

The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

March 7th, 2021

The Order of Morning Worship

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

March 7th, 2021

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.

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.”

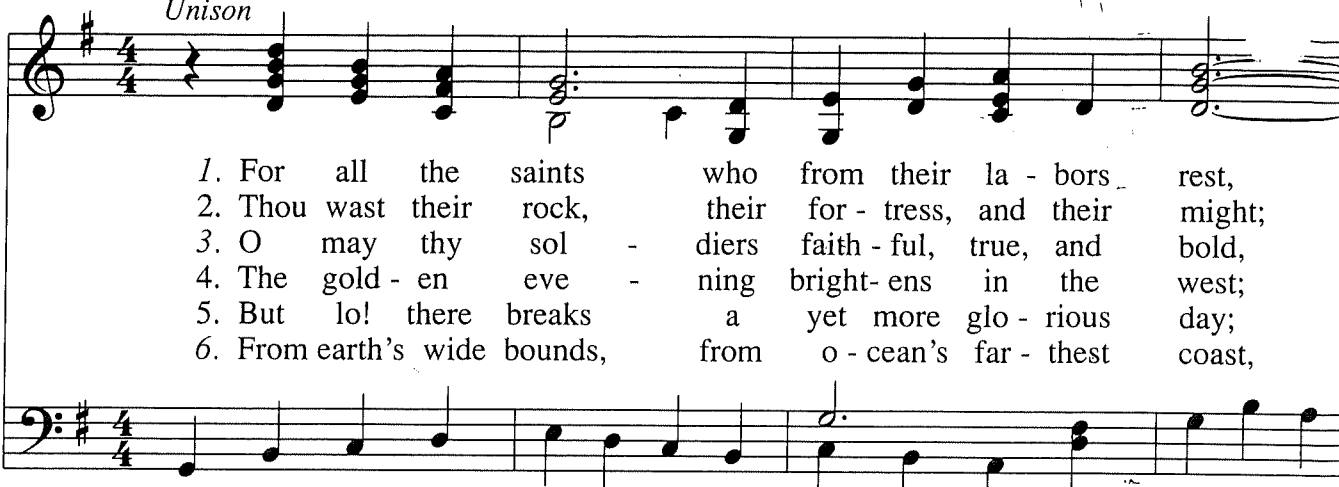
❖ Hymn of Exultation

Number 358


For All the Saints

They will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them. Rev. 14:13

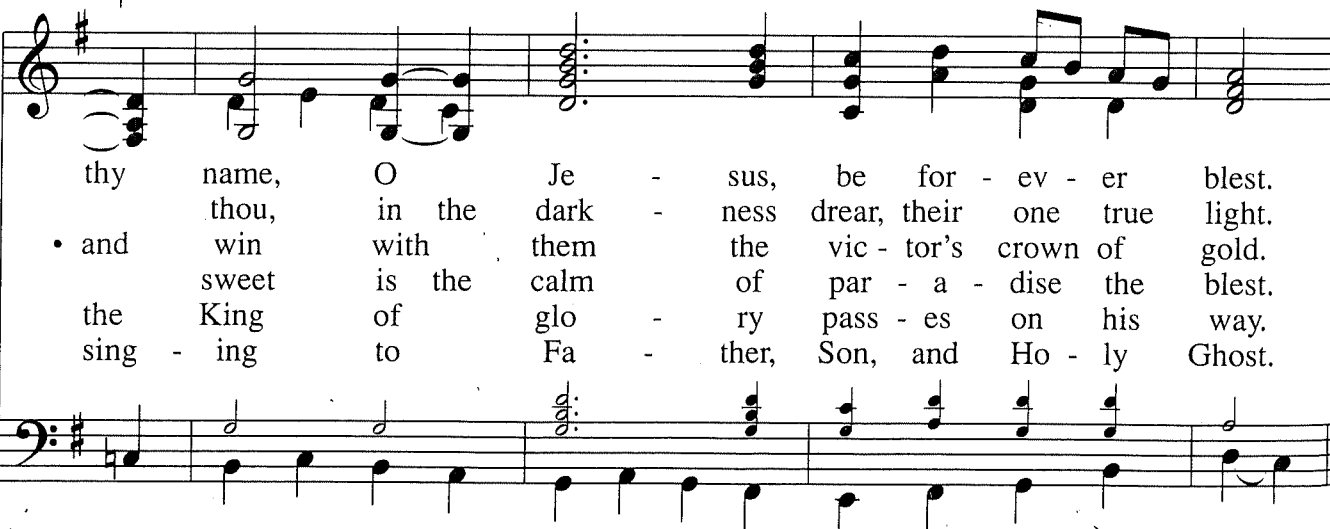
Unison



1. For all the saints who from their labors rest,
 2. Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
 3. O may thy soldiers faithful, true, and bold,
 4. The golden evening brightens in the west;
 5. But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;
 6. From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,



who thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed,
 thou, Lord, their Cap - tain in the well - fought fight;
 fight as the saints who no - bly fought of old,
 soon, soon to faith - ful war - riors comes their rest;
 the saints tri - um - phant rise in bright ar - ray;
 through gates of pearl streams in the count - less host,



thy name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
 thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.
 and win with them the vic - tor's crown of gold.
 sweet is the calm of par - a - dise the blest.
 the King of glo - ry pass - es on his way.
 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.



William Walsham How, 1864, 1875

SINE NOMINE 10.10.10.al.
Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Tune from the *English Hymnal* by permission of Oxford University Press.

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

Colossians 2: 6 – 15

⁶Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, *so* walk in Him, ⁷having been firmly rooted *and now* being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, *and* overflowing with gratitude.

⁸See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ. ⁹For in Him all

the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,¹⁰ and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority;¹¹ and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ;¹² having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead.¹³ When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,¹⁴ having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.¹⁵ When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Pastoral Prayer

❖ Hymn of Reflection

Number 131

Children of the Heavenly Father

Children of the Heavenly Father

131

As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him. Ps. 103:13

♩ D A 7

1. Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther safe - ly
