

“God does not play dice with the Universe.” Albert Einstein
“Not only does God play dice, but . . . he sometimes throws them where they cannot be seen.” Steven Hawking

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

PRELUDE *The Wind from the South* *Daniel Pinkham*
“When the wind is from the south, there will be heat” – Luke 12:55

WELCOME to ALL!
No matter who you are or where you are on your life’s journey,
you are welcome here.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT *Bless The Lord* *Taizé*

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We are gathered here to witness the unfolding of the Universe.
P: Let us be faithful witnesses!
L: A rabbit just gave birth to a litter nearby. Can you hear them mewling?
P: We cannot hear them.
L: A log has shifted in Mead Brook, moving downstream. Do you see it?
P: We don’t see it.
L: Two cars just collided in Concord. Did you feel it?
P: We didn’t feel it.
L: We cannot witness every bit of the unfolding of everything, so let’s take care to witness what we can.
P: We will be faithful witnesses to that which we can be.

LET US PREPARE

***HYMN** *Praise the Lord, the Almighty* *R15*

UNISON INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER (trespasses)

God’s Creation is wonderfully and fearfully made. We are bound together as witnesses to it, finding meaning and majesty in things that happen both within and without our understanding. When we cannot find meaning, we are bound by the instruments that God has given us to make meaning, hoping that what we make runs with the grain of the Creation. Let us do so together in love and community. Now let us join in the Lord’s Prayer. “Our Father....Amen.”

LET US LISTEN

READINGS *Genesis 45:1-15*
Matthew 15:1-28
HYMN *O Christ the Healer, We have Come* *B175*
REFLECTION *Quantum Physics and Jesus’ Mistake* *Pastor Mark Harris*
ANTHEM *Hear Thou My Prayer, O Lord* *J. Arcadelt*
You are invited into a moment of silence for personal reflection.

LET US RESPOND

JOYS AND CONCERNS
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *B283*
Lord, listen to your children pray. 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 *Minuet*

***DOXOLOGY** B778 (tune: B78o 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**
Let us re-apportion some of what we have been given, praying that it be used to move us along the grain of the Universe.

LET US GO FORTH

*HYMN	<i>Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing</i>	<i>R63</i>
*BENEDICTION		
*SEVEN FOLD AMEN		<i>R594</i>
POSTLUDE	<i>Prelude in E-Flat</i>	<i>J.K.F. Fischer</i>

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Ministers:	The People
Pastor:	Mark Harris
Minister of Music:	Gene Faxon
Worship Leader:	Linda Grant
Greeters:	Pam and Bruce Hill
Usher:	Sam Greene
Set Up:	Susan Peterson
Guest Musician:	Carol Hamilton

Please join us in the Parish House after worship for coffee.

Cover Art is by William Blake, 1825

Contact us! First Church in Jaffrey, PO Box 673, Jaffrey, NH 03452
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Administrator: Karen Brown/ 603-562-5183 / admin@firstchurchinjaffrey.org



August 16, 2026

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

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.*