

Wherever you are on life's journey,
Know you are welcome here!



An Open and Affirming Congregation

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, July 17, 2022, at 9:00am

GATHERING MUSIC

John Bostron, MM
Music Director

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF CANDLES

Stephen Grasberger, Viola

Deep River
-Trad.

CALL TO WORSHIP

From Genesis 18. The congregation standing.

Deacon: God is in our midst. God is here, in the heat of the day, at the entrance to this place.

People: As God welcomes us, let us also welcome God.

Deacon: God invites us to stay and pause in this place. Be here and be still. You are God's beloved and deserving of rest.

People: As God welcomes us, let us also welcome God.

Deacon: God has prepared a table for your nourishment and still waters for your refreshment. At table and font, we are renewed.

People: As God welcomes us, let us also welcome God.

HYMN

The congregation stands and sings.

We Love Your Realm, O God
New Century Hymnal #312

PRAYER OF INVOCATION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

From Genesis 18. In unison.

God of Sarah and Abraham, you enter our lives through unlikely people and in unlikely places. Be with us in our worship this day, giving us shade from life's heat and nourishment for the journey ahead. Make your Holy Spirit dwell with us so that, like Sarah, we can laugh and be surprised by your goodness. Embolden us to hasten our welcome and to be more generous in our hospitality to those for whom it is hard to welcome and be hospitable towards. Bring us always to your mercy and grace, especially when we pray together the words Christ gave us to pray saying,

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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE PEACE

Minister: Before the foundation of the world Christ loved us and made for us a peace that passes all understanding. May the peace of Christ be with you all.

People: And also, with you.

THANK OFFERING

At this time, congregants are invited to share a word of thanksgiving or joy, and to make an offering as an expression of gratitude to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Stephen Grasberger, Viola
Meredith Browne, Cello

Ave Maria

Schubert

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 18:1-10a

(Pew Bible: page 12)

The lessons are read.

Deacon: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Minister Ylisse C. Bess
(she/they)

HYMN

The congregation stands and sings.

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?
New Century Hymnal #539

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PASTORAL PRAYER

We are praying for Cyndi's family friend, baby Wes, victims of gun violence, for the Barry family, for the family and friends of Jon Kulesza, for the Kinsman, Gibbons, and Lay families, Linda Saban, Natasha, Doug, friends and family of Querius, Marci, Brooke, Allan, Becky, John, Christine, people dealing with grief, Bill & Roberta Roberts family, Bob Goodrich, Babs

Ferelli, healthcare workers, Carol and Mary, people suffering with depression, Hannah Keating, Jennifer Lanciault, Sue Hunter.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Said by the minister.

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY

The congregation stands and sings.

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. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Adapted from Lectionary Liturgies. The congregation standing. In unison.

Loving God, you have given each of us gifts to use as members of the body of Christ. Here are our gifts – the work of our hands, our hearts, and our lives. Accept our gifts and let them bring hope and help to our world, here and everywhere, that it would be on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

HYMN

The congregation stands and sings.

Nearer, My God, to Thee
Pilgrim Hymnal #351

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Stephen Grasberger, Viola
Meredith Browne, Cello

Music from “Summer” from
THE FOUR SEASONS
Vivaldi

Leading your worship today are
Guest Preacher, Minister Ylisse C. Bess (she/they),
John Bostron, MM, Music Director,
Lucy Cushman and Cindy Dominguez, Deacons, and
Aaron Spiller, Live-stream coordinator.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Your Church This Week:

Sun., July 17 – Coffee Hour – Front Lawn

Mon., July 18 – Pilgrimage In The Park – 6:30pm – Stratham Hill Park

Mon., July 18 – Journey Song – 7:00 – 8:00pm – Sanctuary

Tues., July 19 – NO Lunch & Lectionary (will resume July 26)

Tues., July 19 – AA Meeting – 7:00pm – Rust Room

Weds., July 20 – Clothes Attic – 10am to 2pm

Weds., July 20 – AA Meeting – 6:30pm – Rust Room

Thurs., July 21 – AA Meeting – 6:30pm – Rust Room

Sat., July 23 – Clothes Attic – CLOSED

Welcome

We are delighted to welcome Minister Ylisse Bess (she/they) as our guest preacher. Minister Ylisse is the Associate Director of Social Justice Education and Spiritual Foundation at City Mission Boston, and Program Director for the Trauma-Responsive Congregation grant at Boston University School of Theology.

Pastor Wes on Vacation

Pastor Wes will be on vacation July 11 through July 23. Reverend Sherry Stromski will be available for pastoral care. If you are in need of emergency pastoral care, please contact the office or one of our deacons.

Intergenerational Summer Fun And Fellowship

Pilgrimage In The Park: Gather with us throughout July and August to walk on one of the trails in Stratham Hill Park on Mondays at 6:30pm. We will meet in front of the pavilion, near the primary parking lot.

Lunch & Lectionary: **ON HOLD** until July 26 when Pastor Wes returns from vacation. Pack your lunch and Bible for a noontime Bible study in the SCC Conference Room. We will meet for an hour on Tuesdays in July and August.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

SVdP is accepting donations. Please help us with our mission and donate as you are able. Some suggested items: tea/coffee, canned fish, chicken or turkey, dish/laundry detergent, canned vegetables, tissues, canned fruit, 100%

fruit juices, toilet paper, deodorant, shampoo/conditioner, liquid hand soap. There is a basket located in the narthex for your donations.

Read Along With Pastor Wes

Scan the code below to see what Pastor Wes is reading this summer. If there's book on the list that you'd like to read with him, let him know.



Pastor Wes's Office Hours

Pastor Wes will have office hours Monday and Wednesday from 9:00am to 1:00pm or by appointment. You can also reach him by email at westleyconn@strathamchurch.org or call the office at 772-3389. Can't make Pastor Wes's office hours at the church? Do you enjoy going for walks? Sign-up for a Tuesday Walk and Talk conversation. Click on the QR code below to select a time from the calendar to meet Pastor Wes.



Horton Center Open This Summer

Horton Center will be open this summer with a variety of camps for grades 3 through 12. Click on the QR code to read more about their available camps.



Pilgrim Lodge Summer Camps

The Pilgrim Lodge in West Gardner ME will be open for summer camps for all ages. Click on the QR code to read more about their schedule.



Giving Online

In the changing landscape of our world, one of the easier ways to give to our church is online. We have a link on our website:

www.strathamchurch.org/give, that you can use to make your offering or special donation. To connect to this page, you can use the QR code below.



You can also notify the church if you would like to set up a regular donation to be deducted from your bank account. Please call or email the church office at 772-3389 or findfaith@strathamchurch.org if you would like more information.



Stratham Community Church, UCC
6 Emery Lane - Stratham, New Hampshire 03885
(603) 772-3389 - www.strathamchurch.org

Ministers - The Congregation

Pastor – The Rev. Westley Conn – WestleyConn@strathamchurch.org

Minister of Pastoral Counseling –

The Rev. Allan Lurvey, Th.D. – allanlurvey@comcast.net

Music Director – John Bostron, MM – music@strathamchurch.org

Interim Sunday School Coordinator – Judy George

Church Office – Kristen Dusseault – findfaith@strathamchurch.org

