



First Congregational Church of Fair Haven, UCC

2 N Park Pl Fork, Fair Haven VT 05743

Tuesday, September 15, 2026
09:00 AM - 01:30 PM

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SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 26, 2026

AT
9:00 AM

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FAIR HAVEN
~ALL ARE WELCOME HERE! SEPTEMBER 6, 2026 ~
~ PROPER 18 ~

"FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE



GATHERED
IN MY NAME,
THERE AM I AMONG THEM."

MATTHEW 18:20

THOUGHT OF THE DAY *"Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law."*

Romans 13:8

"People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

Maya Angelou



First Congregational Church of Fair Haven, UCC
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~ SEPTEMBER 6, 2026 ~ PROPER EIGHTEEN ~ COMMUNION ~

PRELUDE *Meditation on "Showalter"* arr. Ben Logan Sharon Pinsonneault

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Julie Demaree

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES & RINGING OF THE BELL Lynn Lowell

One: What is our church's mission?

Many: To embody God's powerful love...

- welcoming all people, with a vision and message of hope,
- weaving deep relationships with Jesus and each other,
- working, praising and playing in our towns and world.

OPENING HYMN (CH) # 408 Come, Share the Lord

*We gather here in Jesus' name
His love is burning in our hearts like living flame
For through His loving Son the Father makes us one
Come take the bread come drink the wine
Come share the Lord*

*No one is a stranger here,
everyone belongs;
finding our forgiveness here,
we in turn forgive all wrongs.*

*He joins us here He breaks the bread
The Lord who pours the cup is risen from the dead
The One we love the most is now our gracious host
Come take the bread come drink the wine
Come share the Lord*

*We are now a family
of which the Lord is head;
though unseen he meets us here
in the breaking of the bread.*

*We'll gather soon where angels sing
We'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King
Now we anticipate the feast for which we wait
Come take the bread come drink the wine
Come share the Lord*

BENEDICTION

Rev. Julie Demaree

POSTLUDE *God Be With You* arr. Sarah Jarrell Sharon Pinsonneault

Please join us for Coffee and Fellowship following the service

Thank you for coming to worship with us!

IMMEDIATE NEEDS PRAYER LIST: Pam Berryhill, Jeff Buxton, C.J.,
Connie Munukka, Carlene Kasuba, Jessica Smith, Rick Hall, Jeanne Cole,
Erik Van Scoy, Vance, Chris, Jennifer Clement, Maggie & Jeremy Ashton,
Gretchen Lima, John Daly, Tony Briere, Missy Hurst, Andrew and Francis
Donovan, Phil Smith, Madden Gero, Pam Wilson, Tanya Oleschak.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING will meet after worship today.

WE ARE OPENING THE CHURCH FOR FELLOWSHIP AND FREE LUNCH. 11 AM—2 PM on Wednesday, September 16th, All are welcome, invite a neighbor and friend. Let's get to know each other better. Let's share our abundance and make new friends.

TRUSTEES MEETING will be held **Sunday, September 20th** after worship.

PET BLESSING will be held on **Saturday, September 26th** at 9:00 AM in front of the church.

DEACONS MEETING will be held the **fourth Sunday, September 27** after worship.

If you would like to schedule time with Pastor Jane, please call her directly at 802-430-3636 or email her at janechurchlady@gmail.com

Prayer Circle: If you or someone you know is in need of prayer you may call anyone of the following:

Karen Festa	802-683-1896
Maryann Charron	802-468-3207
Karyn Jockell	802-278-8058



This day shall be a day
of remembrance for you.

EXODUS 12:14, NRSV

bread and cup, for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends, for the glory of creation, and for the mission of justice you have made our own. Together we trust in this moment of transformation which is made possible by You. Give us the strength to continue on the journey and to set tables that are welcoming and ever expanding. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN (CH) # 433 BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS

*Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.*

*Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.*

*We share our mutual woes,
our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.*

*When we are called to part,
it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart,
and hope to meet again.*

BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD

CHORAL BENEDICTION *This Little Light of Mine*

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine*

*Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sing to God a new song; let us praise God in the assembly of the faithful.

People: ***We gather to rejoice in the God who delights in the people.***

Leader: Christ promises that where two or three gather in his name, he is there among them.

People: ***Christ is here among us now.***

Leader: Come, then, into community, to be nourished by the meal of liberation, a meal for the journey.

All: Let us worship the God who gathers, frees, feeds, and sends us.

INVOCATION

Lisa Fenwick

PRAISE & WORSHIP ***Praise # 154 Make Me A Servant***

Make me a servant, humble and meek,

Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.

And may the prayer of my heart always be:

Make me a servant, make me a servant, make me a servant today.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

*Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.*

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil:

for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

TIME WITH THE YOUNG

SCRIPTURE LESSON Exodus 12:11-14; Matthew 18:15-20 John Fenwick

SERMONIC HYMN (CH) # 494 *They'll Know We Are Christians*

*We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
And we pray that all unity will one day be restored.*

*Chorus: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

*We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.*

*We Will work with each other, we will work side by side;
We will work with each other, we will work side by side;
And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride.*

*All praise to the Father, from whom all things come;
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son.
And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one.*

SERMON Where Two or More Gather: A Meal for the Journey

Rev. Julie Demaree

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION Deacon: Kimberly Stannard

INVITATION

One: Come, all who hunger.

All: ***Come all who thirst.***

One: Come no matter what's needed because everyone needs some thing and everyone needs someone.

All: ***At this table, we are included and room is ever being made to include more. More love, more understanding, more food, more drink, more community, and more good and goodness.***

One: Your invitation is eternal for this table belongs to God. We don't get to decide who we sit next to, but we do get to decide to enjoy who-

ever is seated.

All: ***So come to the table, where strangers become friends, friends become family, and family keeps expanding.***

One: Come as you are and leave better than how you came.

COMMUNION PRAYER

One: In the beginning, the earth was formed. It was the first table that all creations were invited to. This table has gone through several iterations and holds steady. Jesus was at this table at some point in history. He lived, he taught, he was put to death, and then he resurrected. In doing all these things, he taught us a new way to look at tables and how to set them inclusively.

All: ***He showed us that we are included in the heart and mind of God always and he taught us how to include those we might be inclined to label as "other". For these reasons among many others, we give thanks for this meal.***

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

One: We remember that night during the Passover Jesus had his last meal at a table, with those closest to him. There, they shared their love of God and Jesus and of each other. In the midst of love, Jesus gave thanks and broke the bread and said, something like this, "Take and eat this gift from the earth and from the human hands that prepared it and know that God gives it to you, a blessing for your body and your spirit." Later, Jesus took a cup and after blessing it said something like this, "Drink this fruit of the vine, the gift of the sun and labor in the fields. Taste and know the goodness of God."

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

All: ***Come Holy Spirit. Bless this bread and cup and bless each of us. May these elements transform us. May they inspire and give us courage to follow the way of Jesus, which is ever inclusive and expanding.***

One: Come, for our table is ready, let's eat this bread & drink this cup together.

COMMUNION VIDEO Hymn for Communion M.W. Smith

GIVING THANKS

One: Let us give thanks.

ALL: ***Thank you, God, for life in the Spirit of Jesus: for gladness in this***

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