

# Newman Congregational Church, UCC

"No matter who you are, Or where you are on life's journey ... You're welcome here!"

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

[newmanucc.org](http://newmanucc.org)

## EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



AUGUST 3, 2025  
10 AM

### MISSION STATEMENT

*We are an inclusive Christian community dedicated to living Jesus' message of love, peace and justice through joyful worship, compassionate service, radical hospitality and responsible stewardship.*

## OPENING MUSIC

Little Dance in F  
Franz Joesph Haydn (1732-1809)

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP – *responsive*

Leader: Trusted storyteller, enter our lives and set the scene,

*People: for your parables and wisdom.*

Leader: Help us to step into a different way of thinking,

*People: where the last are first,*

Leader: and the small become big,

*People: and a new way of living is possible.*

Leader: Mindful of your holy name, we enter now to worship.

### \*HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

NCH#28

### PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION – *in unison*

*For paying more attention to the*

*expected path than the right one,*

*Forgive and restore us, O God.*

*For valuing obvious choices*

*instead of the ones that lead to you,*

*Forgive and restore us, O God.*

*For trying to be the whole meal,*

*When only one sacred dish is missing,*

*Forgive and restore us, O God. (silent pause)*

### ASSURANCE OF GRACE - *responsive*

Leader: The Good News of the Gospel

is that God has walked among us

and knows how mercy transforms us,

and that forgiveness makes new life possible.

We are strengthened in all goodness

by the power of the Holy Spirit,

which keeps us in eternal life.

*People: Thanks be to God! Amen!*

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

*This is an ancient Christian tradition in which we show each other that we carry with us only signs of love, by waving, shaking hands, bumping fists, or however else we are moved to greet each other.*

### HEART TO HEART

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 13:31-36a

NRSVue

SERMON

“The Parable of the Leaven”

\*HYMN

When Peace, Like a River

NCH #438

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CALL TO OFFERING

*Contributions may be placed in the offering plate, mailed to Newman UCC PO Box 4764, Rumford, RI 02916 or made online at [newmanucc.org/give](http://newmanucc.org/give). If you are in the Sanctuary and give online there are laminated cards in the pews for you to put in the plate.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Basse et dessus de Trompette  
Louis-Nicolas Clérambault (1676-1749)

DOXOLOGY

*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.*

tune NCH #780

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING - responsive

The Liberating God be with you!

*And also with you!*

Lift up your hearts with joy!

*We lift them up to God!*

Let us give praise to the Author of Freedom!

*It is right to give our thanks and praise!*

And so we lift up our voices in celebration of You!

*Holy, holy, holy are You!*

We join all the prophets and saints!

*Heaven and earth are full of your glory!*

We join the parade of justice!

*Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord!*

We add our cries and exclamations!

*Hosanna in the highest!*

Let the people say, “Amen!”

LORD’S PRAYER – in unison (using “Debts” and “Debtors”)

*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 debts, as we*

*forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen*

## SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*The congregation will be invited forward to receive Communion.*

*An option to remain seated and receive Communion is also available.*

*Note: bread has a gluten-free option; cups are filled with grape juice, not wine*

## \*HYMN

Great Is Your Faithfulness

NCH #423

## \*BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

Voluntary in C  
Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

*\*the congregation is invited to stand*

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## WORSHIP TEAM

Rev. Samuel Lovett, Senior Minister  
Geoffrey Greene, Minister of Music  
Tom Lima, Audio Visual Specialist  
Barbara Youmans, Lay Reader  
Tom Mottur, Greeter

## THIS WEEK

- Coffee & Conversation – today, August 3, following worship in Memorial Hall
- Food Bank Delivery – Thursday, August 7 at 9 am
- Morning Worship\* – next Sunday, August 10 at 10 am in the Sanctuary
- Coffee & Conversation – next Sunday, August 10, following worship in the hall

*\*indicates hybrid = offered both in-person and online*