



# **First Congregational Church of Hanover**

An Open & Affirming Congregation of the  
United Church of Christ

“No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey,  
you are welcome here.”



**May 24, 2026 9:30 a.m.**

# *Pentecost Sunday*

**\*Please stand, as you are able.**

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome and Announcements**

## **Call to Worship**

Leader: Beloved, the Spirit of Truth gathers us here to receive and discern God's good news working among us.

**People: Come, Holy Spirit, come!**

Leader: The Spirit of Love draws us together to receive and restore life-giving relationships with God and one another.

**People: Come, Holy Spirit, come!**

Leader: The Spirit of Freedom knits us together to receive and renew the bonds of empathy, justice, and peace that bind us together in the work for liberation and wholeness.

**People: Come, Holy Spirit, come!**

Leader: Beloved, the Holy Spirit is here, moving and working among us. Will you come and receive all the Spirit has to give?

**People: We come to receive the Spirit's abundant and gracious gifts that we may be a people who live out God's truth, love, and freedom in our neighborhood, community, and throughout all creation. Amen.**

## **\*Sharing the Peace of Christ**

## **\*Opening Hymn**

*Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones*

Red Hymnal #30

## **Morning Prayer**

The Holy Spirit is here, moving and working among us. We gather to receive all the Spirit has to give. We come to receive the Spirit's abundant and gracious gifts that we may be a people who live out God's truth, love, and freedom in our neighborhood, community, and throughout all creation. Amen.

## **Time for All Ages**

**Birthday of the Church**

Rev. Peter

## **Anthem**

## **Scripture Readings**

### **Acts 2:1-21**

2 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup> Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them.<sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem.<sup>6</sup> And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.<sup>7</sup> Amazed and astonished,

they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup> And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” <sup>12</sup> All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” <sup>13</sup> But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.” <sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: <sup>17</sup> *‘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. <sup>18</sup> Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. <sup>19</sup> And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. <sup>20</sup> The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.’* <sup>21</sup> Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

**\*Gloria Patri**

*Gloria be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

**Sermon**

Rev. Johnston

**\*Sermon Hymn**                      *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*                      Red Hymnal #232  
*Prayer cards will be collected during the singing of the hymn*

**The Offertory**

Invitation to Giving

Offertory

\*Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host, Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen*

Prayer of Dedication

**A Time of Prayer**

Call to Prayer

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

*Fall afresh on me.*

*Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.*

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

# Sharing of Joys and Concerns

## Pastoral Prayer

### Lord's Prayer (unison)

**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.**

### \*Closing Hymn

### *Go to the World*

Insert

## Go to the World!



1. Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth. Go  
2. Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.  
3. Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless and pray; the  
4. Go to the world! Go as the ones I send, for



preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth, bap -  
Go live the Word of God's re - deem - ing grace.  
nights of tears give way to joy - ous day, As  
I am with you 'til the age shall end, When



tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.  
Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space. Al -  
ser - vant Church, you fol - low Christ's own way.  
all the hosts of glo - ry cry "A - men!"



le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993, © 1991, GIA Publications, Inc.

Tune: SINE NOMINE, 10 10 10 with alleluias; Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958, © Oxford University Press

### \*Benediction

### Postlude



## Serving in the House of the Lord

The greeters are Dean and Glenda Larson.

The flowers are given by the Flower Committee.

The Lay Reader is Steve Patt.

Coffee Hour is hosted by Dean and Glenda Larson.

The Deacon of the month is Deborah Spratley.

The Steeple Lighting for May is given by Ken Cheo and Darlene Calcagno.

The Carillon for May is given by Bob and Ava Sigsby  
in honor of Chad and the choir.

## *Our Prayer List*

The family of Rockland police officer Barry Ashton, who passed May 11

The family of Peter Higginbottom, friend of Hal Thomas, who passed May 8

Cassie, whose father passed suddenly

Amy Crosby's mother-in-law, Gloria, recovering from broken leg

Kathy Talbot, now at Discovery Village in Quincy

Carol Johnston, at Marina Bay rehab recovering from a fall

Tony, son-in-law of Louise Jackson, recovering from complications of shunt surgery

