FORESIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Connecting to God Nurturing Community Discovering our Callings

November 8, 2026 The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Morning Song of Praise* John Leavitt

GATHERING IN WORSHIP *From Psalm 33*

One: Our soul waits for the Lord;
Many: **God is our help and shield.**

Our heart is glad in God,
because we trust in God's holy name.

Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,
even as we hope in you.

*** HYMN** *For Everyone Born, a Place at the Table* Next Page

*** OPENING PRAYER**

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

Children are invited to go to Sunday school at this time.
They are always welcome to remain in the sanctuary with their families as well.

ANTHEM *For the Autumn Sky* Ruth Elaine Schram
Chancel Choir

ANNUAL APPEAL *There Our Hearts Will Be* Caroline Jackson

SCRIPTURE *Matthew 25:1-13*


Cantor: 1. For eve - ry - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
All: 2. For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,
All: 3. For just and un - just a place at the ta - ble,
All: 4. For eve - ry - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
for eve - ry - one born, clean wa - ter and bread;
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the u - ser, the used with need to for - give,
to live with-out fear, and sim - ply to be,
a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,
in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
to work, to speak out to wit - ness and wor - ship,
for eve - ry - one born, a star o - ver -
for young and for old, the right to be -
for just and un - just, a new way to
for eve - ry - one born, the right to be
Refrain
head. And God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and
long.
live.
free.
joy, com - pas-sion and peace: yes, God will de-light when we are cre-
a - tors of jus - tice, jus - tice and joy.

SERMON *Being Prepared* The Rev. Geoff Parker

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

May God be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray…

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO THE SERVICE OF GOD

Electronic gifts may be shared here:
https://www.foresidechurch.org/index.php/giving/ or by pointing your phone's camera at the image to the right and clicking on the link displayed.

Offertory Anthem *Blue in Green* Miles Davis

*** 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.

*** Blessing of Gifts**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Christ gathered disciples at table:
To share in his life and ministry, to break bread in community,
and to be nourished by a meal at which he would always be present.
Like them, may we gather at this table to receive God's grace
And show God's love, as Christ has called us:
'I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

Silent Confession

Communion Prayer

May God be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts!
We lift them up to God.
Let us give thanks to God most High.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The prayer continues...

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.

Sharing God's Gifts

All communion bread is gluten free, and all cups contain alcohol-free juice.
Please hold the elements until the pastor invites us to partake as one.

*** Giving Thanks**

O God, we thank you for feeding our spirits with living bread, and for refreshing us on the journey of life and ministry with you. Help us to be one in the Spirit and in the new life Christ offers. Send us out to share this feast of love with a hungry world, rejoicing in the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*** HYMN** *Awake, Awake to Love and Work* Red Hymnal, # 259

Awake, awake to love and work! The lark is in the sky;
the fields are wet with diamond dew; the worlds awake to cry
their blessings on the Lord of life, as he goes meekly by.

Come, let thy voice be one with theirs, shout with their shout of praise;
see how the giant sun soars up, great Lord of years and days!
So let the love of Jesus come and set thy soul ablaze.

To give and give, and give again, what God hath given thee;
to spend thy self nor count the cost; to serve right gloriously
the God who gave all worlds that are, and all that are to be.

*** BLESSING AND SENDING**
POSTLUDE *They'll Know We are Christians* arr. Mark Hayes

Today's Ministers of Worship:
Deborah Gray, Michale Messina, Robin Singer

Today's Sunday School Staff
Tori Curtis and Lucy Herring

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements have been modified to fit the available space within this bulletin. Please see the November *Steeplenotes* newsletter for more information.

Christmas Fair Crafting!
November 15, after worship ~ Fellowship Hall

All are welcome on November 15 following worship for a crafting event including mini-wreaths, pom-pom trees, and more! This family-friendly event is open to all, with the hope of making some crafts to be sold at the fair. Hope to see you there! Contact Tori or Wendy at wendyrtracy@gmail.com with questions.

Time to Buy Your Pies!!!