 2. God his own doth tend and nour - ish, in his
 3. Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the
 4. Praise the Lord in joy - ful num - bers, your Pro -

Em D G

in his bo - som gath - er; nest - ling bird nor star in
 ho - ly courts they flour - ish; from all e - vil things he
 Lord his chil - dren sev - er; un - to them his grace he
 tec - tor nev - er slum - bers; at the will of your De -

D 7 Em A7 D 7

heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
 show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
 fend - er ev - 'ry foe - man must sur - ren - der.

5. Though he giveth or he taketh,
 God his children ne'er forsaketh;
 his the loving purpose solely
 to preserve them pure and holy.

6. More secure is no one ever
 than the loved ones of the Savior;
 not yon star on high abiding
 nor the bird in home-nest hiding.

“The Role of Households Among God’s People”

Acts 16: 11 – 15

¹¹ So putting out to sea from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and on the day following to Neapolis; ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia, a *Roman* colony; and we were staying in this city for some days. ¹³ And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to a riverside, where we were supposing that there would be a place of prayer; and we sat down and began speaking to the women who had assembled.

¹⁴ A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul. ¹⁵ And when she and her household had been baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

❖ Hymn of Response

Number 355

We Are God’s People

We Are God's People

355

We are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Ps. 100:3

Unison

1. We are God's peo - ple, the cho - sen of the Lord, born of his
2. We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord, for we have
3. We are the Bod - y of which the Lord is - Head, called to o -
4. We are a tem - ple, the Spir - it's dwell - ing place, formed in great

Spir - it, es - tab - lished by his Word; our cor - ner - stone is
known it, the love of God out - poured; now let us learn how
bey him, now ris - en from the dead; he wills us be a
weak - ness, a cup to hold God's grace; we die a - lone, for

Christ a - lone, and strong in him we stand: O let us live trans -
to re - turn the gift of love once giv'n: O let us share each
fam - i - ly, di - verse yet tru - ly one: O let us give our
on its own each mem - ber los - es fire: yet joined in one the

par - ent - ly, and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.
joy and care, and live with a zeal that pleas - es heav'n.
gifts to God, and so shall his work on earth be done.
flame burns on to give warmth and light, and to in - spire.

