



Elijah Kellogg Church, Congregational

917 Harpswell Neck Rd., Harpswell ME 04079 • 207-833-6026 • www.elijahkelloggchurch.org

Rev. Mr. Joseph Connolly, Interim Pastor

ELIJAH KELLOGG CHURCH WORSHIP

October 29, 2023

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

THOUGHTS FOR MEDITATION — “Faith is permitting ourselves to be seized by the things we do not see.” — Martin Luther

“Faith is a living, bold trust in God’s grace, so certain of God’s favor that it would risk death a thousand times trusting in it.” — Martin Luther

“If Christ were coming again tomorrow, I would plant a tree today.” — Martin Luther

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace...

* Call to Worship —

ONE: Let us gather together to listen for the ways God lives among us.

MANY: Our ancestors in faith listened for the Word of God, dared to believe the promises of God and acted in humility, as they sought to do the will of God.

ONE: They looked beyond the present moment.

MANY: And so in looking forward let us seek new relationships in the community of faith. Let us be open to the call of God. Let us be open to doing the work of God. Let us be open to the will of God.

Prayer of Invocation

* **HYMN** — *Let Us Hope When Hope Seems Hopeless* INSERT

Reception of New Members

Affirmation of Faith

PASTOR: Dearly beloved, do you affirm your faith in God, and Jesus as your Lord and Savior?

CANDIDATE: **I do.**

PASTOR: Will you make Jesus your example, and take for your rule of life His words: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul, and with all your mind and strength, and your neighbor as yourself?”

CANDIDATE: **I will.**

PASTOR: In the presence of God and these witnesses, will you give yourself to His service, and take this to be your church? Will you promise to walk together with them in faithfulness and Christian love? And will

you promise, as far as you are able, to attend its services, observe its sacraments, share in its work, support and benevolence, and make it a fruitful branch of the Church of Christ?

CANDIDATE: **I will, with the help of God.**

Owning of our Church's Covenant (in unison)

We covenant with one another to seek and respond to the Word and Will of God. We purpose to walk together in the ways of the Lord, made known and to be made known to us. We hold it to be the mission of the Church to witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our Community, the Nation and all the World, while worshipping God and striving for truth, justice and peace. As did our forebears, we depend on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us. We pray for the coming of the Kingdom of God, and we look with faith toward the triumph of righteousness and eternal life.

Welcome of the Church

Congregation: **We then, as members of this church, gladly welcome you to a part with us in the hopes, the labors and the joys of this Church of Christ. We promise to walk with you in Christian love, and to promote, as far as in us lies, your growth in Christian life.**

Prayer of Dedication (New Members and Congregation in unison)

Gracious God, we praise You for your calling us to faith, and gathering us in to this Church of Christ. We thank You for all our members and friends, and rejoice that You have increased our number. Together, may we live by your Spirit: building up each other in love, sharing the life and work of this church, and serving the world in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Hand of Fellowship — (Pastor and Deacon(s) on behalf of the church)

OFFERTORY INVITATION

***OFFERING RESPONSE (DOXOLOGY)**

Old One-hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

A READING FROM *TANAKH* IN THE SECTION KNOWN AS THE *TORAH* —
Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 [ILV]

[1] *Yahweh*, God, spoke to Moses, and said:

[2] Tell the entire congregation of the people of Israel these things: Be holy, for I, *Yahweh*, your God, am holy.

[15] Do not be corrupt in administering justice; do not render an unjust judgment; do not show partiality to the poor *or* defer to the great; do not give honor to the great. Judge your neighbor with justice. Judge your neighbor with fairness. [16] Do not go around slandering people. Do not profit by the blood of your neighbor. I am *Yahweh*, God.

[17] Do not nurse hatred in your heart for a neighbor. Do not nurse hatred in your heart for anyone. If you are angry with your neighbor, speak frankly about it or you will incur guilt, yourself. You will store up ill feelings. [18] Never seek vengeance or hold a grudge toward your relatives. You must love your neighbor as you love yourself. I am *Yahweh*, your God.