Starting in November, we will have pies available for sale. Flavors available will be published in the Weekly Updates. **Some flavors we have thus far are apple, berry, pumpkin, pumpkin cheesecake, blueberry, and Fudge Crostata with Raspberry Sauce, and the new entry, PEACAN! Each pie is $25.** There are multiple apple and pumpkin pies available. Please pay Christina directly. **The pies will be dropped off at the church on Wednesday morning, November 25 unless you and your baker make other arrangements.** Each baker is using their own 9-inch pie plates, so please arrange to return the dish to the baker after Thanksgiving. **Help us kick off the church fair with the proceeds from the pie sale.**

Angel Tree

The Angel tags will be available starting this morning, November 8 and we ask that all local gifts be returned wrapped by Sunday, November 29. Gifts may be left in the church office during the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., unless otherwise indicated. If you have questions about your child or the process, please contact ***Lisa Nash*** for information about Pine Ridge children. For information about local children please contact ***Dotty Blanchette.*** Thank you for your compassion and generosity.

Green Team Reports on Consumer Consumption

The US ranks #1 in consumer spending compared to other industrialized nations. In 2023, American consumer spending topped $18.8T nationally with China coming in at a distant second at $7.T. What does this mean for the waste stream, the toxic-byproducts of production, and the other ways we impact the earth through our buying habits? Let's get curious and explore what this means for us, individually, and as a collective society. We'll discuss ways we could look at our society through the lens of consumption and outline practical ways to reduce our own impact. **On Sunday, November 15 following worship, we will have a group discussion around these issues in the large classroom.**

THANKSGIVING DINNER AT FORESIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH IS ON!!!!
1pm on NOVEMBER 26, 2026

Kathie McCatherin has graciously offered to be the point person to play hostess, and supervise the clean up on Thanksgiving Day. As in the past, the turkey will be provided for all to enjoy. The side dishes for a typical dinner will be provided by everyone in attendance. Our thought is for people to bring whatever makes them smile when they think of a happy Thanksgiving dinner. Kathie would like an idea of what type of dish people are bringing, so I will include that on the sign up**. A sign-up sheet is now located downstairs on the round glass table, or you can text or email me, and I will put you on the list. We do need to know how many people are coming in order to set up enough places.** This dinner is for anyone (singles, couples or families) who would like to dine with a slightly larger group or simply don't want to be alone**. It is for anyone in or out of our church community! So please invite neighbors and friends.** (Last year several of my knitting friends came and had a very good time). For questions or to sign up please contact me at Carriepenrose@gmail.com or 207-415-5513. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT FORESIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday, November 8: **9:30 a.m.** Communion Sunday Worship (Sanctuary and Online)
Christmas Angel Tree Kick Off
4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Falmouth – Foreside Confirmation & Youth Group (Falmouth Congregational)

Monday, November 9: **The office will be closed for staff PTO.**

Tuesday, November 10: **12:00 p.m.** Prayer Shawl Knitters (Classroom)
6:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
6:45 p.m. AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
7:15 p.m. Bell Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, November 11: **10:00 a.m.** Centering Prayer (Parlor)
6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer (Sanctuary)

Thursday, November 12: **9:30 a.m.** Bells of Casco Bay (Sanctuary)
12:00 p.m. Christmas Fair Prep (Fellowship Hall)
6:00 p.m. Women's AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
8:00 p.m. Fellowship Ministry (Zoom)

Saturday, November 14: **8:30 a.m.** Men's Monthly Breakfast
All gents, friends and members! FYI John Bischof

Sunday, November 15: **9:30 a.m.** Sunday Worship (Sanctuary and Online)
New Member Sunday!
Christmas Fair Crafting in the Fellowship following worship, AND Green Team Presentation in the large classroom, also after worship.

340 Foreside Road
Falmouth, ME 04105-1428

207-781-5880
info@foresidechurch.org

www.foresidechurch.org

An Open and Affirming Congregation

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

General Office Hours:

Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
unless otherwise posted

The Rev. Geoff Parker, Pastor – gparker@foresidechurch.org
Trevor Lavenbein, Choir Director – tlavenbein@foresidechurch.org
David Bartoletti, Organist/Accompanist – dbartoletti@foresidechurch.org
Elise Wulff, Youth and Families Coordinator – ewulff@foresidechurch.org
Christina Sklarz, Office Manager – csklarz@foresidechurch.org
Kate Hollinger, Bookkeeper – khollinger@foresidechurch.org

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