

The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

*Declaring, "Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today,
and forever." Hebrews 13:8*

November 1st, 2020

The Order of Morning Worship

For assistance as we “gather” remotely and in-person to worship together.

November 1st, 2020

Ten-thirty

Welcome

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship

Isaiah 6

Pastor: I saw the Lord, seated on a throne, high and exalted,

Congregation: And the train of his robe filled the temple.

Pastor: Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: with two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another:

Congregation: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.”

❖ Hymn of Exultation

Number 302

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

302

Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD. Ps. 95:1

1. Come, Chris - tians, join to sing Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 2. Come, lift your hearts on high, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 3. Praise yet our Christ a - gain, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

loud praise to Christ our King; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 let prais - es fill the sky; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 life shall not end the strain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - joice;
 he is our Guide and Friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;
 on heav - en's bliss - ful shore, his good - ness we'll a - dore,

praise is his gra - cious choice. Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 his love shall nev - er end. Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more, "Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!"

Scriptural Call to Repentance

Isaiah 30: 15 – 18

In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it. Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; He rises to show you compassion. For the Lord is God of justice. Blessed are those who wait for Him!

Collective Confession

Psalm 51

Be gracious to us, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; according to the greatness of Your compassion blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin. For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Against You, You only, we have sinned, and done what is evil in Your sight, So that You are justified when You speak, and blameless when You judge.

Proclamation of Forgiveness

Hebrews 2:18

Because Jesus Himself suffered when He was tempted,
He is able to help those who are being tempted.

