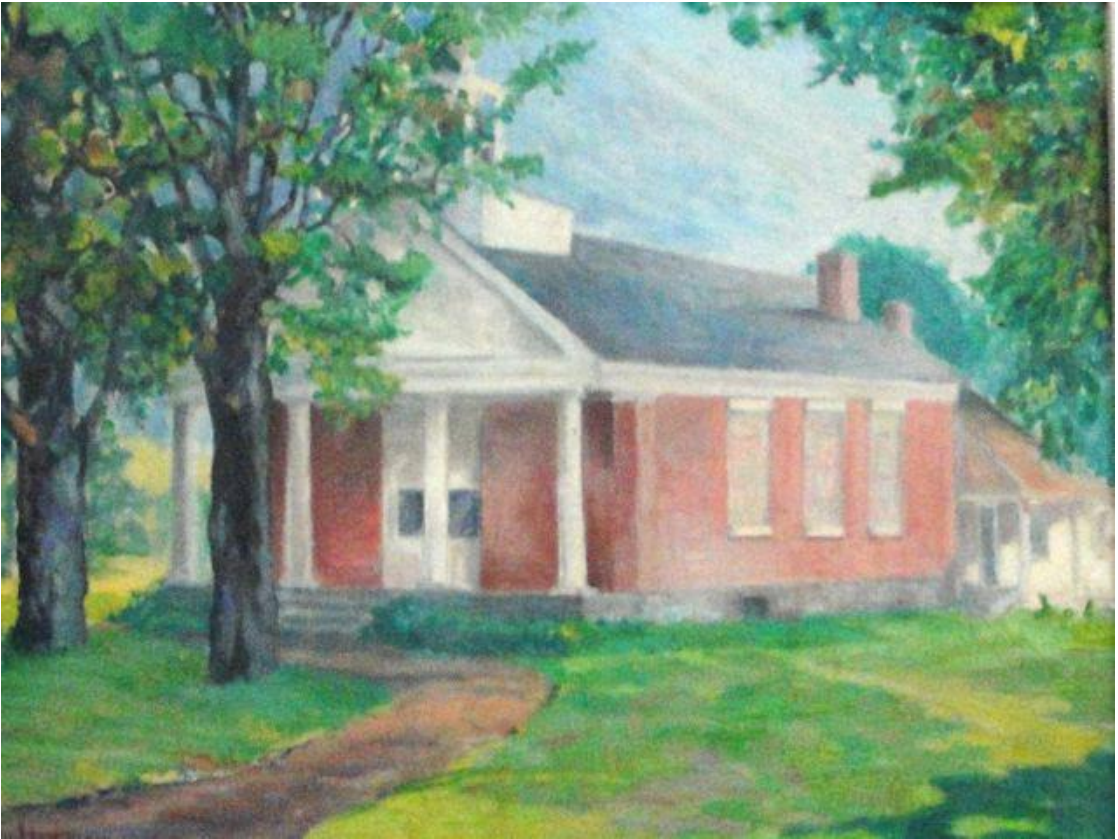


The Congregational Church of South Hero, U.C.C.



5th Sunday after Pentecost
June 28, 2026

9:30 AM

Gretchen Patterson, CCSH Moderator

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

A few things about our church...

- ❖ A **restroom** is in the back area of the church by the closets. Additional restrooms and a **changing table** are available downstairs.
- ❖ A **supervised nursery** is downstairs for children ages 5 and under.
- ❖ **Bold type** in the bulletin indicates a response by all.
- ❖ An * (**asterisk**) notes a time it is appropriate to stand in body or spirit, as you are able.
- ❖ Hymns marked **NCH** are in the **black New Century Hymnal**.
Hymns marked **W&R** are in the **green Worship & Rejoice** hymnal.

Preparing for Worship

Prelude

Ringing the Church Bell

Welcome & Announcements

Gathered as One

Invocation

Gretchen Patterson

God who provides, we acknowledge your presence that invites us to draw near to you. We glorify your name, for you, Holy and Righteous One, remain faithful to your creation. We open our hearts and minds to remember the testimonies of the past and to receive the truth revealed in your word for the present. May you delight in our praise as we honor you and encourage one another in the journey of faithful living.

Amen

Introit

Helen Bishop

Call to Worship

Barbara Brown

We gather as a people to worship the Holy One who considers our cries and responds to our conditions.

We gather even when wearied by the world because we trust in God's steadfast love.

Our souls may ask, "How long, Holy One?" Yet our hearts rejoice in your saving acts.

We gather even when shaken and sorrowful because we hope in God's steadfast love.

We gather to sing to the Holy One who has been generous with us.

Our worship and our work testifies to the goodness of the God who prevails. Let us worship the God of Life!

Prayer of Confession

Barbara Brown

God of the Covenant, in you, we have new life. In you, we have a faithful companion. Yet, difficult moments confront us with the limits of our trust in you.

We struggle to release control so that we might participate fully in your plan without fear, hesitation, or resistance.

Help us, O God, to be your faithful servants who trust you even through the tests and trials of life.

May we know the assurance and peace of your eternal love. Amen.

*A time of silence to contemplate these words
and how they apply to us personally and as a community of faith.*

Assurance of Pardon and Grace

Gretchen Patterson

The Holy One loves you and has made you participants in an everlasting covenant. God will not abandon you in despair or deprivation. Rather, the one who creates also sustains. There is a ram in the bush, and the Sovereign God will continue to provide. Receive the grace of God.

Amen.

Our Celebration

“This Is the Day”

W&R #652

This is the day, this is the day

That the Lord has made, that the Lord has made;

We will rejoice, we will rejoice

And be glad in it, and be glad in it

This is the day that the Lord has made;

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day

That the Lord has made.

