

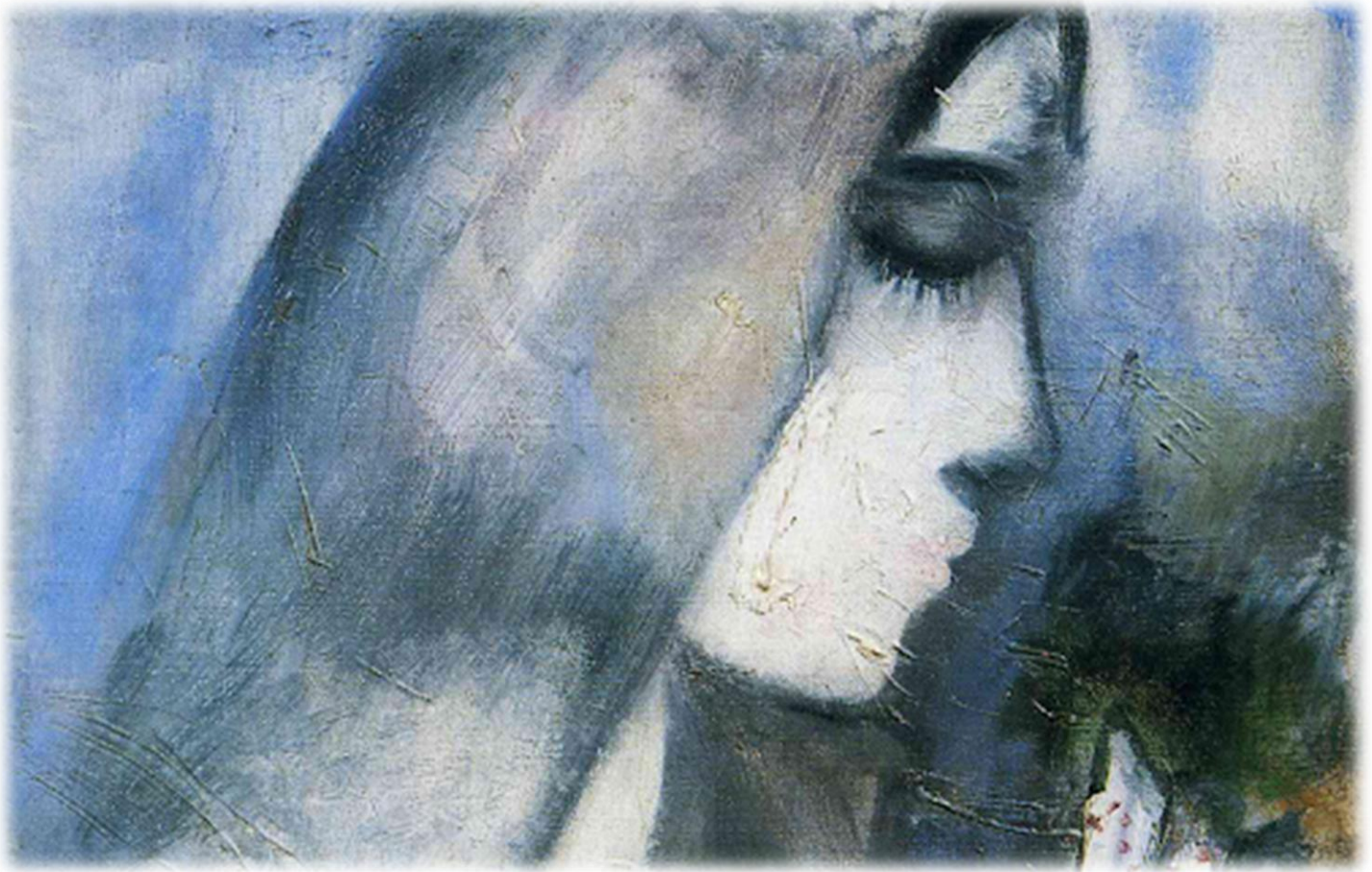
Newman Congregational Church, UCC

"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

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



AUGUST 24, 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

Nocturne
Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)

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 death does not have the last word,

Leader: and justice comes unconventionally,

People: and a new way of living is possible.

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

*HYMN

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

NCH #476

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION – *in unison*

For throwing up our hands

when we can't find the right answer,

Forgive and restore us, O God.

For letting our ego lead the way

and forgetting that we can be like Christ,

Forgive and restore us, O God.

For trying to hit home runs

When base hits will win the day,

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

Luke 18: 1-8

NRSVue

SERMON

“The Parable of the Woman Seeking Justice”

*HYMN

Fairest Lord Jesus

PH #227

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

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. 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

Andante
Jakob Paix (1556-c. 1617)

*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

*HYMN

Take My Life, God, Let It Be

NCH #448

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Gavotte
Matthew Camidge (1758-1844)

**the congregation is invited to stand*

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FLOWERS

*Today's flowers are given in remembrance of Jerry Downes,
by his family marking the 5th anniversary of his passing.*

If you would like to sponsor the floral arrangement on a particular Sunday, please get in touch with Debra Messinger at 401-741-4633 or debndave15@cox.net.

WORSHIP TEAM

Rev. Samuel Lovett, Senior Minister ~ Nancy Nicholson, Guest Pianist/Organist
Tom Lima, Audio Visual Specialist
Jan Peters, Lay Leader ~ Carolyn Lake, Greeter

THIS WEEK

- Coffee & Conversation – today, August 24 following Worship in the hall
- Board of Missions Meeting – today, August 24 at 11 am in the Chapel
- Music Committee Meeting – today, August 24 at 11 am in the Lounge
- Concerts in the Garden – with Becky Bass – today, August 24 at 4 pm
 - In the shady garden of Lippitt House Museum. Tickets at <https://www.preserveri.org/calendar>
- Good Neighbors Food Pantry – Tuesday, August 26 from 5-7 pm
- Faith Formation Meeting – Tuesday, August 26 at 7 pm via Zoom
- Needles & Hooks Gathering - Wednesday, August 27 at 2:30 pm via Zoom
- Morning Worship* - next Sunday, August 31 at 10 am in the Sanctuary
- Coffee & Conversation - next Sunday, August 31 at 10 am in Memorial Hall

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

The Good Neighbors Food Pantry is requesting donations of canned fruit and cereal in August. However, all non-perishable items are gratefully accepted.