* **HYMN** — *Come Down, O Love Divine* INSERT

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS — Matthew 22:34-46 [ILV]

[34] When the Pharisees heard Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, left them speechless, they gathered together [35] and one of them, an expert on the law, attempted to trick Jesus with this question. [36] “Teacher, which commandment of the Law is the greatest?”

[37] Jesus answered,
“You shall love the Most High God
with all your heart
and with all your soul
and with all your mind.’

[38] That is the greatest and first commandment. [39] And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ [40] On these two commandments the whole Law, the *Torah*, the teaching, is based— and the writings of the Prophets as well.”

[41] Now while this group of Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question. [42] “What do you think about the Messiah? Whose descendant is the Messiah?” They said, “David’s.”

[43] So Jesus asked, “How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls the Messiah ‘Sovereign?’ For David says,

[44] ‘The most High said to my Sovereign,

“Sit at my right hand,
until I place your enemies
under your foot””?

[45] If David thus calls the Messiah ‘Sovereign,’ how can the Messiah be a descendant of David?” [46] No one could reply, was able to give an answer, and from that day on no one dared to ask Jesus any more questions.

SPECIAL MUSIC — “*Here I Am, Lord*” (arr. Daniel L. Schutte)

SERMON — *Re-formed*

Piano Meditation —

Prayers of the People -

SILENCE

Lord's Prayer (debts and debtors)

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, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

* **HYMN** — *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* INSERT. v. 1, 2, 3, 4

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE —

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God INSERT v. 5

Postlude

Short Biography of Christal Miller Ellis

I grew up in the Boston/Cambridge area. Since the age of 3 most of every summer I spent with my family at our camp in Harpswell and many winter weekends with family in Auburn and friends in Fayette. After graduating with a degree in Theater Arts, I worked as an actor in Boston and NYC before moving to Los Angeles where I met Chris Ellis. We were married in our home in 1996 and in 1999 welcomed our son, John-Michael Miller Ellis. Once the pandemic was over and JM was (happily) back in University, we decided to move to Maine and so here we are. And we are happy in Harpswell and look forward to being a part of the Elijah Kellogg Church.

Harpswell Community Radio – WHPW 97.3 FM

Harpswell Community Television – Channel 14

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/7960701>

Serving you this morning:	
Interim Minister	Rev. Mr. Joseph Connolly
Pianist	Elizabeth Cromwell
Reader	Josie Davies
Ushers	Bruce & Pat Myer
Coffee Hour	Hospitality



Today's flowers are given by Wayne and Nancy Hurst in loving memory of Robin Hurst.



The pink rose welcomes Ramona Anne Carson-Griffith, born on October 6, 2023,
daughter of Amanda Carson and Zach Griffith and granddaughter of John and Susan Carson.

Congratulations and love to all!

Time Change Song

Lyric: Joe Connolly

SPRING: Los - ing sleep is not for sis - sies still it hap - pens
FALL: Since it's Fall, next week re - mem - ber clocks go back and
ev - ery Spring. Clocks a - head for sure means miss ing
you should too! Back to bed an - oth - er hour
min - utes sleep - ing which we need. But if you're to be on time for
then you know what you should do? Off to church with friends and fam - 'ly;
church and prayer and wor - ship - ing. Set your clocks a - head: it's Spring!
Sleep will make you feel brand new! Sleep will make you feel brand new!