Bryan Jeffery Leech, 1976

SYMPHONY 11.11.8.6.8.9.
From Johannes Brahms, *Symphony No. 1 in C Minor*, 1876
Arr. by Fred Bock, 1976

Text and tune © 1976, Fred Bock Music Co. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Communion

Congregation

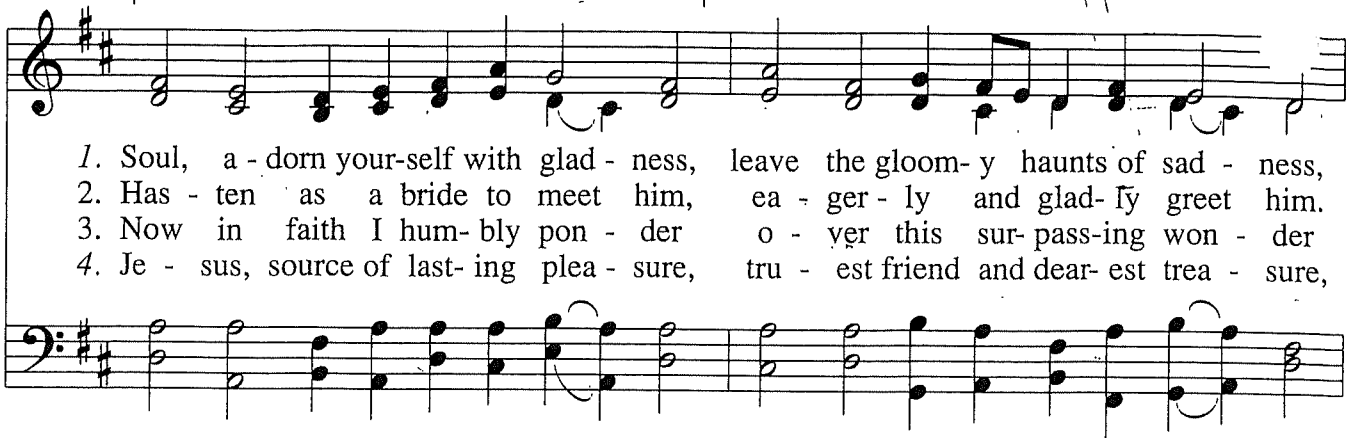
❖ Communion Hymn

Number 421

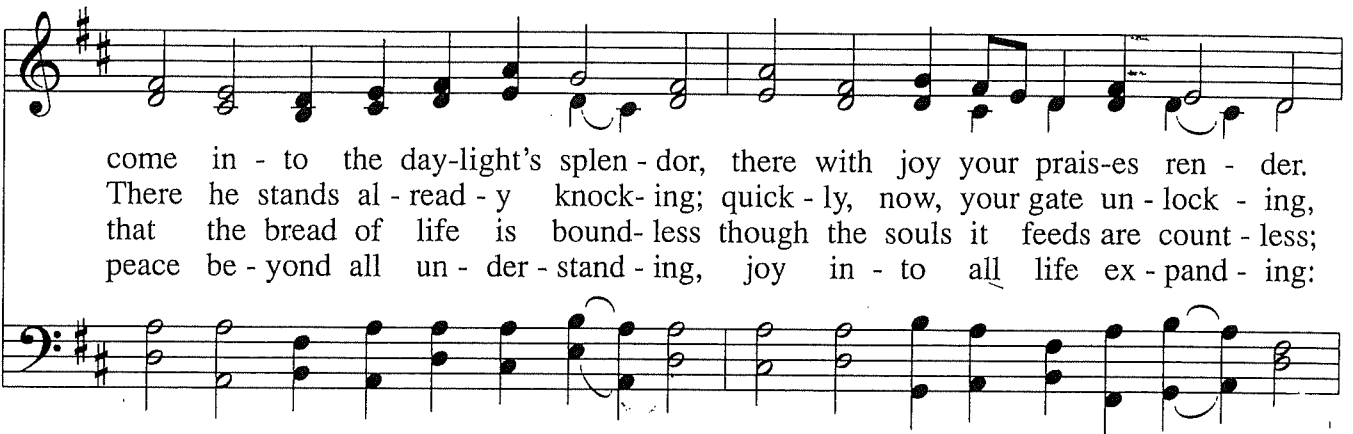
Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

