

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it." John 1:5

* Please stand in body and/or spirit as you are able

LET US GATHER

PRELUDE

The Holly and the Ivy arr.D.Gilliam & M.McCaskill
The Cherry Tree Carol

WELCOME to ALL!

*No matter who you are or where you are on your life's journey,
you are welcome here.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS

INTROIT

Bless The Lord My Soul

Taizé

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The God of new beginnings calls us this morning...

**ALL: We come with open hearts and minds as we begin this new day
and this new year.**

One: The God of hope has brought us together.

ALL: To believe with God's help we can do God's work...

One: The God of love holds us close.

**ALL: So let's journey together, this new day, in trust and love and
grace.**

LET US PREPARE

*HYMN

As With Gladness

B159

UNISON INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER (trespasses)

God of Hope we come into your presence this morning with confidence
that you will meet us here. Where there is sadness, bring joy; where
there is tiredness, bring refreshment; where there is despair, bring a

renewed sense of hope. Let this place be a safe haven for us, a home
for holy words and songs and prayers as we devote ourselves to you.
Draw us together now, we pray, as we pray the prayer Jesus taught us,
saying, "Our Father..."

LET US LISTEN

READING

Matthew 12:1-12

REFLECTION

Pick Him Up!

ANTHEM

God So Loved The World

Stainer

You are invited into a moment of silence for personal reflection.

LET US RESPOND

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Medima

Lord, listen to your children praying; Lord send your Spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to your children praying; Send us love, send us peace, send us grace.

L: Let the people say ...

P: **Amen and Amen.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Pastorale on an old French Carol* arr.Gilliam/McCaskill

*DOXOLOGY

B778 (tune: B780: Bourgeois, 1551)

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 THANKS AND DEDICATION

As the Magi brought their gifts to the holy infant, O God, we bring our
gifts to you and ask that you bless them, just as you bless us each day,
to help share your good news with all the world. Amen.

*HYMN

Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life

B331

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION (please see insert)

LET US GO FORTH

***HYMN**

Arise, Your Light Is Come

B164

***BENEDICTION**

***AMEN (*sevenfold*)**

POSTLUDE

We Three Kings

R594

arr.Gilliam/McCaskill

Ministers: **The People**

Guest Preacher: **Rev. Linda Hirst**

Minister of Music: **Gene Faxon**

Guest Musicians: **Carol Hamilton, Ron Levy**

Worship Leader: **Nancy Elder-Wilfrid**

Greeter: **Dan Isaacs**

Ushers: **Sharon Epple and Carol Schaab**

Setup: **Sam Greene**

Flowers: **Sylvia Hamilton**

Please join us in the Parish House immediately following worship for coffee and the Who Are We? Workshop

The image on the cover of the bulletin is by rawpixel from freepik.com

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January 4, 2026
Second Sunday after Christmas

The First Church in Jaffrey

Gathered 1780

A Congregational Church of the United Church of Christ
On the Common – Jaffrey Center, New Hampshire

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you are welcome here.*