

William Temple, the great Archbishop of Canterbury..., once wrote: "I do not believe in any creed, but I use certain creeds to express, to conserve, and to deepen my belief in God." The language of belief is important. But the belief is not in the language; it is in God.

— from *We Believe* by Roger Shinn and Daniel Day Williams, 1966



We Gather to Praise God

* indicates those who are able may stand



WELCOME AND SHARING NEWS

ORGAN PRELUDE *A Boy was Born in Bethlehem*



J. S. Bach

* CALL TO WORSHIP *responsively*

based on the U.C.C. Statement of Faith

Ruth C. Duck

Leader: Why have you gathered here?

People: We have responded to the gospel of God's love for us in Jesus Christ.



Leader: What do you hope to do here?

People: We hope to be united with the faithful of all ages, tongues, and races in praising the God of love and power.

Leader: With what mission will you be sent from this place?

People: To be God's servants in serving humanity, to spread the gospel and resist the powers of evil.

ALL: Let us then draw near to God, who promises to forgive us, to fill us with courage, and to be present with us in this world and in the world to come.

* OPENING HYMN #356 *We, Your People, God, Confessing*



* GREETING ONE ANOTHER *please stand and greet those around you!*

* RESPONSE *sung by everyone* (Tune #469)

Jim Strathdee

"I am the light of the world! You people come and follow me!"

If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery of what you were meant to do and be.



OPENING PRAYER *seated in unison*

Ruth C. Duck, *adapted*

All life is a call and a response. God calls us into creation.

God calls us into life. How we live is our response to God.



Yes, God calls us to life! God calls each of us to move among the creations of this world to bring joy and to renew purpose.

Yes, God calls us this day!

God calls us to Love, to plunge ourselves into the hurts and the horrors, to give ourselves fully to those who are in need. God calls us to be present to those who are without love.

Yes, God calls us this day!

God calls us to praise, to move out of our own joy and sadness, shedding our self-consciousness and courageously embracing others with the peace of Christ. We are builders of the Body of Christ; right here where we reside. Yes, God calls us this day!

In God we live, move and have our being. So as we share life with others, let us spread God's hope, promise, and grace in all we do, following the example of Christ. Amen.

PRAYER OF JESUS (using "sins")



We Listen for God's Word

ANTHEM

Faith of our Fathers

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Micah 6:6-8



p. 65!

PSALM 147:1-6 (Hymnal p. 767)

CHILDREN'S TIME

"Praise God and Jesus"



* HYMN #100

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Children depart for classes during the singing of this hymn.



SERVICE OF PRAYER

SHARING PRAYER JOYS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER AND PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER OF JESUS (using "sins") AND RESPONSE

BIBLICAL EXCERPTS

SERMON/SHARING "Comparing Creeds, Discerning Truth II"

See insert plus Worship Supplement Booklet pp. 2-5 or Hymnal pp.

358-361

We Respond to God's Word

THE OFFERINGS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

* DOXOLOGY #47 (*note original rhythm*) Thomas Ken (1674)

**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.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION *by the pastor*

* CLOSING HYMN (see insert) *Christian Rise and Act Your Creed*

* BENEDICTION *by the pastor*

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #431 *sung together while holding hands*

**Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me;
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you,
Here my tender comfort stilled you;
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.**

* ORGAN POSTLUDE

We Depart to Serve God

*Please join us in the Parish Hall for fellowship and refreshments
hosted by the Diaconate*

CREDITS: Portions of today's liturgy were adapted and reprinted with permission from *Bread for the Journey*, edited by Ruth C. Duck. Copyright © 1981 The Pilgrim Press.



Season of Light

All are Welcome!

The First Congregational Church of Pembroke
United Church of Christ

January 24, 2010

United Church of Christ Statement of Faith
original version, 1959

We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and our Father, and to his deeds we testify:

He calls the worlds into being, creates man in his own image and sets before him the ways of life and death.

He seeks in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

He judges men and nations by his righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord, he has come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to himself.

He bestows upon us his Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

He calls us into his church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be his servants in the service of men, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

He promises to all who trust him forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, his presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in his kingdom which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto him.

Amen.

underlining added

United Church of Christ Statement of Faith
in the form of a doxology, 1981

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.

Amen.

underlining added

The First Congregational Church of Pembroke, N.H.
United Church of Christ

Ministers: All the People!

Pastor: Rev. Jim Howard, D.Min.

