

“But joy—real joy—is *not* a reward for a life well-managed. It’s actually an interruption. It’s the moment you say YES to something small and unnecessary and beautiful, even when nothing else is resolved.” Kate Bowler

*\* Please stand in body and/or spirit as you are able*  
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## LET US GATHER

**PRELUDE** *Foundation* *B.Barrett*  
**WELCOME to ALL!**

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**INTROIT** *Creator God* *M.Rizza*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come to worship, people of God, with praises on your lips.

**People: We glorify the One who holds our hands when we slip.**

Leader: Come into the presence of the One who calls us into this sacred space.

**People: Where the doors to grace are thrown open so all may enter.**

Leader: Come and hear the stories of the One who loves you.

**People: We will tell of the joy and of the love,  
of the peace and of the hope which is ours.**

## LET US PREPARE

**\*HYMN** *Praise To The Living God* *B8*

## UNISON INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER (trespasses)

**When it doesn't seem to do any good, Creator God, we dare to be your people: to love those the world would have us reject and to be unafraid of whatever awaits us. When the wind seems to be knocked out of us by the blows of life, we dare to breathe joy upon those caught in the net of hopelessness, peace into all the broken places around us and wonder for all those who have lost sight of you. We can do this because**

**we know that in you, we dare to live and breathe and have our being. We pray all this as you have taught us, saying, “Our Father...”**

## LET US LISTEN

### READING

*Psalm 66:8-20*  
*John 14:15-21*

### HYMN

*Jesus Calls Us, O’er The Tumult* R322

### REFLECTION

*Love Overcoming Loss*

### ANTHEM

*I Life Up My Eyes* *L.Dengler*

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

## LET US RESPOND

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Joys and Concerns** *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

*Musical Meditation*

### \*DOXOLOGY

B778 (tune: B780 L.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.

## \*UNISON PRAYER OF THANKS AND DEDICATION

**Abandoned by hope, forsaken by others, left behind by those who said they loved them - there are orphans all around us, Holy God. May the gifts we offer be a home, a family, a rest, a respite for them and all the others around us. This we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

## LET US GO FORTH

\*HYMN                      *Joys Are Flowing Like A River*                      B284  
\*BENEDICTION  
\*SEVEN FOLD AMEN                      R594  
POSTLUDE                      *A Trumpet Tune*                      G.Clarke

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**Ministers:**                      **The People**  
**Guest Preacher:**                      **Carolyn Keilig**  
**Minister of Music:**                      **Gene Faxon**  
**Worship Leader:**                      **Rich Dufresne**  
**Greeters:**                      **Ben Wheeler and Karen Shea Dufresne**  
**Setup:**                      **Jim Rothnie**  
**Flowers:**                      **Thank you!**

*Please join us in the Parish House after worship for coffee and fellowship, this week provided by John and Sue Denley.*

*The bulletin cover is a picture of a human tower/castell. Free picture from Wikimedia commons.*

**Contact us! First Church in Jaffrey, PO Box 673, Jaffrey, NH 03452**  
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May 10, 2026  
Sixth Sunday of Easter

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.*