



LIGHTING THE STEEPLE

September 7, 2025

*If you would like to light the steeple
in honor or memory of a family member or friend,
please contact Patty Gardner @*

peachamchurchinformation@gmail.com

*We light the steeple this week to celebrate the beginning of the
new school year and all our fine students and the teachers and
administrators who keep everything running smoothly.*

Click the link below to fill out the form:

https://irp.cdn-website.com/.../Steeple_Lighting_Card

September 7, 2025

Announcements: Thank you to John Morris for delivering the message, "What is our true foundation?"

John's Bio.: I earned my living for about 30 years as an elementary school teacher while serving the small Episcopal church in Wilmington, Vermont. I retired from teaching in 1999 and then served as part-time pastor of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Chester, Vermont and then as part-time pastor of St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Chester, Vermont. I retired from parish ministry in 2013 but have done regular Sunday supply work at congregations in Vermont and New Hampshire. My wife, Susan, and I have three adult children and two grandchildren. We have lived in Topsham, Vermont since 2002. In 2007, Pilgrim Press published my book entitled *First Comes Love?* which is a brief history of marriage traditions in the Bible and in Western civilization.

- Melissa Hough is asking folks who can, to sign up to host Coffee Hour. It was suggested that perhaps two people could sign up per week. Please see melissa if you are interested.
- Fall Foliage Day for Peacham is quickly approaching. Thursday, October 2nd is this years' date. We will be preparing the list of items needed for the Fall Foliage meal. Also, we will be looking for people to sign-up to help.

9/14/25 David Bullock – "The Poor are Christ's chosen"

9/21/25 Susan Chandler – Lay Leader – Communion with Carol Fox

9/28/25. Abby Pollender – Chaplain, NVRH – Coffee House Service

Ministry.....Until we find a pastor or an interim pastor, the deacons will handle all services.
Patty Gardner, the head deacon, can be reached at 413-883-2842.