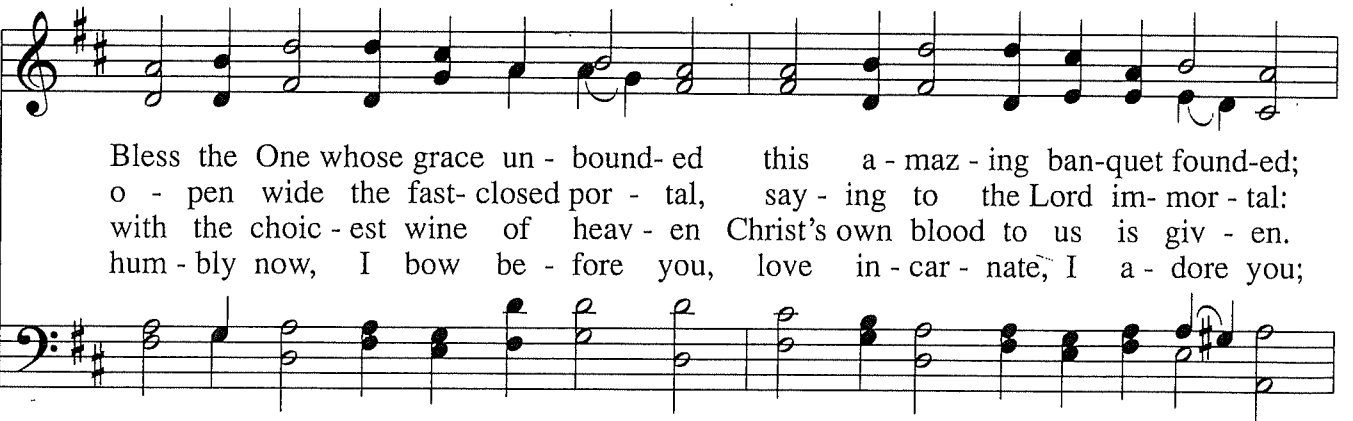
"Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come."
 ... "Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!" Rev. 19:7, 9



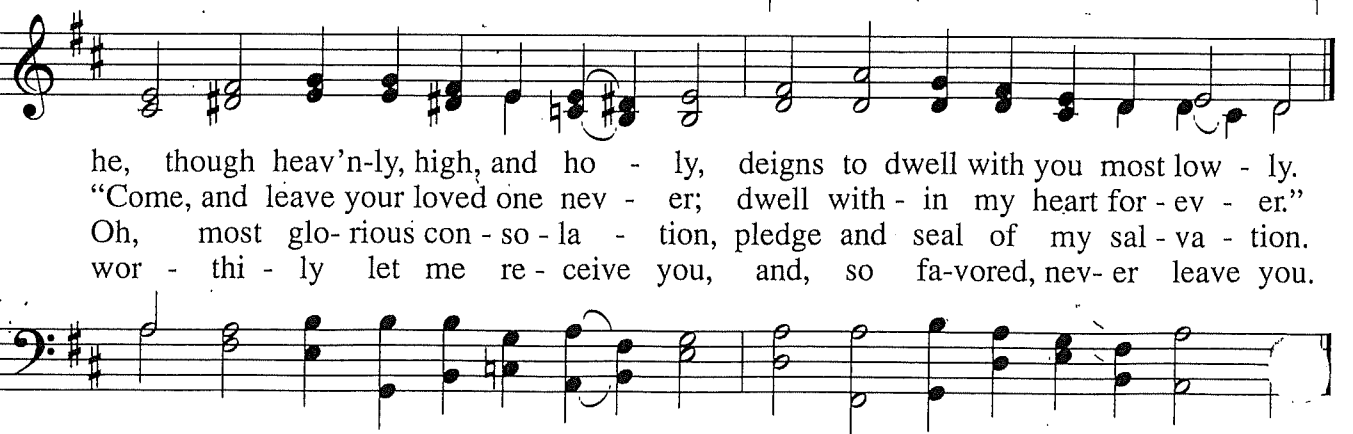
1. Soul, a - dorn your-self with glad - ness, leave the gloom-y haunts of sad - ness,
 2. Has - ten as a bride to meet him, ea - ger - ly and glad-ly greet him.
 3. Now in faith I hum-bly pon - der o - ver this sur-pass-ing won - der
 4. Je - sus, source of last-ing plea - sure, tru - est friend and dear-est trea - sure,



