

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

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY



NOVEMBER 23, 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

Now Thank We All Our God
Georg Friedrich Kauffmann (1679-1735)

WELCOME

INTROIT

*Whoever you are / Whomever you love
Wherever you are on your life journey
You are welcome here*

CALL TO WORSHIP – responsive

One: Here, in this place, this time, this community—

All: This is where God has placed us.

One: Here is where we are to live faithfully.

All: Here is where we are to serve.

One: Now is when we are to flourish.

All: Now is when we are to seek joy.

One: So come, let us worship God together.

*HYMN

Come, O Thankful People, Come

NCH #422

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION – in unison

*God, you promise a future with hope,
And we take courage from your words
To kindle hope and resolve in our lives.
And we also confess that sometimes
We let your promise of hope let us off the hook.
Help us to reconcile with you, God,
For having turned your promise into an escape hatch.
Make us Candid enough to avoid repeating our errors,
Faithful enough to be active players in your dreams,
And Loving enough to work for the wellbeing of all.
We pray this in the name of Jesus, our friend. Amen.*

(silent pause)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE - responsive

One: Friends, hear this good news: God's dream and God's promise
is for a future with plans for hope. The love of God gathers us
into wholeness. So live today as forgiven people, trusting the One
who restores all things, even you, even us, to abundant life.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

HEART TO HEART

Children may depart for Church School following the Heart to Heart

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.

ANTHEM

A Gaelic Blessing
John Rutter (b.1945)

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 29:1;4-11

NRSVue

SERMON

“How to Survive in Empire”

*HYMN

We Gather Together

PH #21

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

Nature’s Hymn of Praise
Eugene Butler (1935-2024)
Barbara Youmans, flute

*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

Now Thank We All Our God

NCH #419

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Deo gratias (Thanks Be To God)
Francois Couperin (1668-1733)

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

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*Barbara Brown and Pam Sherrill provided today's Thanksgiving Harvest Arrangement.
Hazel Johnston and Ginny Berwick are remembered each year through the use
of their donated ceramic Turkey and Cornucopia.*

WORSHIP TEAM

Ministers, All Church Members!
Geoffrey Greene, Minister of Music
Becky Bass, Soprano Section Leader
Barbara Youmans, Alto Section Leader
Thomas Seeger, Tenor Section Leader
Jonne Gomes, Bass Section Leader
Tom Lima, Audio Visual Specialist
Thomas Seeger, Lay Leader
Sue Burek, Greeter
Rev. David Shire, Minister Emeritus
Rev. Samuel Lovett, Senior Minister

THIS WEEK

- Coffee & Conversation – today, November 23, following worship in Memorial Hall
- Music Committee Meeting – today, November 23, at 11:30 am in the Lounge
- Brown Play School Event – Tuesday, November 25, at 11:00 am in Memorial Hall
- Good Neighbors Food Pantry – Tuesday, November 25, from 5-7 pm
- Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 27
- Decorating for Advent/Christmas – Saturday, November 29, at 10 am
- Advent I* - next Sunday, November 30, at 10 am in the Sanctuary
- Coffee & Conversation – next Sunday, November 30, following worship in the hall

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

The Good Neighbors Food Pantry is requesting donations of **cereal** and **tuna** in November. However, all non-perishable items are gratefully accepted.

Donations for the “Newman Marcus” section of the 30th Missions’ Bazaar are gratefully accepted on the stage.