



Second Christian Church of Kittery - U.C.C.  
*Worship for the Second Sunday during Lent*  
March 1, 2026 - 10:00 AM

*Welcome one and all!*

*Remember: No matter who you are, no matter who you love,  
no matter where you are on life's journey, you're always welcome here!*

( \* You are invited to stand as you are able)

**WE GATHER**

**Gathering Music**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Centering Music**

**Call to Community †**

One: Friends of God, believe this: God loved the world; God loves the world; we are the beloved!

***Many: May the truth of this great love story shine through our worship today,  
and renew our sense of calling.***

So come, with your tiredness, your frustrations and your discouragements;  
come with your doubts, your fears, and your longings;

***We come to discover yet again how Jesus reveals God's love and mercy.***

Come, in friendship to God and to each other, and in friendship to the world,

***We come to listen for God's Word to us, to offer our prayers, and to be renewed in our calling.***

Friends, let us worship God!

**\* Hymn #24**

***The God of Abraham Praise***

LEONI

**\* Prayer for Transformation and New Life ††**

***For the water in our faucets and the water in our cells, we pray: God, have mercy.***

***For the still polluted water in Flint, Pittsburgh, Newark...***

***and all the bodies poisoned by racist policies and practices, we pray: Christ, have mercy.***

***For the water frozen in tear-gas encrusted snow in Minnesota***

***and the waters melting in precious glaciers in Antarctica, we pray: God, have mercy.***

***Keep us accountable to all the waters that bring forth life;***

***turn us around, Holy One. Amen,***

**\* Words of Assurance**

**\* Response**

Hirst/Effenberger

***Glory to you, creating One! Glory to you, redeeming Son!***

***Glory to you, O Spirit, come!***

***Meet us now, make us one, glory to you, O God!***

**The Anthem**

***Crossing Over There***

Pepper Choplin

The Second Christian Choir

## WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

### A Prayer before the Scripture Reading

*God, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed,  
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen,*

### The Scripture

Genesis 12:1-4a, John 3:1-17

### The Message

*"A Faithful Response"*

## WE RESPOND

### The Sharing of Joys and Concerns

### The Prayers of the People

### The Prayer of Our Savior

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread,  
and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, and the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen,*

### Invitation to Generosity

### Special Music

#### \* Response (#204 v. 4 only)

HUDSON

*But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe:  
Here, Lord, I give myself away - 'tis all that I can do.*

#### \* Dedication of Gifts ††

*For the loving of the world, we offer these gifts.  
For the flowing of the water, we promise these hearts.  
For the coming of the kingdom, we dedicate these lives.  
May it be so. Amen,*

## WE GO OUT

#### \* Hymn #595

*Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

#### \* A Blessing

### Music for Going Out

† From re:worship.com, written by Ann Siddall and posted on the Stillpoint Spirituality Centre website. Adapted.

†† Some of this morning's liturgy is adapted for our use from *UCC Worship Ways* © 2026. Permission granted.

## ***Welcome to Worship!***

You have been greeted this morning by Adam and Cassie Baran.  
Our Ushers are Priscilla and Orville deRochemont, and Kathy Maloney is our Liturgist.  
Please be sure to join us downstairs following worship  
for a time of refreshment and fellowship!

### ***Second Christian Church of Kittery - UCC***

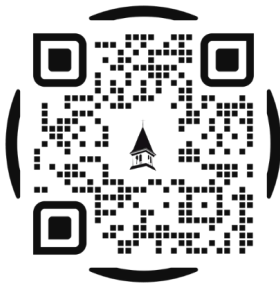
***An Open and Affirming Congregation***

***33 Government St., Kittery, ME 03904***

***207-439-3903 church@2ccucc.org***

Rev. Brad Hirst, Pastor • Mike Effenberger, Music Director • Charles Donnell, Treasurer

***Welcoming... Learning... Going Out...***



### **The Week Ahead:**

#### **Monday, March 2:**

6:00pm Seacoast Gay Men  
*10th Anniversary of meeting at Second Christian!*

#### **Wednesday, March 4:**

10:00am AA  
1:00pm In person Prayer Time  
6:30pm Choir Rehearsal

#### **Friday, March 6:**

9:00am Breakfast with Brad - at *Kasha's Kitchen*

#### **Sunday, March 8:**

2:00am ***Daylight Saving Time Begins!!!***  
10:00am ***Second Sunday Jazz for the Third Sunday during Lent***  
3:00pm ***Civil Rights Sunday*** - Market Square, Portsmouth  
Maybe *this* could be your Lenten discipline...

***Second Christian Congregational United Church of Christ***

***is a God-centered, Christ-formed, Spirit-led,***

***Open and Affirming gathering of God's People.***

***It is our mission:***

***To welcome all people into our community of faith,***

***To learn together the cost and joy of discipleship, and***

***To go out into the world to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ,***

## The God of Abraham Praise

*The God of Abraham praise.  
All praised be the Name,  
who was, and is, and is to be,  
is still the same;  
the one eternal God,  
ere all that now appears;  
the First, the Last, beyond all thought  
through timeless years!*

*God's Spirit flowing free,  
high surging where it will--  
in prophet's word it spoke of old--  
is speaking still.  
Established is God's law,  
and changeless it shall stand,  
deep writ upon the human heart,  
on sea, or land.*

*God has eternal life  
implanted in the soul.  
God's love shall be our strength and stay,  
while ages roll.*

*Praise to the living God!  
All praised be the Name,  
who was, and is, and is to be,  
is still the same!*

LEONI

WORDS: Daniel Ben Judah (14th century);  
trans. Max Landsberg and Newton Mann, 1885, alt.  
MUSIC: Hebrew Melody, trans. by Meyer Leoni, c. 1770

## Be Thou My Vision

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my redeemer, my love thou hast won,  
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*Great God of heaven, my victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

SLANE

WORDS: Irish song (8th century); tr. Mary E. Byrne,  
1905; versed by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912, alt.

MUSIC: Traditional Irish melody; harm. Carlton R. Young, 1963

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### ***Footprints Food Pantry***

#### ***Adopt-A-Shelf***

Next week we'll be delivering  
our February donation of

***DIAPERS!***

Thank you for your generosity!

This month we are collecting

***READY-TO-EAT MEALS!***