come in - to the day-light's splen - dor, there with joy your prais-es ren - der.
 There he stands al - read - y knock - ing; quick - ly, now, your gate un - lock - ing,
 that the bread of life is bound-less though the souls it feeds are count - less;
 peace be - yond all un - der - stand - ing, joy in - to all life ex - pand - ing:



Bless the One whose grace un - bound - ed this a - maz - ing ban-quet found-ed;
 o - pen wide the fast-closed por - tal, say - ing to the Lord im - mor - tal:
 with the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to us is giv - en.
 hum - bly now, I bow be - fore you, love in - car - nate, I a - dore you;



he, though heav'n-ly, high, and ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 "Come, and leave your loved one nev - er; dwell with - in my heart for - ev - er."
 Oh, most glo - rious con - so - la - tion, pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion.
 wor - thi - ly let me re - ceive you, and, so fa - vored, nev - er leave you.

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 ~~

Today's flowers are given in grateful memory of
Betty Marciano, (11/23/32--2/29/20).
God blessed us with this woman who endeavored to
show the love of Christ to everyone she met.

Young Adult Fellowship Group tonight at 6 pm.

Leadership Training March 13. See March
Newsletter or Weekly Reminders for Details.

Drive By Food Drive

Food Drive sponsored by the Community Outreach Team on March 20, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Help needed!

The Community Outreach Team is sponsoring another food drive to benefit the Food Shelves in our communities of Reading and Woodstock. We would love some help hanging up posters around Woodstock and the area, as well as working on the day of the event. And if you can't help that way, please come by and drop off some food!

The Food Drive is on March 20, collecting from 10:00am until 12:00 pm, then transporting the food to the Woodstock Food Shelf. Set up begins at 9:30. Drop off is TBD. If you can help that day, please call Keri Bristow at 603-359-3948 or email her at kerilynbristow@gmail.com.

Needed items include:

Soups of all kinds, low sodium if possible.

Canned protein- salmon, chicken, tuna, beans, baked beans, nuts, nut butters.

Rice, Pasta sauce, canned vegetables, canned fruit,

Baking Staples- evaporated milk, cooking oil, muffin mixes, boxes or bags of flour, brown sugar, molasses, honey.

Hot or cold cereal, crackers, pancake mix,

Jams or preserves

Olive oil, salad dressing, mayonnaise, and other condiments.

Juice boxes

Personal items: shampoo, conditioner, deodorant single wrapped toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrushes.

Cat and dog food in smaller sizes.

PLEASE NO PASTA AT THIS TIME!!!

Pasta meal kits are welcome.

Posters Available in the Narthex.

Easter Flowers

Easter plants and flowers always bring beauty to Easter Services. If you would like to share a flowering plant for the Easter service in memory of a loved one and then take it home after to enjoy, please call Carol Powell at 457-3833. Please place your order by March 21, 2021.



Mid Vermont Christian School

Educating for Impact

We are seeking qualified and enthusiastic individuals
who have a passion for Christian education!

MVCS has full-time and part-time positions available:

Junior/Senior High Science and Elementary School Teacher,

Part-time Art and Foreign Language, Administrative Assistant, Bookkeeper.

Please inquire through the school office ~ mvcs@mvcs.info or 802-295-6800.

The March Newsletter is available
on the table in the Narthex.

Deacons' Offering – Next Sunday, March 14

In the month of March, the regular Deacons' offering that will be collected on the second Sunday, March 14, will go towards funding the works of the Community Outreach Team. If you have questions about what the Community Outreach Team will be embarking on for 2021, please speak to a member of the Community Outreach Team – Ruth Brisson, Jeff DeDell, Jennifer Barnes, Hayley Bauer, Keri Bristow, Brenda Byrne, Sheryl Hoehner, or Lisa Kaija.