Tune: CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.
John Hughes, c. 1907

Come Down, O Love Divine

Bianco da Siena, c. 1367
Tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833-1890

DOWN AMPNEY 6.6.11.D.
R. Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, Seek thou this soul of
2 O let it free - ly burn, Till earth - ly pas - sions
3 And so the yearn - ing strong With which the soul will

mine, And vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
turn To dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
long, Shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near, With - in my heart ap - pear,
And let thy glo - rious light Shine ev - er on my sight,
For none can guess its grace, Till he be - come the place

And kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
And clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
Where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes his dwell - ing. A - men.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Martin Luther, c. 1529

Transl. Frederick H. Hedge, 1853; adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981

Tune: EIN' FESTE BURG



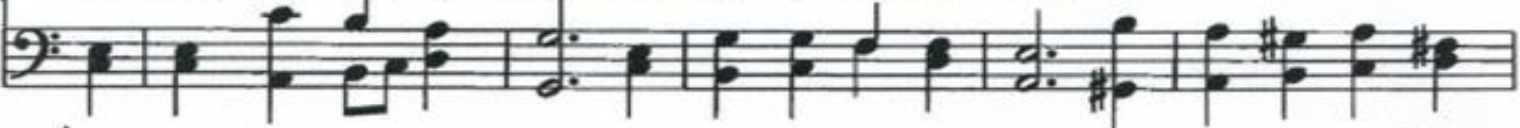
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er fail - ing,
2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be los - ing,
3 And though this world with dev - ils filled should threat - en to un - do us,
4 That word be - yond all earth - ly powers for - ev - er is a - bid - ing;
5 God's ev - er - last - ing Word a - bides, our strong and sure sal - va - tion.



Our pres - ent help a - mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing.
But there is one who takes our side, the One of God's own choos - ing.
We will not fear for God has willed the truth to tri - umph through us.
The Spir - it and the gifts are ours, for Christ is with us sid - ing.
The Spir - it here and now pro - vides rich gifts and con - so - la - tion.



For still our an - cient foe does seek to work us woe with craft and pow - er
You ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus sets us free! With might - y power to
The powers of e - vil grim, we trem - ble not for them; their rage we can en -
Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may
Let wealth and fam - ily go, this bod - y be brought low, What - ev - er loss we



great, and armed with cru - el hate, on earth with - out an e - qual.
save, vic - to - rious o'er the grave, Christ will pre - vail tri - um - phant.
dure, for lo, their doom is sure: one lit - tle word shall fell them.
kill; God's truth shall tri - umph still; God's reign en - dures for - ev - er.
bear God will at last re - pair, God's realm is ours for - ev - er.



Prayer Requests for October 29, 2023

At home...

Pat Moody
Connie Henry

Clara Braley

Mark Wilson

In nursing homes...

Sam Wright
David Ferris

In assisted living...

Tome Jones
Joan Phillips

Ernestine Machesney

Away...

Richard Haley

C V Noyes

Ellie and George Patterson

Sick, in the hospital or rehabilitation...

Recovering from illness or surgery...

George Perkins

Grieving...

Family of Devon Arnett
Family of Jane Collins

Thanksgivings...

The Pastoral Search Committee

Special concerns...

For the people in the paths of storms and fires

Emergency responders / Health care workers / Essential workers...

Praise God for our partnership with WHPW and Channel 14!

Please keep those named above in your prayers. If you have any questions, or would like others to be prayed for, please contact Susan Ferris, Chairperson of our Prayer Circle.

Susan can be reached at 666-3247 or sueherb@myfairpoint.net.

Thank You

Chicken Pot Pie Supper

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Chicken Pot Pie Supper a great success!! Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, there was lots of laughter amongst the crowd and word on the street is the dinner was pretty good too! It's always fun to catch up with friends and neighbors over a good home cooked meal!

(Photo credit: Rob Porter)

**Thank
You**



The Holiday Fair online auction is live!

The auction site is open for bidding! You have until 8pm on November 1st to place your bids. Many of the auction items are on display in the church vestibule, including a Walker Bay dinghy!

Here is the link to the auction site:

<https://auctria.events/2023EKCHolidayFair>.

You can also find the link

at <http://www.elijahkelloggchurch.org> (click on News and Events at the top of the home page).

Please invite your friends and family members to join the excitement and bid on the items.

Thank you,

Patty O'Brien Carrier, Pat Myer, Rob Porter,
and Allen Tucker

Luncheon

Pies Needed ~ Pies are needed for the luncheon on Saturday, November 4, 2023. Please sign the list in the hallway if you are willing to provide one or more pies. Pies may be left in the kitchen on the afternoon of **Friday, November 3 or before 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 4.**

Thank you for your help with pies!

