory.

**People: Because your steadfast love is better than life,  
my lips will praise you.**

**Unison: So I will bless you as long as I live;  
I will lift up my hands and call on your name.**

\*INTROIT                      Be Still                                      Laura Belanger

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (UNISON)

**Most holy God, we do not take off our shoes for worship, nor do we set you apart in a holy of holies visited only by priests. Still, we come to you with awe and wonder, aware of the mystery of life, reverent before your holy love and power. Sharpen our awareness of the sacred; startle us with the joy of discipleship; and strengthen us to accept the cost of following Jesus Christ. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

ANTHEM                      My Song Is Love Unknown                                      John Ireland, arr. Kirkby

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 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                      A Simple Amen                                      Laura Belanger

\*HYMN #586                      Come to Tend God's Garden                                      King's Weston

## REFLECTING

SCRIPTURE

[Isaiah 55:1-9 and Luke 13:1-9](#)

Dennis Akerman

MEDITATION

Rev. Richard Slater

## COMMITTING

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY AND STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

Johann Walther

\*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 AND DEDICATION (UNISON)

**Loving God, we know that all good gifts come to us from your hand. We are grateful for each of the gifts we enjoy in life. In gratitude we offer our gifts, asking that you would bless them as we seek to advance the work of your church and promote your ways on earth. Amen.**

\*HYMN #202

O God, How We Have Wandered

Passion Chorale

\*BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Christ, the Life of All the Living

Friedrich W. Zachow

*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**

*Please join us in the Undercroft for  
refreshment and fellowship after worship.*

**We welcome Rev. Richard Slater** and thank him for leading us in worship. Rev. Slater has agreed to serve as regular pulpit supply through mid-June 2025.

**We want you to hear all parts of today's service!** If you have difficulty hearing any part of our worship service, please let an usher know so we can fix it!

**We have THREE types of bulletins each week** including youth bulletins for puzzle minded folk and young at heart which are available each week in person and digitally with [this link](#).

**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 [prayerrequests@uccsanbornton.org](mailto:prayerrequests@uccsanbornton.org) or fill out a [prayer request](#) from our website.

**Thank you** to today's **ushers** Rhu McBee & Cheryl Provost and today's **reader** Dennis Akerman.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

One Great Hour of Sharing, part of Our Church's Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. One Great Hour of Sharing also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response. **Sanbornton Congregational Church will take this collection on March 30, 2025.** If you would like to contribute before March 30, envelopes are available as you enter the sanctuary or mail your contribution to Sanbornton Congregational Church, UCC, PO Box 126, Sanbornton, NH 03269 attention: Financial Secretary.



### DATES to REMEMBER

Sunday, April 13, 2025	Palm/Passion Sunday
Thursday, April 17, 2025	Maundy Thursday
Friday, April 18, 2025	Good Friday
Sunday, April 20, 2025	Easter Sunday

**Easter Sunday Garden** This year we will once again create a community garden on our altar for Easter Sunday. We ask anyone who is willing to bring in potted spring flowers for use on the altar for Easter Sunday. They can be dropped off at the church between Sunday, April 13 through Saturday, April 19. At the end of the Easter service, please take it home with you to enjoy. These plants can be ones you purchase for the occasion OR one that you have nurtured at home and want to share for the day. Thank you for helping to create our Easter Sunday Garden.

**Seekers Bible Study Group** meets on the first and third Wednesday of every month at 10 am in the Undercroft. The first path of study, learning and reflection will focus on four unique stories of women in the Bible. Curriculum materials are available in the Undercroft for anyone interested, even if you can't come to the meeting. All are welcome!

**CRAFTERS** are meeting on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 10 am. Join us as we create keepsakes and fill Easter Eggs for Sanbornton Recreation Department's Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Come for crafting, egg stuffing, coffee or just wonderful fellowship.

**Fellowship Snacks** - The Hospitality committee welcomes your donation of snacks for our weekly time of fellowship after church. Please join us after worship today for hot coffee, tea and a tasty treat or two.

**Announcements and calendar additions for Sunday's bulletin** can be submitted by Friday at 9 am through [administrator@uccsanbornton.org](mailto:administrator@uccsanbornton.org) or by contacting Sue Long.

**First Fruits** is always in need of and grateful for our contributions, especially toiletries.

**Belknap House** is in need of **cleaning supplies**. Donations can be placed in the appropriate receptacles which are in the back of the sanctuary.

**Read our history, listen to our organ, keep up to date on events and re-watch a service through our many platforms.**

Visit our website

[www.uccsanbornton.org](http://www.uccsanbornton.org)

Follow us on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/sanborntonuccchurch](https://www.facebook.com/sanborntonuccchurch)

Watch us on our **NEW** YouTube Channel

[www.youtube.com/@SanborntonCongregationalChurch](https://www.youtube.com/@SanborntonCongregationalChurch)

### Winter Weather Closings

On occasion, scheduled events and/or worship may have to be canceled.

As soon as a decision is made,

- an email will be sent out (check your spam or Forums folder)
- our [on-line calendar](#) (on our website) will be changed
- a post will be on our [Facebook page](#) and
- it will be posted on [WMUR \(TV and website\)](#).

A decision will be made by 7:30 AM on Sundays at the latest.

If we can broadcast worship on our YouTube channel, we will have "Online Services."

Please check these sources for information.

Jesus asked the group a question about 18 people who died when the tower of Siloam fell on them.

Use the code to fill in the missing letters.