Fall Back – Spring Ahead!

Set your clocks ahead next Saturday night.

The Role of *Households* Among God's People

1. The More Things Change, The More They Stay the Same.

2. Lydia Is Converted to Christ and Her *Household* Is Baptized.

3. God Continues to Use *Faithful Households* for His Kingdom.

CONCLUSION: The Second Missionary Journey breaks new ground as the gospel is preached for the first time on the European continent, yet the same paradigm for gospel advance through faithful households is continued. The Lord continues to build His Church. He uses the families of His saints and He adds new families from among the nations. As we see His faithful pattern through these families, let us continue to stress trust in the Lord and disciple believers and their households to walk in His ways.

Colossians 2: 6 – 15

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him,⁷ rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.⁹ For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,¹⁰ and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.¹¹ In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,¹² having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.¹³ And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses,¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Second Chronicles 31: 18

“They were enrolled with all their little children, their wives, their sons, and their daughters, the whole assembly, for they were faithful in keeping themselves holy.”

First Corinthians 7: 14

“For the unbelieving husband is made holy because of his wife, and the unbelieving wife is made holy because of her husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.”

Taking Gathered Worship Home

God's covenant people is expanding to include men and women, boys and girls from every tribe, tongue, and nation throughout the earth. As those who were far off come and pledge their loyalty to King Jesus, they bring their families too. They all receive the sign and seal of baptism for inclusion in the visible people of God.

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 16:11-15; Genesis 17:1-8; Colossians 2:6-15**. DISCUSS, What is the role of biblically faithful households among God's people? How is this related to the covenant sign and seal of baptism for the whole household? PRAY "Jesus, Thank You for faithfully keeping the covenant with us. Make us faithful too!"

Sunday Evening

Young Adults Fellowship at **6:00** pm. *Please come to FCCW's Library!*

Monday

READ **Acts 10:1-114; 16:11-15; Gen 17:1-8; First Chronicles 31:11-21**. DISCUSS, How did God work in Cornelius and his household? Why is this significant? How do we see the same pattern here as how He has called Abraham and his family? How about Hezekiah and the people of God? MEDITATE on **Joshua 24:14-15**. PRAY, "Lord, You are the God of Your people. You have been faithful to us. Thank You, Jesus, for making us faithful too."

Tuesday

READ **Acts 16:11-15; First Corinthians 7:12-16**. DISCUSS, How does God work in Lydia and her household? Who all is in Lydia's household? What are their ages and beliefs? Why are these not the most essential questions? What did God do in Lydia's heart? Why is a household "holy" because of one parent? MEDITATE on **Joshua 24:14-15**. PRAY, "Jesus, thank You for loving us enough to give us opportunities to point others to You."

Wednesday

READ **Acts 16:11-34; Proverbs 22:6; Genesis 7:1, 6, 23**. DISCUSS, How did God work in the Philippian Jailer and his household? Who believed? Why was his whole family baptized? What did they do afterwards (v. 34)? Why? MEDITATE on **Joshua 24:14-15**. PRAY, “Lord Jesus, work in our families, that we might faithfully serve You. Make us faithful, Lord Christ!”

Thursday

READ **Acts 2:38-39; 16:11-15; 18:5-11; Colossians 2:6-15**. DISCUSS, How did God work in Crispus and his entire household? Why is this significant at this particular juncture when Paul is beginning to go directly to the Gentiles rather than his usual pattern of going first to the synagogue? MEDITATE on **Joshua 24:14-15**. PRAY, “Jesus, enable us to walk in Your ways. Guide us in Your truth.”

Friday

READ **Acts 16:11-15; Genesis 17:1-8; Colossians 2:6-15**. DISCUSS, How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? MEDITATE on **Joshua 24:14-15**. PRAY for renewal and revival in our families at FCCW and throughout the area.

Saturday

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

READ **Acts 15:40-16:40**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for either the *live-stream or in-person service*. Ask Jesus to help us love our neighbors well.

Joshua 24: 14 – 15

“Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. **But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.**”