Church Admin.....Patty Gardner

Lay Service Coordinator..... Lynne Lawson

Accompanist Bruce Westcott

Church Council President

& Moderator John Marshall

Deacons: Susan Chandler Chris Danielson

Carolyn Deasy Patty Gardner

Anita Vann Rick Witt

Deacon Emeritus: Bruce Maclean

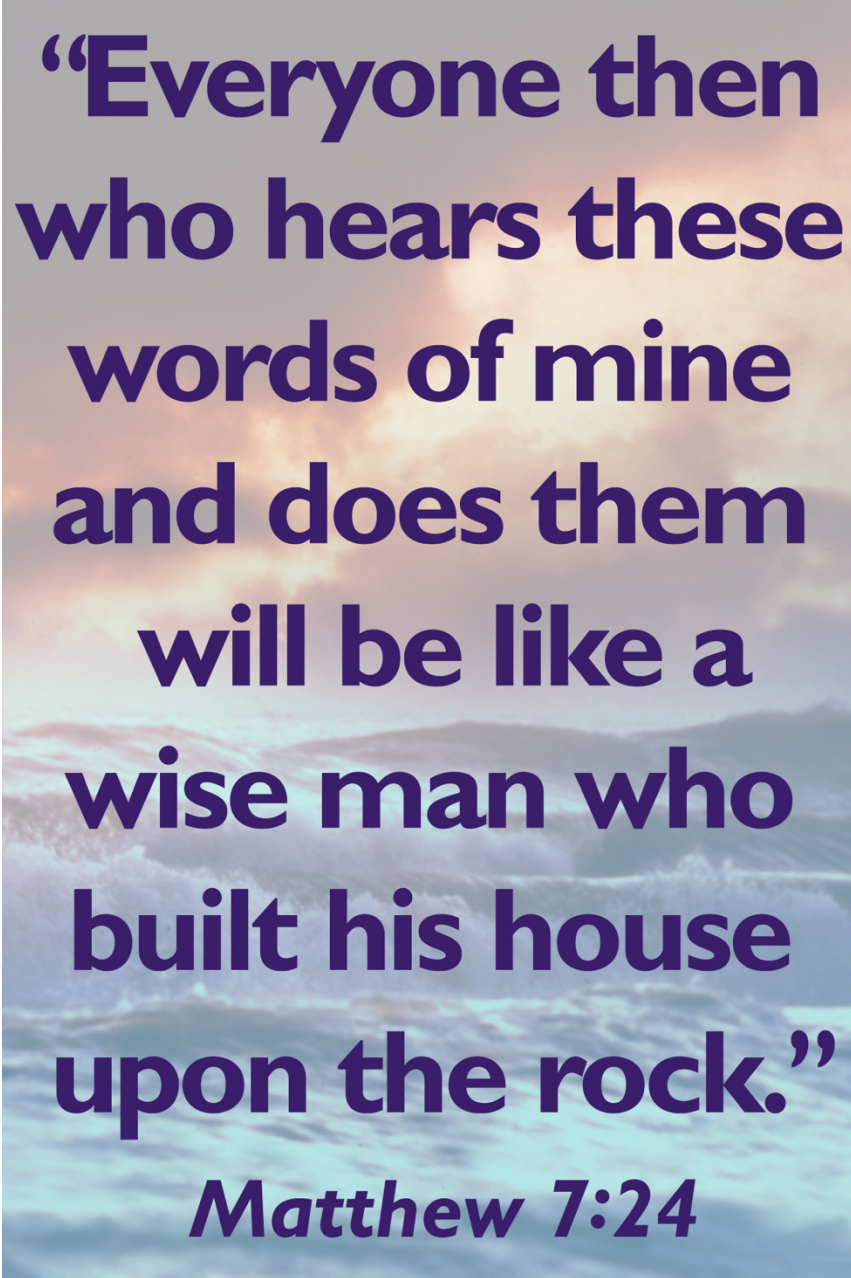
Treasurer.....Bruce Westcott

Collector.....Ann Goss

Sexton.....Jeff Lane

Web MinistryJonathan R. Potter

Peacham Congregational Church
56 Church St., Peacham, VT 05862
802-592-3330



**“Everyone then
who hears these
words of mine
and does them
will be like a
wise man who
built his house
upon the rock.”**

Matthew 7:24

*We are an Open and Affirming Church
No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.*

www.peachamchurch.org

Order of Worship
September 7, 2025
Message: John Morris

Greeting and Announcements

Prelude

Responsive Call to Worship

One Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey

All You are welcome here!

One Whether you come with a heavy heart or singing joyful songs of praise.

All You are welcome here!

One Whether you are here every week, or this is your first time

All You are welcome here!

One We all are gathered here not by our own will, but by the invitation of God in Jesus Christ.
Everyone is welcome because the good news is for everyone.

All Let us welcome the Holy Spirit into this time of worship.

Opening Hymn # 237 – “How Firm a Foundation”

Reading

Concerns & Celebrations

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Response: Hymn # 345

Hear our prayer O God. Hear our prayer O God.

Incline Your ear to us and grant us Your peace. Amen.

Collection and Mission (NEKASAN)

Doxology - **#46** Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God for all that love has done;

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

Unison Prayer of Dedication

With these offerings, O God, we dedicate ourselves to showing love by our actions. May they be our witness in the world. AMEN

Hymn #411 "We Would Be Building"

Scripture Reading: Matthew 7: 24-27

Message: What is our true foundation” - John Morris

Hymn #238 – The Church’s One Foundation

**Unison Benediction - Go out into this beautiful and wonderful world and spread love.
Celebrate all that is and all that God has made. AMEN**

Response #345 *God Be With You Till We Meet Again v.1*

POSTLUDE

UPCOMING:

9/14/25 David Bullock –“The Poor are Christ’s chosen”

9/21/25 Susan Chandler – Lay Leader

9/28/25. Abby Pollender – Chaplain, NVRH – Coffee House Service

Hymns #416 and #417 are shortened versions of the original version of “All my hope on God is founded."

Verse two in the original is this:

**“Mortal pride and earthly glory, sword and crown betray our trust;
though with care and toil we build them, temple and tower fall to dust.
But God’s power, hour by hour, is my temple and my tower.”**

IF YOU CAN AFFORD IT, PLEASE CONSIDER PURCHASING A FEW EXTRA NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS TO ADD TO YOUR GROCERY BASKET WHEN YOU SHOP. SOON, THERE WILL BE FEWER AND FEWER OPTIONS FOR THOSE WITH FOOD INSECURITY IN OUR COMMUNITY.

