



SCRIPTURE READING  
SERMON

Hebrews 12:1-2  
Making the Cross Work

Linda Noble  
Rev. Kevin Pleas

### THE SERVICE OF COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive the sacrament, members and visitors.  
We serve non-alcoholic grape juice, bread, and a gluten-free alternative, usually rice cakes.

COMMUNION HYMN NO. 420      *I Come with Joy*

INVITATION  
CALL TO CONFESSION  
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, we confess that we forget who we are. We don't listen for a still small voice. We walk with our heads down and miss all the stars that could be ours. But we know that you are a God of Hope who does not forget your covenant with us, a Shepherd God who looks for lost sheep, a faithful God who keeps calling us in spite of our deafness, a God who enters our history, opens our eyes and heals our blindness. O God forgive us, accept us as your stewards and send us out to serve in your love. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS  
PRAYER OF CONSECRATION  
WORDS OF INSTITUTION  
SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP  
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by Christ's body and blood that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

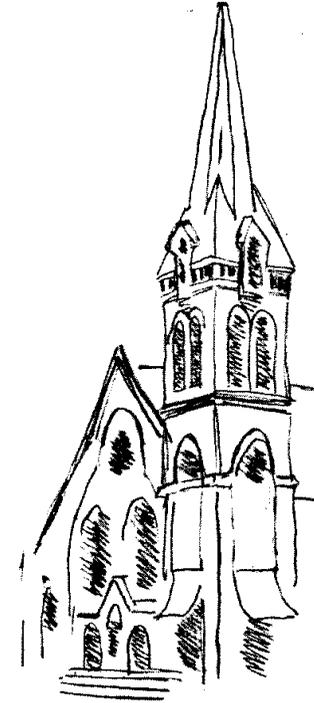
\*CLOSING HYMN NO. 432      *O Christ, the Way, the Truth, the Life*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE      *Prelude and Fugue in C Major ("Little") – J. S. Bach*

\*You are invited to stand if you wish

# First Congregational Church



May 20, 2018

Manchester, New Hampshire  
United Church of Christ

508 Union Street, Manchester, NH \* 603-625-5093  
Sunday Worship 10:00 AM (9:30 Summer)

*You are welcome here!*  
*An Open & Affirming Congregation*