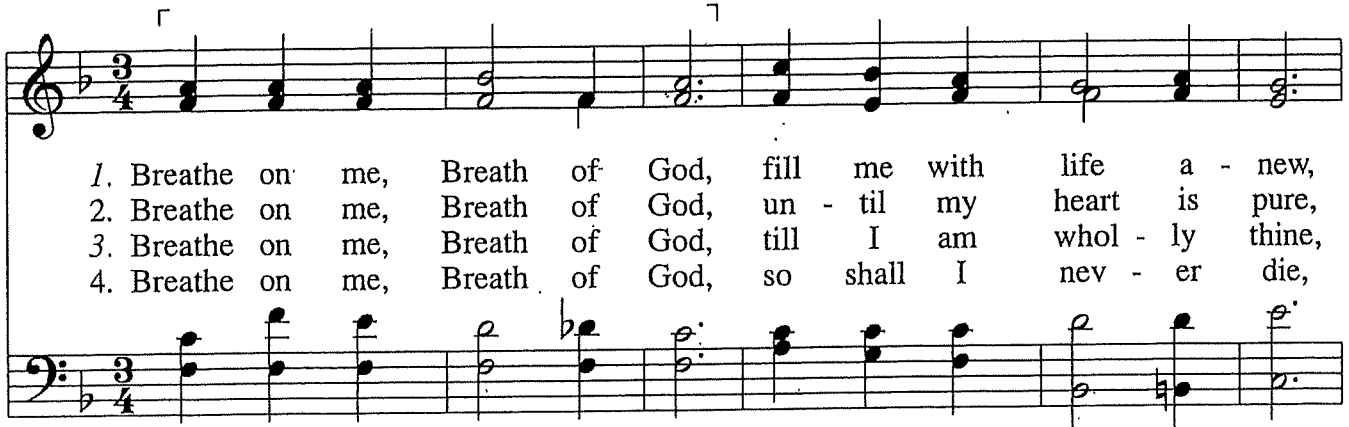
Scripture Reading

1 Thessalonians 2: 13 – 16

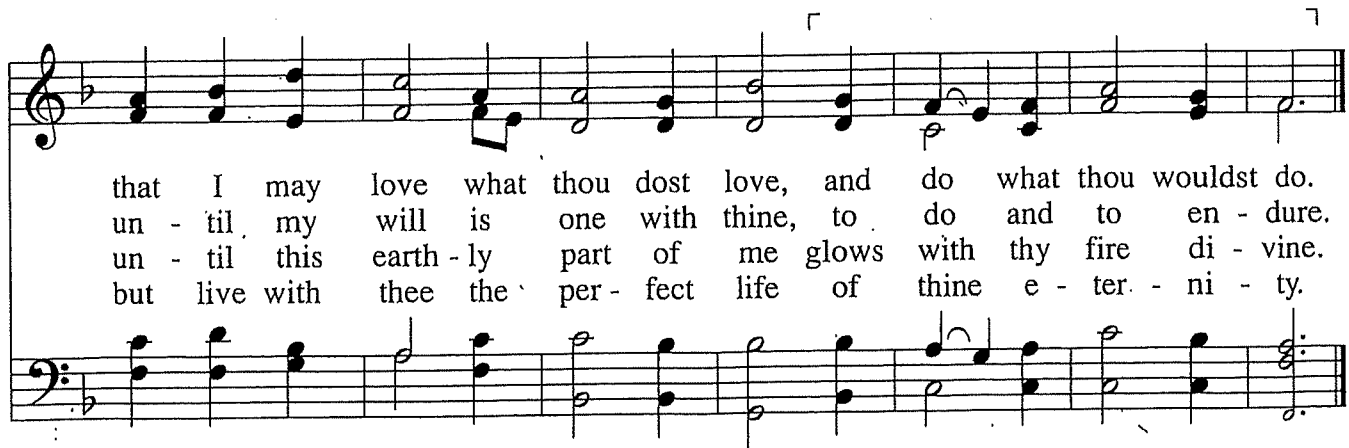
¹³ And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers. ¹⁴ For you, brothers, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea. For you suffered the same things from your own countrymen as they did from the Jews, ¹⁵ who killed both the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and drove us out, and displease God and oppose all mankind ¹⁶ by hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles that they might be saved—so as always to fill up the measure of their sins. But wrath has come upon them at last!

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

*Breath on Me, Breath of God**He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." John 20:22*


1. Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new,
 2. Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
 3. Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,
 4. Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,



that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
 un - til my will is one with thine, to do and to en - dure.
 un - til this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.
 but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

Edwin Hatch, 1878

TRENTHAM S.M.
Robert Jackson, 1888

Pastoral Prayer

The Sermon

Pastor Doug Warren

"King Jesus Deploys His Forces to Ends of Earth"

Acts 13: 1 – 12

Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.² While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."³ Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off.

⁴ So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus. ⁵ When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews. And they had John to assist them. ⁶ When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they came upon a certain magician, a Jewish false prophet named Bar-Jesus. ⁷ He was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence, who summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. ⁸ But Elymas the magician (for that is the meaning of his name) opposed them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. ⁹ But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him ¹⁰ and said, “You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? ¹¹ And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time.” Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking people to lead him by the hand. ¹² Then the proconsul believed, when he saw what had occurred, for he was astonished at the teaching of the Lord.

❖ Hymn of Reflection

O Church Arise

O Church Arise

Words and Music by
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

♩ = 58

VERSE

A^{7sus}

D

G/B

A/C#

1. O Church, a - rise, and put your ar - mour on; Hear the
 2. Our call to war, to love the cap - tive soul, but to
 3. Come see the cross, where love and mer - cy meet, as the
 4. So Spir - it, come, put strength in ev - 'ry stride, give

3

D/F#

G

A^{sus}

A

D

A^{7sus}

D

call of Christ our Cap - tain. For now the weak can say that
 rage a - gainst the cap - tor; And with the sword that makes the
 Son of God is strick - en; Then see His foes lie crushed be -
 grace for ev - 'ry hur - dle; That we may run with faith, to

6

G/B

A/C#

D/F#

G

A^{sus}

A

D

D/F#

they are strong, in the strength that God has giv - en. With shield of
 wound - ed whole, we will fight with faith and val - our. When faced with
 -neath His feet, for the Con - quer - or has ris - en. And as the
 win the prize of a serv - ant, good and faith - ful. As saints of