How Firm a Foundation

237



1. How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2. "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
 3. When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,
 4. "When through fier - y tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 5. "The souls that on Je - sus have leaned for re - pose

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent word!
 for I am your God, and will still give you aid;
 the riv - ers of woe ov - er you shall not flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply:
 I will not, I will not de - sert to their foes;

What more can God say than to you has been said,
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 for I will be near you, your trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 those souls, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my right - eous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake!"

WORDS: "K" in Rippon's *Selection of Hymns from the Best Authors*, 1787, alt.
 MUSIC: Early American melody from Funk's *Genuine Church Music*, 1832

FOUNDATION
 11 11.11 11

This hymn, of anonymous English authorship, found its greatest success in America where it was sung to the tune FOUNDATION, particularly in southern Methodist and Baptist churches.

FOUNDATION

We Would Be Building

1. We would be build - ing; tem - ples still un - done
 2. Teach us to build; up - on the sol - id rock
 3. O keep us build - ing, Sav - ior; may our hands

o'er crum - bling walls their cross - es scarce - ly lift,
 we set the dream that hard - ens in - to deed,
 ne'er fal - ter when the dream is in our hearts,

wait - ing till love can raise the bro - ken stone,
 ribbed with the steel, both time and change to mock,
 when to our ears there come di - vine com - mands

and hearts cre - a - tive bridge the hu - man rift.
 the un - fail - ing pur - pose of our no - blest creed.
 and all the pride of sin - ful will de - parts.

WORDS: Purd E. Deitz, 1935, alt.
 MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. *The Hymnal*, 1933

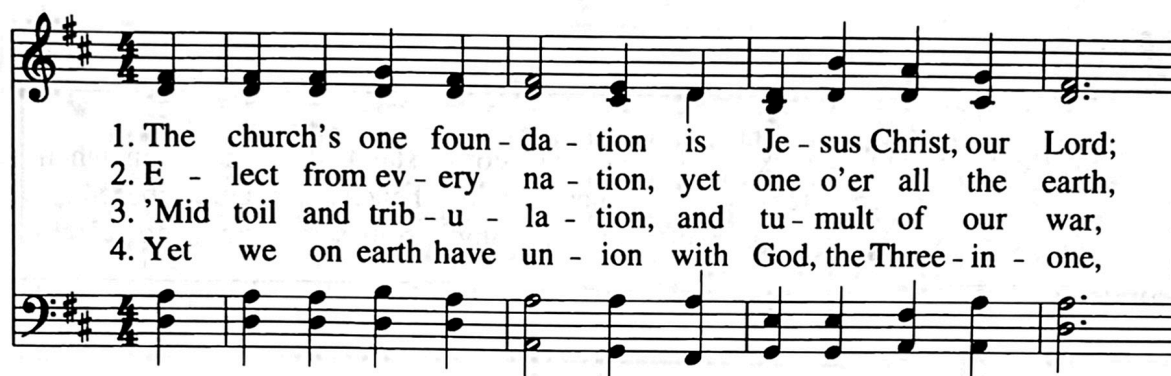
FINLANDIA
 10 10.10 10.10 10

Purd Deitz wrote these words for a Reformed youth conference. Deitz became head of the UCC Board for Homeland Ministries. This hymn has been sung in many languages at world youth conferences.

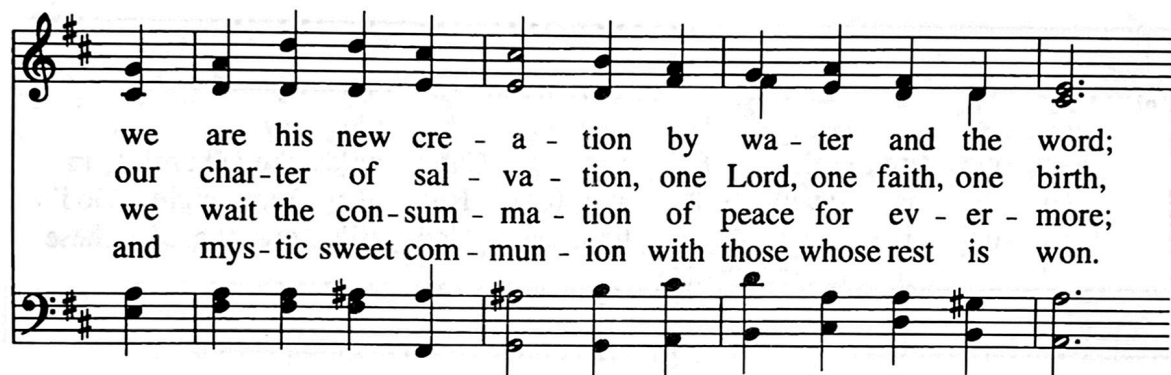
Words by permission of Estate of Purd E. Deitz
 Music © Breitkopf & Härtel
 Arr. © 1933, 1961 Presbyterian Board of
 Christian Education,
 admin. Westminster/John Knox Press

