

**Order of Service**  
**August 24, 2025**  
**“We Can Do Hard Things: A Backpack Blessing Service”**  
**Led by Rev. Allison Palm**

**GATHERING THE COMMUNITY**

Prelude Jed Holland, Music Director

Ringling the Bell & Welcome Rev. Allison Palm, Minister

**CENTERING**

Opening Words & Chalice Lighting Tina Marshman  
Words by Gretchen Haley

Opening Hymn: *“Love Will Guide Us”* Hymn #131

**SHARING IN COMMUNITY**

Outreach Offering: Grow Nashua Tina Marshman  
Text “give” to give to the monthly outreach  
Text “(amount) pledge” to give to the church  
(603) 945-2859

Offertory: Instrumental Jed Holland  
Response: *“From You I Receive”* Hymn #402

Wonderbox Rev. Allison Palm,  
Backpack Blessing, by Erika Hewitt (adapted) Michael Packard, Ministerial Intern, & Lukas

Hymn: *“Call Down a Blessing”*  
(words & music: Margaret J. Nelson)

Caring Candles Rev. Allison Palm & Tina Marshman  
(910) 807-3851  
Silent Reflection  
Response: *“Spirit of Life”* Hymn #123

**GOING DEEPER**

Words for Reflection Tina Marshman  
“I Can Do Hard Things: Mindful Affirmations for  
Kids” by Gabi Garcia. Illustrated by Charity Russell

Anthem: *“You Can Do This Hard Thing”* Kim Steele  
(words & music: Carrie Newcomer)

Creating Our Backpack Blessings Rev. Allison Palm

**RETURNING TO SERVICE IN LIFE**

Closing Hymn: “*I Know I Can*”

Hymn #1015

Benediction & Chalice Extinguishing

Rev. Allison Palm, Minister

Song for Parting; “*Peace & Joy*”

(words & music: Kathy Grossman)

Postlude

Jed Holland, Music Director

### **Notes for our In-person Attendees**

**MASKS & COVID VACCINATIONS:** Masks are optional and vaccinations are strongly encouraged. If you test positive for Covid-19 within 5 days of attending service, please inform the Church Office at [uucnoffice@uunashua.org](mailto:uucnoffice@uunashua.org)

**CARING CANDLES:** If you have a joy or sorrow to share, you can fill out a Candle Card (on the welcome tables) and give it to a Greeter or Staff member prior to the start of the service. You can also Text your Joy/Concern to 910-807-3851. Please include your name.

**CHILDREN’S WORSHIP ROOM (Room 258):** Available most Sundays from 9:50-11am for any children, especially young children, to play and meet church caregivers who are both volunteers and staff. The worship service is streamed into this classroom, offering young and old a chance to hear the music and words of the service in a setting that may better meet the needs of young, active, or nervous children. Please reach out to Sadie Kahn-Greene if you have questions or would like to help volunteer in this space.

**UU KIDS SUMMER ACTIVITIES (Room 302):** This option is available for children ages 4 and up. Children will start in the worship space and head to room 302, with volunteers, after the wonderbox moment through 11:15. In this space they can do legos, beads, art, and games.

#### **WONDER BAGS:**

While we don’t have a dedicated family worship space at Rivier, we have “Wonder Bags” to borrow! They include small clipboards with coloring pages, order of service word searches, pipe cleaners, and quiet toys. Anyone who wants one may choose a bag on their way in and return it on their way out, so it will be ready to be restocked for the next week.