○=A	◐=E	◑=I	◒=M	▢=Q	◻=U	⊠=Y
◉=B	◌=F	◎=J	▣=N	⊞=R	◼=V	◼=Z
◕=C	◔=G	◓=K	◻=O	⊟=S	◻=W	
◌=D	⊗=H	◔=L	◻=P	◻=T	◻=X	

“

◌	◻	⊠	◻	◻				
◻	⊗	◑	▣	◑	◻	⊗	◑	⊠
◻	◑	⊞	◑	◑	◻	⊞	◑	
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◌	◑	◻	◑	▣	◕	◑	▣	?
◎	◑	⊞	◻	⊞	○	◌	◑	◑

I tell you, no! But unless you repent,  
you too will all perish.”

## NEWS FROM OUR CONFERENCE

- ❖ The United Church of Christ Office of Public Policy and Advocacy in Washington DC has produced a webpage of resources for local churches called Responses to the First 100 Days. This webpage is available at: [www.ucc.org/first100days](http://www.ucc.org/first100days)
- ❖ We received this report from the president of the UCC in Zimbabwe, the Reverend John Matiza. It gives a sobering picture of the effects of USAID closure in Zimbabwe and contains important information for our Ukama partnered churches especially. [Read the report...](#)
- ❖ **Sunday March 23 | 10:00 AM** First Congregational Church of Wilmot welcomes guest speakers from the [ACLU NH](#), legal director Gilles Bissonnette and regional campaign manager Kat Legier. All are welcome to hear about their important work defending civil liberties in New Hampshire. The service is at 10 a.m. in person in Wilmot or on Zoom; find the link at [wilmotucc.org](http://wilmotucc.org).
- ❖ As our current associations are in their sunset days and the birth of the Granite State Association will soon be upon us, many of our associations are holding celebrations. These celebrations recognize the generations of impactful work done by our associations. We are honored to share the invitation to join with these associations in their celebrations. Additionally, the Association Capacity Task Force is coordinating a [virtual prayer service on March 31st at 7 pm](#). On this day when our current associations conclude their work, it felt important to have an opportunity for community to gather together and offer prayers of thanksgiving for what has been and petition that grace may surround us as we step into what will be. A Zoom link for this prayer service will be shared as the event draws nearer. Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85452859751>
- ❖ **Expressing Support for Our Transgender Siblings** All people are created in the image of God. As Christians, we affirm, celebrate, and will fight for the whole personhood of our transgender and nonbinary siblings. In the United Church of Christ we live out the Love and Justice of Jesus in our words, and in our actions. March 31, 2025 is the Transgender Day of Visibility and the Conference has materials available to make clear your support. Details can be found at <https://www.nhcucc.org/post/expressing-support-for-transgender-siblings>



## Community Events and Happenings



**The Bristol United Church of Christ invites the community to a FREE concert** on Sunday, April 6, 2025 at 2 pm. The concert, featuring The Jordan TW Trio, is hosted by the BUCC Music Committee. From The Jordan TW Trio website (<https://jordantwmusic.com/jordan-tw-trio>):

*“Putting a fresh spin on traditional Celtic music, the Jordan TW Trio delivers a dynamic show full of lively fiddle tunes, haunting airs and classic sing-alongs.”* The Bristol United Community Church is located at 15 Church Street.

### Sanbornton Public Library

<p>Tuesdays 10-12pm - Fiber Arts: Stitch, knit, spin with us!</p> <p>Fridays 10:30am - Storytime for children 0-6</p> <p>Thursdays 2-4pm - Learn and play Mahjong</p> <p><b>Tech Appointments are available by request, no question is too small.</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Library Hours</u></b></p> <p>Tuesday: 9-5pm                  Wednesday: 1-7pm                  Thursday: 1-7pm                  Friday: 9-5pm                  Saturday: 9-2pm</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Winter Programs</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ <b>Open Chess for all ages and abilities</b> held on 2nd Thurs. of the month</li> <li>★ Thurs. 3/20 at 6pm: <b>Author Talk with Amanda Grappone Osmer</b> about her local history and biography of her grandparents who were immigrants from Italy and started Grappone Automotive in the 1920s</li> </ul> <p><b><i>April 1 - May 20: “A Matter of Balance” Wellness Program from Granite VNA</i></b></p>	

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A complete listing of events (with links) can be found on our website on the calendar.

### March 2025

23	Sunday	10:00 am	Worship Service in-person and Live Streaming <i>with Rev. Richard Slater</i> <b>Third Sunday in Lent</b>
23	Sunday	After church	Virtual Coffee Hour - join us at our Talking Table <a href="https://meet.google.com/eyv-xpjd-gcf">meet.google.com/eyv-xpjd-gcf</a>
26	Wednesday	10 am	Crafting in the Undercroft
27	Thursday	7 pm	Choir Rehearsal
30	Sunday	10:00 am	Worship Service in-person and Live Streaming <i>with Rev. Richard Slater</i> <b>Fourth Sunday in Lent</b> <b><i>One Great Hour of Sharing Offering</i></b>
30	Sunday	After church	Virtual Coffee Hour - join us at our Talking Table <a href="https://meet.google.com/eyv-xpjd-gcf">meet.google.com/eyv-xpjd-gcf</a>

### April 2025

2	Wednesday	10 am	Seekers
3	Thursday	7 pm	Choir Rehearsal
6	Sunday	10:00 am	Worship Service in-person and Live Streaming <i>with Rev. Richard Slater</i> <b>Fifth Sunday in Lent</b>
6	Sunday	After church	Virtual Coffee Hour - join us at our Talking Table <a href="https://meet.google.com/eyv-xpjd-gcf">meet.google.com/eyv-xpjd-gcf</a>



[www.uccsanbornton.org](http://www.uccsanbornton.org)