The Church's One Foundation

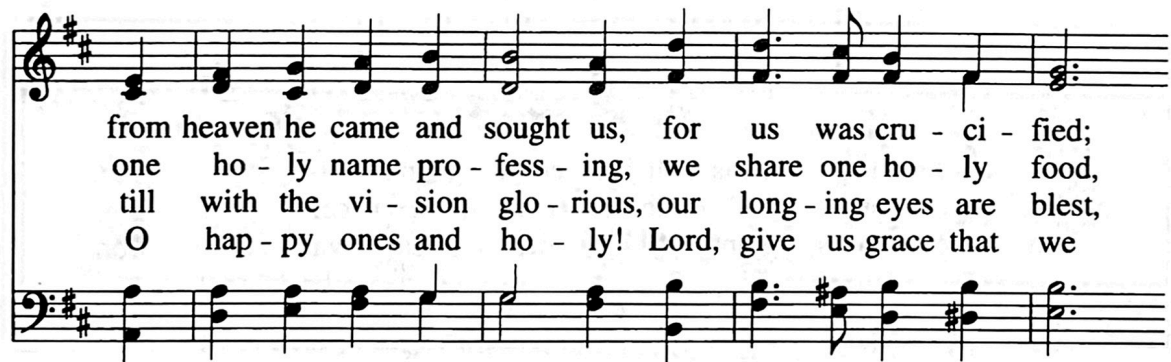
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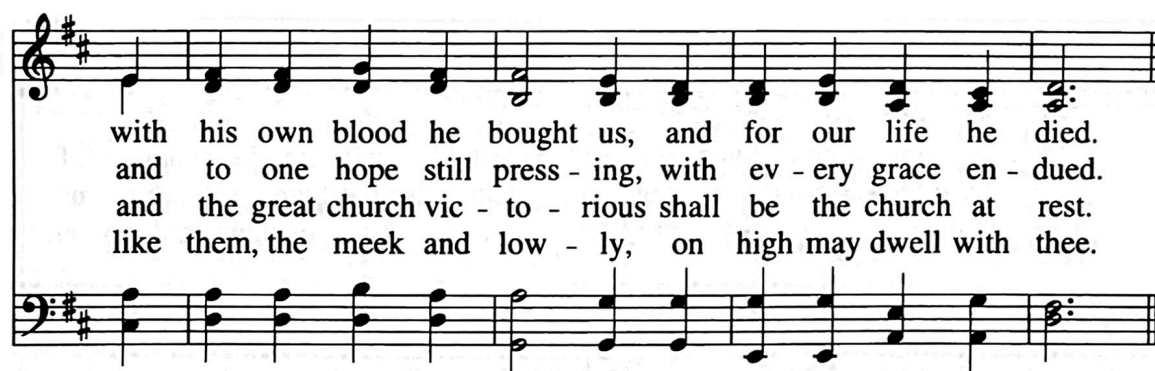
1. The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, our Lord;
 2. E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3. 'Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, and tu - mult of our war,
 4. Yet we on earth have un - ion with God, the Three - in - one,



we are his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word;
 our char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth,
 we wait the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.



from heaven he came and sought us, for us was cru - ci - fied;
 one ho - ly name pro - fess - ing, we share one ho - ly food,
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious, our long - ing eyes are blest,
 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we



with his own blood he bought us, and for our life he died.
 and to one hope still press - ing, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

WORDS: Samuel J. Stone, 1866, alt.
 MUSIC: Samuel S. Wesley, 1864

AURELIA
 76.76D

Anglican Londoner Stone's hymn was written in the midst of a doctrinal dispute and was inspired by the phrase from the Apostle's Creed, 'I believe in . . . the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints.'