

Peace is not the absence of violence but the manifestation of human compassion.

Dalai Lama

The last of the human freedoms is to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances. – Victor Frankl

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

LET US GATHER

PRELUDE

Adoration

Florence Price

WELCOME to ALL!

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT *Gathered Here in the Mystery of the Hour* *P.Porter*

CALL TO WORSHIP (inspired by the Beatitudes and a Zoroastrian prayer for peace)

L: God of many blessings, may your invitation to live simply, to thirst for righteousness, to seek peace, and to hang onto faith and hope even in dark times resonate in our hearts.

P: **We have listened and heard and resolve to follow the path Jesus has shown us, whatever the risks. May we use our gifts wisely and pass on the blessings and love that you have given us.**

L: We pray, God of many names, that understanding triumph over ignorance, that generosity triumph over indifference, that trust triumph over contempt, and that truth triumph over falsehood.

P: **May we surrender our fears, our irritations, our arrogance, our pride, our anger so that we may be blessings for one another and this world.**

LET US PREPARE

*HYMN

In Christ There Is No East Or West

B394

UNISON INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER (trespasses)

As we gather here in the harbor of your safety, we thank you for fellowship and family. We ask you to strengthen us, restore us, and inspire us with your love. Fill us with your peace, that along our journeys we might pour out the blessing of your grace to others. May our souls catch the wind of your spirit so we might carry your love and mercy to all the earth. Bring us together in harmony as we pray the prayer Jesus taught his disciples... "Our Father...."

LET US LISTEN

READING

Matthew 5: 1-12

Clearing (by Martha Postlewaite)

HYMN

Spirit of Gentleness

B286

REFLECTION

Blessed Are We

ANTHEM

Down in the Valley to Pray Folk Ballad, arr. J.Althouse

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

LET US RESPOND

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Joys and Concerns

B283

Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

L: Let the people say ...

P: **Amen and Amen.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

Kum Ba Yah

*African Am. Spiritual
arr. A.Hailstork*

*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 (Unison)

Bless our offerings today and bless those who have given them so generously. May they ripple outward. May what we have, what we share, and who we are bring joy, trust, and healing. Amen.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION (please see insert)

LET US GO FORTH

***HYMN**

Be Thou My Vision

B451

***BENEDICTION**

***AMEN**

POSTLUDE

Les Cloches (The Bells)

Nicolas Le Bègue

Ministers:

The People

Guest Preacher:

Rev. Ilona Kwiecien and Margaret Hawthorn

Minister of Music:

Gene Faxon

Guest Musician:

Carol Hamilton

Worship Leader:

Lisa Bostnar

Greeter:

Sam Greene

Ushers:

Sharon Epple and Carol Schaab

Setup:

Ben Wheeler

Flowers:

Sharon Epple and Carol Schaab

Please join us for coffee and to celebrate February birthdays in the Parish House immediately following worship

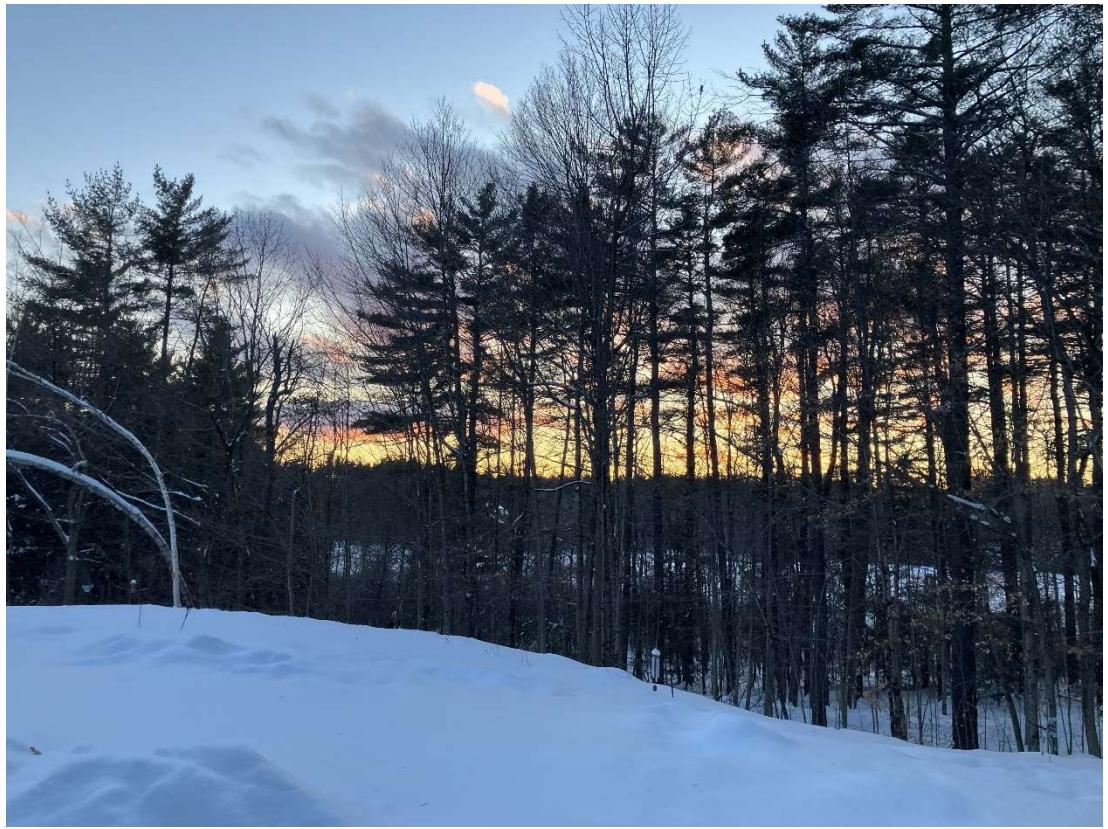
Winter scene in NH photographed by Ilona Kwiecien

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February 1, 2026

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

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.*