Jennifer, who needs a lung transplant

Pat Merritt, at home

### **Continue Our Prayers for Those with Long-Term Needs:**

Barbara Itz, recovering from a fall

Lynn White, at the Pat Roche Hospice Home in Hingham

Kerri, Bill & Patti MacLennan's daughter, brain cancer

Donald, brother-in-law of MaryBeth Tarnauskas, with cancer

Rick, brother of Dennis Falcione

Irene & Wally Reed

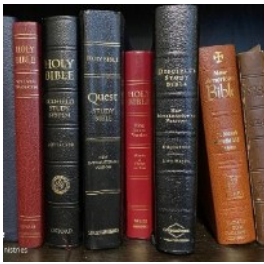
Ericka Penney

Sherri, Lynn White's sister, recovering from a stroke

Darius Fiske



- ◆ Deb Springhetti and Karen Trip had a nice visit with Lynn White



## **Bibles for Kenya**

Today is the final day to donate Bibles to Bibles 4 Kenya. Thank you to all who donated to this worthy organization! Dayna will be delivering the Bibles this week to a drop off location.

Please contact Dayna if you have any questions at 617-827-3955.



## **Prayer Shawl Blessing Sunday, May 31**

The Prayer Shawl group meets on the first Wednesday of every month. Prayers are woven into every stitch, and we trust that God's love will go with the shawls wherever they are sent.

On the last Sunday in May we will have a special time in the worship service in which to dedicate these hand-made shawls to God's service. Then they will be gifted to those in need of healing or comfort, so that they may feel a loving embrace.



## **Steeple Lights & Carillon for August**

**Yes! I Would Like to Light the Steeple and Ring the Carillon!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of     In memory of

\_\_\_\_\_

For the month of: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

*Please return this form to the church office with a payment of \$50.00.*



## Serve God With Gladness

First Congregational Church of Hanover has lots of opportunities to participate in the various ministries of the church:

**Liturgist:** Share God's Word in worship

**Greeter:** Welcome and provide bulletins to worshippers.

**Coffee Hour Host:** Make the coffee and provide a snack. Get a friend to help set up and clean up!

**Tech Deacon:** Learn to operate the cameras and livestream the worship service. Speak with Rev. Peter if you are interested.

Please let us know how you would like to help by filling out a SERVE card, found in the pews, or adding your name to the lists found at coffee hour.



## Vacation Bible Camp August 17-20

Let your light shine by helping with our Mission Deep Sea Vacation Bible Camp! The dates are August 17-20 from 9-12. Sign-up in the vestry and put a check next to the way(s) you'd like to help—teaching, decorating, music, preparing snacks, help with group games, set-up. **Take a flyer to give to a family member or friend. Let's all join together to make this a success!**



## Family Funday Coming Up: Paper Quilt and Strawberry Shortcake

Our June 7th Family Funday Sunday is fast approaching! Join us in celebrating the culmination of our church school year! We'll assemble our *Let Your Light Shine* quilt during the service, and kids and adults are invited to contribute. Simply grab a paper square and direction sheet from the table in the vestry, take it home to colorfully create, and bring it to church on June 7th. Or you can join our quilt workshop after church next week (May 31) and design yours then. We can't wait to see our completed quilt full of colorful images of ways our children, youth, and adults *Let Our Light Shine!*

Following worship service, we'll head to Riley Hall for time with friends of all ages while enjoying strawberry shortcake, lawn games, and a bouncy house for the kids! All families are invited to attend, so bring your children and grandchildren! Invite a friend!

Questions?? See any CE Committee member: Janet, Ginny, Dayna, or Louise.

## Cabinet Meeting Date Change Monday, June 15

The June Cabinet meeting has been changed to **Monday, June 15, 7:00 pm in the Church vestry.** (This is a change from the previous day and date of Wednesday, June 10.) Please submit your reports via email by **June 12** in order that they may be read by others before the meeting.



We are grateful that you are with us this morning. We hope you find nurture in our worship and warmth in the fellowship of our congregation.

**If you are worshipping with us for the first time**, please take a brochure from the pew racks and fill out a Connect Card and place it in the offering plate, or hand it to a minister. Please take a moment to meet the ministers following the worship service.

**Large print** copies of the bulletins are available from the ushers.

**We are a praying church.** If you would like to lift joys or concerns during the time of prayer, please fill out a prayer card found in the pews. These will be collected during the second hymn, and read by the minister. You may also lift names aloud during the time of prayer.

**Restrooms** are located on the lower level of the church. There is an elevator behind the door at the front right of the church.

**Join us!** Following worship, you are invited to a time of fellowship and refreshment downstairs in the Vestry. (Just follow the crowd.)



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United Church of Christ

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