

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



James Tissot 1836–1902, *La sermon des béatitudes*

All Saints' Sunday
November 1, 2026

9:30 AM

Rev. Jill Isola

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

Pastor Jill Isola

Creator of the Multitude, be present among us as we gather. Let us worship you in praise and thanksgiving, in spirit and in truth, in season and out of season. May our souls reach toward you and our hearts burn as we encounter you afresh. Renew our minds through your word and our spirits through our praise. May your name be magnified and glorified in our assembly, and may your path become clearer for all who follow you.

Amen.

Introit "Come to the Table of Grace" *by Barbara Hamm* Chancel Choir

Call to Worship

Gretchen Patterson

Bless the Holy One with continuous praise. Magnify Love and let us exalt God's many names together!

We sought the Gracious One. God answered and delivered.

Bless the Sovereign One with boasting and gladness.

We turn to the Glorious God who radiates joy and safety upon us.

Bless the Mighty God who encamps around us!

O taste and experience that God is good! Praise the Holy One!

*Gathering Hymn

"For All the Saints"

NCH #299

Prayer of Confession

Gretchen Patterson

Loving God, we confess that we have not embraced your vision of beloved community.

We find ways to restrict who belongs and fail to make space for diversity and difference. We bicker over how we worship and consider practices other than our own with indifference and disdain rather than appreciation and curiosity. We allow the divisiveness of the world to separate your church. We center ourselves in worship and try to make you in our image rather than expanding the circle and recognizing your image in our neighbor.

Transform us, O God, so that we may reflect the beauty of your creation and the vastness of your 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

Pastor Jill Isola

Beloved, transformation is possible with the help of God. Receive the grace, courage, and strength the Holy One offers to remove barriers and erect bridges.

God is with us on this journey. Listen to Spirit who guides and binds us in love and truth. Amen.

Our Celebration

“Seek Ye First”

W&R #349

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you;
Allelu, alleluia!**

**Ask, and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find,
Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you;
Allelu, alleluia!**

Proclaiming God’s Word

Time with Young People

Pastor Jill Isola

Prayer for Illumination

Gretchen Patterson

Scripture

Revelation 7:9–17

Pew Bible p908

Psalm

Psalm 34:1–10,22

Read by All

I will bless the LORD at all times;

God's praise shall continually be in my mouth.

My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt God's name together.

I sought the LORD, and God answered me

and delivered me from all my fears.

Look to God, and be radiant, so your faces shall never be ashamed.

This poor soul cried and was heard by the LORD

and was saved from every trouble.

The angel of the LORD encamps

around those who fear God and delivers them.

O taste and see that the LORD is good;

happy are those who take refuge in God.

O fear the LORD, you God's holy ones,

for those who fear God have no want.

The young lions suffer want and hunger,

but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

The LORD redeems the life of God's servants;

none of those who take refuge in God will be condemned.

Epistle

1 John 3:1–3

Pew Bible p 990

Response

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

"Wonderful Grace" by Cindy Ovokaitys

Chancel Choir

Gospel

Matthew 5:1–12

Pew Bible p 785

Response

This is the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Message

Pastor Jill Isola

*Sermon Hymn

"Jerusalem, My Happy Home"

NCH #378 v1–4

Responding to God's Work

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Pastor Jill Isola

Our shepherd satisfies our needs; in faith, let us pray to God. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O God, we pray for the church... Bless those who are merciful and pure in heart with the vision of your new creation and mercy enough to share with all. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O God, we pray for the earth... Bless the meek; may the earth that they inherit be a place of wonder and glory, of beauty and blessing for all creatures. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O God, we pray for all nations... Bless the peacemakers, your beloved children. Bless those who are persecuted, and give them a place in your holy realm. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O God, we pray for this community... Bless those who hunger and thirst; feed them with your righteousness and satisfy them with your justice. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

O God, we pray for loved ones... Bless those who mourn, and comfort them. Bless those who are poor in spirit; let your heavenly realm be their reward. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Loving shepherd, lead and guide us—in green pastures and by still waters, in right paths and through dark valleys, until we feast with you in glory and dwell in your house forever; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Invitation to Generosity

Pastor Jill Isola

The Holy One has shaped creation so that every need may be met, love may abound, and we might be strengthened in community with one another.

Let us demonstrate our participation in the kin-dom of God through worshipping the Holy One through the giving of gifts of time, talent, and treasure.

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

Holy Love, we pray that you receive these gifts. Bless those who have accepted the call to generosity and those entrusted with the responsibility of these offerings. May your church be enlivened and your people nurtured in care through these tangible expressions of our love of you and neighbor. Amen.

Gathering at God's Table

Welcome to the Table of Jesus. In this church all persons who are open to the Holy Spirit, who seek to grow in Christian love, and who choose to join in the community of Jesus are welcome to participate. Our bread is gluten-free; our cup is grape juice.

Great Thanksgiving

Pastor Jill Isola

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Communion Prayer & Words of Institution

Pastor Jill Isola

Blessed are you, O Lord our God: You are enthroned in glory; salvation belongs to you! You have given your Lamb to be our shepherd, to guide us to the water of life, and wipe away our tears. Blessed is Jesus Christ, our Savior: Jesus taught the way of faithfulness and blessedness: to be merciful and meek, peaceful and pure in heart—to such as these the kin-dom of heaven belongs.

We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples saying: "This is my body which is broken for you. Do this to remember me."

In the same way, Jesus also took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.”

By eating this bread and drinking this cup, we proclaim Christ’s death, celebrate Christ’s resurrection, and await Christ’s coming again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and cup; make us one in the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord. You call us your children; and that is what we are. Let your will and your way be revealed in us, as you come into the world to reign in glory. Through Jesus Christ, 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

Distribution

We receive Holy Communion by intinction. As you come forward at the instruction of a deacon, receive the bread from the pastor. Continue to the deacon on the side you are seated and dip the bread in the cup. If you consume the bread before you dip, please ask the pastor for another.

Return to your seat via the side aisles. If you would like to partake of Holy Communion and are unable to come forward, let the deacon know and the bread and cup will be brought to you.

Prayer after Communion

Pastor Jill Isola

God of glory, in this holy feast you have made us one with Christ and with that great multitude of the faithful—those who hunger and thirst no more and worship night and day in your temple. Lead us in the paths of righteousness and guide us to the springs of the water of life, until we join the choir of the redeemed. Amen.

Sent Forth in God’s Name

***Sending Hymn**

“O Savior, for the Saints”

NCH#298

***Benediction**

Pastor Jill Isola

Rejoice and be glad and spread the love of God, the peace of God, and the sweet communion of God wherever you go; in the name of God: Parent, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Benediction Song "Go, Make a Difference"

by Steve Angrisano & Tom Tomaszek.

Refrain: (Choir sings verse)

Go make a difference. We can make a difference.

Go make a difference in the world.

Go make a difference. We can make a difference.

Go make a difference in the world.

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 guest minister Rev. Jill Isola thank you to Gretchen Patterson for reading and to our musicians, Mary Jane Wirsing, Diantha Howard and our Chancel Choir.

Welcome this morning to our guest minister: The Reverend Jill Isola is a Minister of Word and Sacrament with the Presbyterian Church (USA), having served congregations in Michigan, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. A relatively new Vermont resident, Jill serves as a spiritual caregiver with UVM Home Health and Hospice and is pursuing a PhD in practical and constructive theology.

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

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