9 G D/F# A D/F# G D/F# Bm A A^{7sus}

faith and belt of truth, we'll stand a - gainst the dev - il's lies; An ar - my
 trials on ev - 'ry side, we know the out - come is se - cure. And Christ will
 stone is rolled a - way and Christ e - merg - es from the grave, this vic - t'ry
 old still line the way, re - tell - ing tri - umphs of His grace, we hear their

13 D G/B A/C#

bold, whose bat - tle cry is Love, reach - ing
 have the prize for which He died, an in -
 march con - tin - ues till the day ev - 'ry
 calls, and hun - ger for the day when, with

15 D/F# G A^{sus} A D D^{sus} D

out to those in dark - ness.
 -her - it - ance of na - tions.
 eye and heart shall see Him.
 Christ, we stand in glo - ry.

Communion

Congregation

❖ Communion Hymn

Number 500

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

500

That rock was Christ. 1 Cor. 10:4

Unison Bm⁷ A

1. Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my -
 2. Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fil thy
 3. Noth - ing in my hand I bring, sim - ply to thy
 4. While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids

self in thee; let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en
 law's de - mands; could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for -
 cross I cling; na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to
 close in death, when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy

side which flowed, be of sin the dou - ble cure, cleanse me from its
 ev - er flow, all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and
 thee for grace; foul, I to the Foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior,
 judg - ment throne, Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my -

guilt and pow'r.
 thou a - lone.
 or I die.
 self in thee.

Fine

Benediction

Hebrews 13: 20 – 21

Pastor: Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord, equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

Congregation: Thanks be to God. Amen.

The Congregation may be seated after the Benediction for silent prayer.

Postlude

~~ Organist: Jonathan Denham ~~
~~ Please ensure cell phones are off ~~

Reception for Tom and Karen Evans - Today

The Deaconesses are hosting a farewell reception for Tom and Karen Evans today after the morning worship service. There is a basket for cards and notes from their FCCW family.

Deacons' Offering – November 15

This month's Deacons' offering will be the Pastor Emeritus Collection. Twice a year, in May and November, the Pastor Emeritus offering is taken for Doris Johnston. David and Doris faithfully served this church for 24 years. The Pastor Emeritus Collection helps off-set unexpected expenses that Doris might incur in her retirement. This month's collection will take place on Sunday, November 15.

Annual Meeting Warning

Members are welcome to attend in person or via live stream. ONLY those members attending in person will be counted as part of the quorum and have the ability to vote.

Notice: The members of the First Congregational Church of Woodstock, Vermont, Inc., are called to meet on Thursday, November 12th, 2020 at 7:00 pm to conduct the following business:

1. To vote on a motion from the elders to suspend the committee membership number requirements for 2021.
 2. To vote on the Elders' nomination of
 - a) Tom Johnston to a first four-year term on the Board of Elders
 - b) Dan Bruce to a first four-year term on the Board of Deacons
 3. To vote on the Deacons' nomination of
 - a) Jerry Morton to a three-year term as Treasurer
 - b) Andy Cole to a three-year term as Assistant Treasurer
 4. To vote on the Nominating Slate as proposed by the Nominating Committee;
 5. To review and vote on the 2021 Budgets, including the normal operating budget, major expense budget and Woodstock Christian Child Care budget, as proposed by the Board of Deacons;
 6. To vote and approve the minutes of the November 14, 2019 Annual Congregational Meeting;
 7. To address any other business that is properly brought before the membership;
 8. To join in a closing prayer.
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Fall (Virtual) Supper Talk

When: Thursday, November 5 at 6:30 pm

Speaker: John Meinen, campus minister with Reformed University Fellowship at UVM

Where: In-Person at the First Congregational Church or Virtually at www.fccw.net/livestream/ or <https://www.facebook.com/fccwoodstock/> or <https://www.sermonaudio.com/player/webcast/fccwoodstock/>

John's topic is: The Christian Imperative to Care for Creation

Justice is a hot topic these days, but what exactly is justice, and how does it relate to environmental ethics? Rev. John Meinen will present environmental ethics from a Christian Worldview. Being made in the image of God does not merely describe who we are but what we are to do (our purpose) and how we are to do it (our responsibility).

