Second Christian Church of Kittery - U.C.C.

Second Sunday Jazz

for the Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 2026 - 10:00 AM

Welcome one and all!
Remember: No matter who you are, no matter whom 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 *Sing* Joe Raposo

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Music *A Little Bit at the Beginning* Raposo

The Call to Community †

One: Who can express the mighty work of the Holy One?

Many: We who gather praise the Holy One for God is good.

God's steadfast love endures forever!

Who can proclaim the redemptive acts of the Holy One?

We who gather praise the Holy One for justice and righteousness.

God shows favor and mercy toward the people.

Who can declare the wondrous and awesome deeds of the Holy One?

We who gather praise the Holy One! Praise the Holy One!

*** Hymn #16** ***Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*** NETTLETON

*** Our Gathering Prayer** †

Holy Love, your presence is our sanctuary.
We gather at your invitation to be in community with you and one another.
Enliven our hearts. Nourish our spirits. Encourage our souls. Expand our minds.
We seek truth and righteousness. We thirst to give and receive compassion and grace.
Let us feast on your word, release our concerns in prayer, and offer our praise in thanksgiving.
Be glorified among us, O God, our Redeemer, Host, and Friend. Amen,

*** 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!

Special Music *Bein' Green* Raposo

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

A Prayer before the Scripture Reading Tirabassi

Parable us, O God, and let us become like listeners who do not already know the punch line.
Let us feel sharp again – the hug-envy of watching a sibling's welcome,
resentment at a lazy co-worker's bonus equal to our own,
a split wineskin of old worship stuffed with new music,
embarrassment at a safely-buried backyard talent,
and the memory of rubber laid down dialing 911 on the road to Jericho.
The Bible has teeth. Bite us and don't let us go.

The Scripture Exodus 32:1-14, Matthew 22:1-14

A Musical Interpretation

The Message *Welcome - No Matter What?*

WE RESPOND

The Sharing of Joys and Concerns

The Prayers of the People

The Prayer of Our Savior First Nations Version

O great Spirit, the one who lives above us all, your name is sacred and holy.
Bring your good road to us where the beauty of the world above is reflected in the Earth below.
Provide for us day by day the elk, the buffalo, the salmon, the corn, the squash, the wild rice,
all those good things we need every day to feed our families.
Release us from the things we have done wrong,
in the same way we release others for the things done wrong to us.
Guide us away from selfish desire that tempt us to stray from your good road
and rescue us from that evil one and his worthless ways.
Your good road, with its great power and beauty, shines like the sun
to the time beyond the end of all days. Amen,

Invitation to Generosity

Special Music *Little Things* Raposo

*** Response** OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God whose mercies never cease, whose justice raises up the least
and sits all creatures down to feast - God's mercy is our hope and peace!

*** We Dedicate our Gifts and Promises** †

Generous God, receive all our offerings as acceptance to your invitation to the kindom life.
May they be used to spread abundance, generate hope, and meet needs.
Bless us as we give to grow in generosity, gratitude, and grace.
We give thanks for this opportunity to participate in your kindom come
and your will be done in our communities and world. Amen,

WE GO OUT

*** Hymn #582** ***Come Down, O Love Divine*** DOWN AMPNEY

*** A Blessing**

Music for Going Out into the World *Sesame Street Theme* Raposo

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 all… Learning together… Going Out to serve

Welcome to Worship!

You have been greeted this morning by Linda Wentworth and Elaine Hansberry.
Robert and Diane McDonough are our Ushers, and Alan Robinson is our Liturgist.

We welcome back the ***Second Sunday Jazz Quartet*** with Mike Effenberger on piano, Andrew Fogliano on tenor, Rob Gerry on bass, and Jim Rudolf on drums.

Today they are featuring the music of **Joseph Guilherme (Joe) Raposo** (1937–1989), an American composer and songwriter. He's best known for his work on the children's television series ***Sesame Street***, and we will hear some of that today - *The Carpenters'* cover of *Sing* was a #3 hit! He also wrote music for other television shows including *The Electric Company*, *Shining Time Station* and the sitcoms *Three's Company* and *The Ropers*.

Please be sure to join us downstairs following worship for a time of refreshment and fellowship - because, as we all know, "C" Is For Cookie - and Coffee, and Cake!

The Week Ahead:

Monday, October 12:	***Indigenous People's Day***
6:30pm	Seacoast Gay Men
Tuesday, October 13:	
6:30pm	Deacons Meeting
Wednesday, October 14:	
10:00am	AA
1:00pm	Prayer Team - *via Zoom*
6:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, October 15:	
7:00pm	***Bad Penny Pleasuremakers*** - In Concert!
Friday, October 16:	
9:00am	Breakfast with Brad at *Kasha's Kitchen*
Sunday, October 18:	
10:00am	***Worship for the Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost***
	Rev. Brad Hirst, preaching

Our Mission Statement:
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,

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love.

Here I raise to thee an altar;
hither by thy help I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious love.

O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, how I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

NETTLETON
WORDS: Robert Robinson, 1758, alt.
MUSIC: *Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813

Come Down, O Love Divine

Come down, O Love divine,
seek now this soul of mine,
and visit it with your own ardor glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let your glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round,
the while my path illuming.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power
of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till love creates the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes its dwelling.

DOWN AMPNEY
WORDS: Bianco of Siena (15th century);
tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1867, alt.
MUSIC: Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1906

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