Organist: George Bozeman

Secretary: Nancy Jackson

Office hours: Monday-Friday 12:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Office: 603-485-9639

Pastor's home: 603-210-2368

Pastor: pastor@pembrokechurch.org

Secretary: secretary@pembrokechurch.org

Website: www.pembrokechurch.org

301 Pembroke Street

Pembroke, NH 03275

Hymn inserted here

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sun., Jan. 24	9am Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10:20am Sunday School
Mon., Jan. 25	6pm Girl Scouts – PH & DN
Tues., Jan. 26	6pm Girl Scouts – PH & DN 6pm Cub Scouts - DN 7pm Pastoral Relations Comm.
Wed., Jan. 27	6pm BSA- PH 6pm Cub Scouts – YR
Thurs., Jan. 28	6pm “AA” Group – MR 6pm Cub Scouts – YR
Sun., Jan. 31	9am Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10:20am Sunday School
Mon., Feb. 1	6pm Girl Scouts – PH & DN
Tues., Feb. 2	6pm Cub Scouts – YR 6pm Girl Scouts – PH 7pm Church Council
Wed., Feb. 3	6pm Cub Scouts – DN 6pm BSA – PH
Thur., Feb. 4	6pm “AA” Group – MR 6pm Cub Scouts – DN
Fri., Feb. 5	6pm Set Up & Cookie Drop Off
Sat., Feb. 6	9am – 2pm Cookie Walk

AS PART OF DARIAN HANCARIK'S SENIOR PROJECT T-Shirts will be available in the Parish Hall for \$10 each. The proceeds will be going to The Music Experience. The T-shirts come in all sizes and are either pink or black. Contact Darian Hancarik after church or at home phone #(603)-715-5304 or e-mail him at dhancarik@gmail.com. Also check out the Face book page the Music Experience.

DEACONS FUND ...

Donations toward this fund are solicited on Communion Sunday. This fund helps those in need in our church and community.

BROWN BAG SUNDAY is the **2nd Sunday** of the month. Food donations may be left in the Parish Hall. Thank you for caring!

WORLD SERVICE ...

Our Family's Table, the local soup kitchen serves meals every Wednesday at 5:30pm. Contact Pat Hill 485-4790 if interested in volunteering.

FROM THE FLOWER COMMITTEE ...

As always, donations of flowers are welcomed for our altar. Please contact Lynn Matava 485-8352 (**January**), Robbe MacKenzie 485-7295 (**February**) and Doris Rowden (**March**) 485-3664.

SCHEDULE OF USHERS ...

Jan. 31 Helen Chapman, Don & Laurie Hill, and Dean Hopps

Feb. 7 Peter, Sharon & Eric Chase and Harold Matava

14 Lynn Matava, Alan & Anna Gibbs and Dean Hopps

21 Eric & Judy Pearson and Dave & Nancy Bibbins

28 Kurt & Jodi Ehler and Floyd & Dot Smith

If you are unable to usher on your given day, please contact Dean Hopps at 485-5509.

WE EXTEND A WARM WELCOME to all who worship with us this morning. Visitors are encouraged to sign the guest book outside the center-aisle entrance at the back of the Sanctuary. Nursery care is provided for infants and young children, and there are rocking chairs at the rear of the Sanctuary for those with a child who needs comforting. Please see an usher if you need assistance. Older children are excused for classroom work as indicated. Thank you to those assisting in our worship this morning. Cindy Bonenfant read the scripture. Kurt & Jodi Ehler, Ken Williams, and Randy Shuey served as ushers.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Paul McCully – breathing issues

Barbara Schumacher (friend of Doris Rowden's) – medical concerns

Karen Miller (Mary Louise Grandmaison's neice) – medical concerns

Trish (friend of Ed Kruczynski) – recovering from open heart surgery

Bob (Mary Louise Grandamison's brother in law) lung cancer

Duff Chickering – medical concerns

Jim Hennessey (co-worker of Julie Jenkins) – brain cancer

Robbe MacKenzie & family – multiple issues

Letha's mother – treatable cancer

Lynda Putnam's father – recovering from a stroke

Russ Putnam's mother – medical concerns

Carissa Williams – various concerns

Military personnel overseas & their families

OFFERING ENVELOPES for **2010** are available in the Parish Hall for anyone who would like them.

SCOUTS SUNDAY this year will be on **February 7th**. Scouts and their families are invited to join us!

NEXT SUNDAY there is no Sunday School as it is Youth Sunday and the Youth will lead the service.