Calling all Bakers, Preservers and Candy Makers!

Our fair is nearly here. Have you stocked your pantry with sugar, flour, butter and eggs? The Country Goods folks will be accepting your preserves all next week. Baked goods can be brought to Fellowship Hall after noon on Friday, November 3 or early morning (before 9:00) on Nov 4. Our committee will be wrapping them for sale, so don't worry about dividing the cookies into small packages. We will do that for you.

Please label your donated items so we know what we are selling! Your cookies, pies, cakes, breads, muffins, fudge, toffee and jams all help fill the Country Goods tables for the fair. Call Becky at 833-6159 with any questions.

Thank you!

Becky



Christmas by the Sea
Holiday Fair
at Elijah Kellogg Church
Saturday, November 4
9 am - 2 pm

Handmade Crafts
Treasures
Country Store & Baked Goods

Luncheon 11 am – 1 pm
Lobster Rolls, Fish Chowder, Egg
Salad Sandwiches & Pie!

Credit Cards Accepted!

Online Auction
October 20 - November 1

The link for the auction is:
auctria.events/2023EKCHolidayFair

Location: 917 Harpswell Neck Rd., Harpswell FMI: 833-6026

Sunday School

There will be no Sunday School October 29th or November 5th.

Women's Fellowship

The next meeting of the Women's Fellowship will be on Oct. 31st at 1:00pm. There is no need to bring your lunch but please bring your craft items and other donations for the fair. We will be pricing the items on that day followed by a short business meeting.

Thank you!

Fellowship Hour

Fellowship Hour is a great way to get to visit with people. Hospitality needs your help hosting this time. Boards, Committees and individuals are welcome to sign up for Sundays in November and December.

*****ATTENTION - Mold Remediation Update*****

Mold Bros. are scheduled to perform the cleaning and sanitization of the entire basement to kill all mold spores present. In the limited time we have left, please focus on the areas where certain boards and committees may still have WANTED items to be stored in plastic containers. Empty containers can be found in the barn.

This last concerted effort to organize all wanted items that may STILL be left is only beneficial financially for the church. Any items left unaccounted for and not in plastic containers will be considered unwanted. A few exceptions will be considered.

Some of us have worked VERY HARD on clearing out unwanted items this past year, which have been discarded, or moved to the barn, or somewhere else.

Thank you for your understanding,

Dave Fitzgerald

Moment for Missions

At the October 13th meeting, your Board of Missions made a total disbursement of \$1,000 to four of the organizations that EKC supports.

The Santa Fund	\$300
Seafarer's Mission	\$200
Warm thy Neighbor	\$300
Mid-Coast Hospital Chaplaincy	<u>\$200</u>
	\$1,000 Total

Notes:

Mission will support a Church World Service Blanket Sunday presentation at the Sunday service on November 12th. Donation envelopes will be in the pews.

We will again sponsor the Salvation Army Angel Tree. We will keep you up-dated as to when "the angels" arrive.

Food Bank Requests:

The MHPP (Food Bank Program) has requested the following items to restock their larder:

Canned Fruits
Tuna or any canned fish
Baked beans
Any type of dry Pasta
Toothpaste (Probably not the Large economy size)
All other donations are greatly accepted.

Toiletries & Personal Items

In keeping with our 4-part program of supplying needed items for the current Tedford Shelters, October will be the month we have selected to contribute: **TOILETRIES AND PERSONAL ITEMS**. Among the list are:

Razors and Shaving Cream	Mouthwash
Shampoos	Toothbrushes
Body Washes and Soaps	Kleenex and Toilet Tissue
Deodorants	

(Items should be Full Size, not the sample or travel size)

This should be a fun and quick request to fill, although the housewares was so very rewarding to see EKC's creativity and generosity in action.

Thank you,
Your Board of Missions