The supper will be virtual (no food at the church), and John will speak from the pulpit and be broadcast live. A Q&A will follow with the option for remote viewers to post questions on our YouTube Channel or Facebook Page.

For more information contact Preston Bristow at 603 – 359 – 5243 or email him at prestonbristow@gmail.com.

Creative Vesper Services

The deaconesses regret to tell you that our plan to make a video of a Vesper Service for our local homes for the elderly has been cancelled. With rising numbers of Covid cases in the Northeast it seems best to not gather in a group and sing as planned. Please pray with us as we seek the Lord's direction for ways to minister to our friends in these homes.

Thank you,

The Deaconesses

New Ladies Bible Study

The Peace that Passes Understanding | YouTube Bible Study for Women presented by Robyn Huck

How are you doing these days?

When I ask that question to friends and people I counsel, they often respond with a description of being worried and tired out. Anxiety and weariness are what many people are feeling during this strange and complicated time. In this study series we'll examine God's Word and discover what is said about both anxiety and weariness. We'll find out how faith in Christ can be the ultimate antidote to anxiety and weariness because faith allows us to cultivate true peace.

The first session of the study is now available on YouTube. This session actually contains three separate videos. The first video is the Bible study session. The second video is an introduction to the ideas behind the practice of Christian meditation for the purpose of relaxation. The third video is a guided Christian meditation that can be used to help those who are experiencing sleeplessness as a symptom of anxiety. The meditation portion will not appeal to everyone — and that's okay. Feel free to participate in the study and dismiss the meditation video entirely. People with more severe anxiety and insomnia may enjoy it very much and can return to it as frequently as desired.

This study will be rolled out over the fall of 2020. The goal is to have new study and meditation videos uploaded to the church's YouTube channel on Monday mornings — but, the way life is right now, that can't be guaranteed! Subscribing to the channel and paying attention to the emails from Terri are your best ways of finding out when a new session is available. Once they are on the channel you can access them at any time of day or night you choose. Feel free to share the links and invite friends to participate. Anxiety is a global experience right now, and Scripture contains the one perfect antidote.

This link will take you to the full playlist:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLEkz5rDRznqhfJCK2HCORci4QS7mioiQP>

May God bless us with His perfect peace.

Any questions please contact Robyn at 802-457-3072 or email her at robynhuck@gmail.com.

Winter Clothing Drive

Loving Our Neighbors as Jesus Loves Us

When: November 14 from 10 am to noon

Give the gift of warmth! There is a very high need this year for warm outerwear due to families spending more time at home and needing the ability to be outside. Join us in participating with FCCW Community Outreach Team by donating your new & gently used coats, hats, gloves, scarves & snow pants to help support Upper Valley Haven, David's House and Free the Coats.

- Free the Coats – benefits families at Ottauquechee Health Center and Woodstock Elementary School
- Upper Valley Haven – offers shelter, education and food for homeless families
- David's House – offers free short/long term housing and food for families that have children in the NICU at DHMC

Curbside drop off at FCCW.

For more information contact Hayley Bauer at 785 – 727 – 0756 or email her at hayleylgriffith@gmail.com.

Substitutes Needed

The WCCC is in need of more substitute teachers and assistants. If you would like more information, please contact Ruth Brisson at 410 – 925 – 7959 or email her at brissonwccc@comcast.net. Please continue to pray for the center, staff, and the families.

Sunday School Collection

The Sunday School offering goes towards supporting Joram Serwanga and Habibah Komugave in Uganda. Our support helps provide food, clothing, and school fees for the children. There is a box on the table behind the last pews to drop your Sunday School offering into. You can also give online at <http://www.fccw.net/donate>.