Proclaiming God's Word

Time with Young People

Gretchen Patterson

Prayer for Illumination

Barbara Brown

Hebrew Scripture

Genesis 22:1–14

Pew Bible p 15-16

Psalm

Psalm 13 (CEB)

Read by All

How long will you forget me, LORD? Forever?

How long will you hide your face from me?

How long will I be left to my own wits, agony filling my heart? Daily?

How long will my enemy keep defeating me?

Look at me! Answer me, LORD my God!

Restore sight to my eyes!

**Otherwise, I'll sleep the sleep of death,
and my enemy will say, "I won!"**

My foes will rejoice over my downfall.

But I have trusted in your faithful love.

My heart will rejoice in your salvation.

Yes, I will sing to the LORD because he has been good to me.

Epistle

Romans 6:12–23

Pew Bible p 917-918

Response

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Special Music “I, the Lord of Sea and Sky, Here I am, Lord” Helen Bishop

By Dan Shutte

Gospel

Matthew 10:40–42

Pew Bible p761-792

Response

This is the good news.

Thanks be to God.

*Sermon Hymn “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

NCH #498

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Gretchen Patterson

Let us pray in the Spirit, who helps us in our weakness, interceding with sighs too deep for words. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In the Spirit, we pray for the church... Help us to share the gift you have entrusted to us: the good news of your free gift of life in Christ, like a cold cup of water to a thirsty soul. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In the Spirit, we pray for the earth... Liberate the earth from the dominion of death and restore it with the blessing of abundant life, so that generations to come may sing your praise. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In the Spirit, we pray for all nations... Amid the daily news of war, famine, and disease, announce the good news of your peace. Come quickly to establish your holy realm. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In the Spirit, we pray for this community... Enable us to extend Christ's welcome to all, so that they may come to know and love you and receive your gift of everlasting life. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In the Spirit, we pray for loved ones... Remember those who are too often forgotten—the abused and neglected, the vulnerable and weak. Let them rejoice in your steadfast love. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

In the Spirit, we pray to you, O God, confident that all things work together for good for those who love you and are called according to your purpose. Above all, we give you thanks, O God, that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord, who taught us to pray...

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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen**

Responding to God's Work

Invitation to Generosity

Gretchen Patterson

God is still creating and still providing. Let us honor the continued and new gifts of God's generosity by bringing forth a portion of what we receive so that all needs will be met. Let us participate in the realization of the kin-dom through offering material resources to the Body of Christ.

Offertory music "We Bow Down" by Twila Paris

Helen Bishop

Offertory

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.
CREATOR, CHRIST and Holy Ghost.
(sing the ending you are more comfortable with)
Praise FATHER, SON and Holy Ghost. Amen**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Generous God, may the gifts we bring provide for our community and neighbors just as you provided a ram for Abraham. Bless our time, talent, and treasure for your glory and your kin-dom. Amen.

Sent Forth in God's Name

*Sending Hymn "Great God of Earth and Heaven"

NCH #579

***Benediction**

Be confident that the Holy One will provide, for the promise of God is trustworthy and the presence of God is enduring. Therefore, show up in the world with boldness and clarity that justice and righteousness will prevail in the name of Holy Love and Everlasting Peace. May it be so for you and through you; in the Name of God: Parent, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

***Closing Music “ Shout to the Lord”** *by Darlene Zschech* **Helen Bishop**

***Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve God.

Thanks be to God!

Liturgy adapted from “Worship Ways”, Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ and “Call to Worship”, published by the Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in partnership with the Presbyterian Association of Musicians.

Thank you to our pastor, Mike; thank you to Barbara Brown for reading and to our musicians, Mary Jane Wirsing and guest musician Helen Bishop.

Helen Prakelt Bishop was raised in Essex Junction, spending summers in South Hero between Camp Hochelaga and Kibbe Point. After Williams College, she taught 18 years in Sacramento and then 26 years at her beloved Folsom School. Now retired, Helen considers South Hero people her people!

Congregational Church of South Hero, U.C.C.

P.O. Box 99 24 South Street South Hero VT 05486

Pastor Mike cell: **801**-209-6880 Email: mike@galica.us **In office Monday–Thursday**

Pastor Mike’s office hours for the week are posted outside his office.

Email: ccshvt@gmail.com Office: 802-372-4962 Web: www.sherochurch.org

Office Hours: Monday–Friday

Announcements

Unable to attend Sunday worship in person? Don't miss out! LIVE on YouTube.
<https://tinyurl.com/CCSHLive> The bulletin is posted on our webpage.



Please join us for coffee and refreshments every Sunday following worship. *Thank you to Susan, Russ, Claudia & Carolyn for hosting today.* The Board of Trustees will host in July.



Our parking lot is shrinking! Please pull forward on the front row or back on the back row. *Yes on the grass!*
We can no longer park a double row in the middle.

Village Harmony Teen World Music Ensemble Concert Sunday July 5th 3pm

Reminder: *We Need Food* for the Sunday post-concert potluck and for Monday morning breakfast.

Sign-up sheets are in the hall (little table as you enter/leave). All are invited to the Sunday potluck – but if you can't stay -we will be happy to accept your food! Monday morning breakfast items are needed. Let's send them on their way with full bellies!

Summer Music Schedule

July 5th Gena Callan

July 12th Jen O'Rourke Lavoie

July 19th Karen McFeeters

July 26th Phil Reynolds



There are opportunities for summer foods for your school children. Summer lunches are Thursdays at the Alburgh School and Grand Isle School. 4:30 - 5:30

Separate from the GISU lunch program is Food For Thought, also Thursdays, available at the Islands in the Sun Senior Center (Alburgh) 4:30-5:30 and at CCSH (So Hero) 4:30-5:45.

Don't be confused, call Margaret (372-4962) or Kaight (370-1461)