King Jesus Deploys His Forces to Ends of Earth

- 1. Holy Spirit Sends Missionaries Through Church (1-4).**
- 2. Proclaiming Word of God They Meet Resistance (4-8).**
- 3. God's Blessings/Curses Displayed for All to See (9-12).**

We begin the missionary journeys with very clear direction from the Holy Spirit to His people. Just as promised King Jesus is sending His witnesses to Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and *now* the ends of the earth. They bring the Word of God which necessarily brings blessing and curse to all who hear it. He is able to convert the lowly and the exalted, but all must bow before the true King.

Galatians 5: 16 – 24

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

Acts—Series Overview

The Expansion of the Gospel Witness with Power

Acts records God's faithful accomplishment of all that He promised in taking the gospel to the nations. It lays the groundwork for all that will take place as His Church awaits His return. Just as Jesus lived and spoke as the Father commanded, we now are called to do in the power of His Holy Spirit. While Jesus did this perfectly, we will strive imperfectly, constantly in need of the Holy Spirit's direction, power, and correction. Nevertheless, our faithful God will work even through our failing efforts and His gospel witness through us will prevail and penetrate every nation, tribe, & territory. For the praise of our King!

Taking Gathered Worship Home

Christ as King sets apart all of His people for His holy purposes. He also sets apart specific people to go as missionaries to the ends of the earth. He starts here with Barnabas and Paul. They are met with both faith and opposition and Christ is praised in it all.

Please use the devotional material below each day this week to praise Christ. Ask Jesus to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.

Sunday Morning

READ **Acts 13:1-12; Galatians 5:16-24; First Thessalonians 2:13-16.** DISCUSS, How does King Jesus' Word bring life? How does Herod's bring death? How does Herod's kingdom represent all earthly kingdoms? What are the ways you typically rely too much on earthly kingdoms? PRAY "Lord King, we praise You as our King. We thank You for already winning the war against evil and death. Help us now to stand strong in Your truth and love."

Sunday Evening

Young Adults' Fellowship at **6:00** tonight in the FCCW library.

Monday

READ **Acts 13:1-4; Numbers 8:5-15; Mark 10:13-16.** DISCUSS, What is the significance of laying on hands? How did God set apart the Levites among His people? For what were they set apart? What did Jesus do with the children? Why? PRAY, "Jesus, You are the King of Kings. You set apart people for Your use. Teach us to submit to You!"

Tuesday

READ **Acts 13:1-4; First Peter 1:10-12.** DISCUSS, What does the Holy Spirit send people to do? Why? How does Christ's rule enable us to follow the Holy Spirit? PRAY, "Jesus, thank You for protecting us and ruling over Your Kingdom expansion with grace and truth. Teach us to be faithful ambassadors of Your Kingdom."

Wednesday

READ **Acts 13:4-8; Mark 11:15-19; Romans 12:14-21**. DISCUSS, How do you reconcile these passages? Is Paul wrong to curse Bar-Jesus? Why or why not? How are we to deal with those opposing Christ? PRAY, "Lord Jesus, we confess that we do not know how to proceed. Lead us, we pray."

Thursday

READ **Acts 13:9-12; Deuteronomy 30:1-20; 2Timothy 4:1-8**. DISCUSS, How does King Jesus bless? How does He curse? What's the difference? Who receives his blessings and who receives His curses? Why? What do we deserve? Why? PRAY, "Lord Jesus, come quickly. Help us as we wait on You."

Friday

READ **Acts 13:1-12; Galatians 5:16-24; First Thessalonians 2:13-16**. DISCUSS, How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? REJOICE if God has been generous to you in faith in Christ! PRAY for renewal and revival across our land.

Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow. *Both live-stream & in-person services are available.*

READ **Acts 13:1-52**. Invite others to join you for either the *live-stream or in-person service* tomorrow. Ask Jesus to help us love our neighbors well.

2 Timothy 4: 1 – 2

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching.