



The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

April 18th, 2021

The Order of Morning Worship

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

April 18th, 2021

Ten-thirty

Welcome

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship

Psalm 19

Pastor: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.

Congregation: Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they acknowledge His glory.

Pastor: There is no land or nation where their voice is not heard.

Congregation: Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.

❖ Hymn of Exultation

Number 38

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory
for ever and ever. Amen. 1 Tim. 1:17*

1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing and si - lent as light,
3. Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
all praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Scriptural Call to Repentance

Habakkuk 2: 14, 18 – 20

For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea... “Of what value is an idol, since a man has carved it? Or an image that teaches lies? For he who makes it trusts in his own creation; he makes idols that cannot speak. Woe to him who says to wood, ‘Come to life!’ Or to lifeless stone, ‘Wake up!’ Can it give guidance? It is covered with gold and silver; there is no breath in it. But the LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him.”

Collective Confession

Psalm 25

Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD! For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great. Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses. Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness

Romans 8: 1

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 1: 18 – 31

¹⁸ For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,

“I WILL DESTROY THE WISDOM OF THE WISE,
AND THE CLEVERNESS OF THE CLEVER I WILL SET ASIDE.”

²⁰ Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not *come to* know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. ²² For indeed Jews ask for signs and Greeks search for wisdom; ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ Because

the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

²⁶For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; ²⁷but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, ²⁸and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are, ²⁹so that no man may boast before God. ³⁰But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, ³¹so that, just as it is written, “LET HIM WHO BOASTS, BOAST IN THE LORD.”

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,

Congregation: but the Word of our God will stand forever.

Pastoral Prayer

❖ Hymn of Reflection

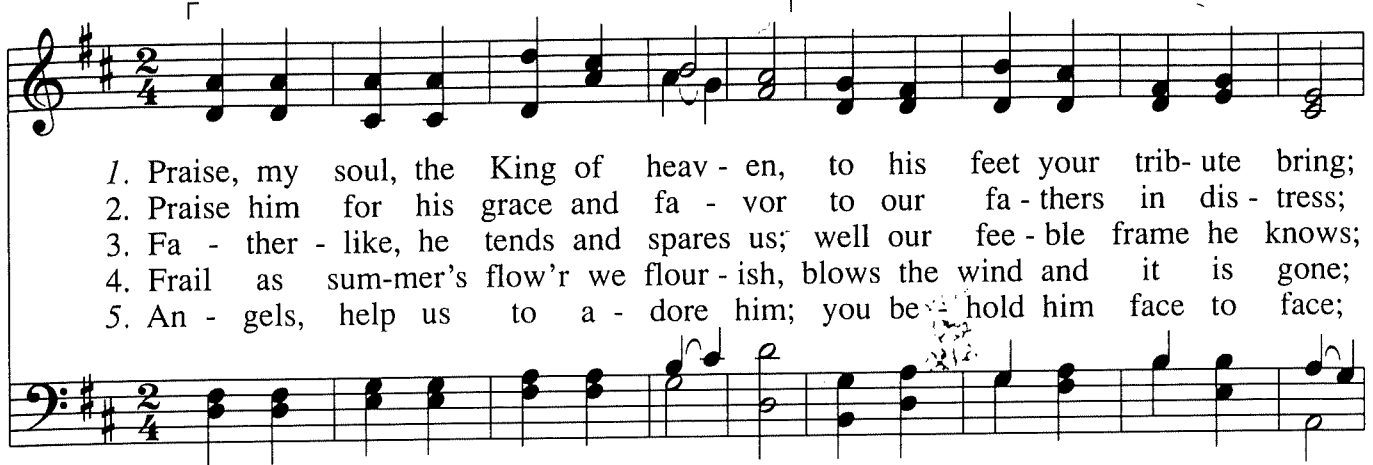
Number 76

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

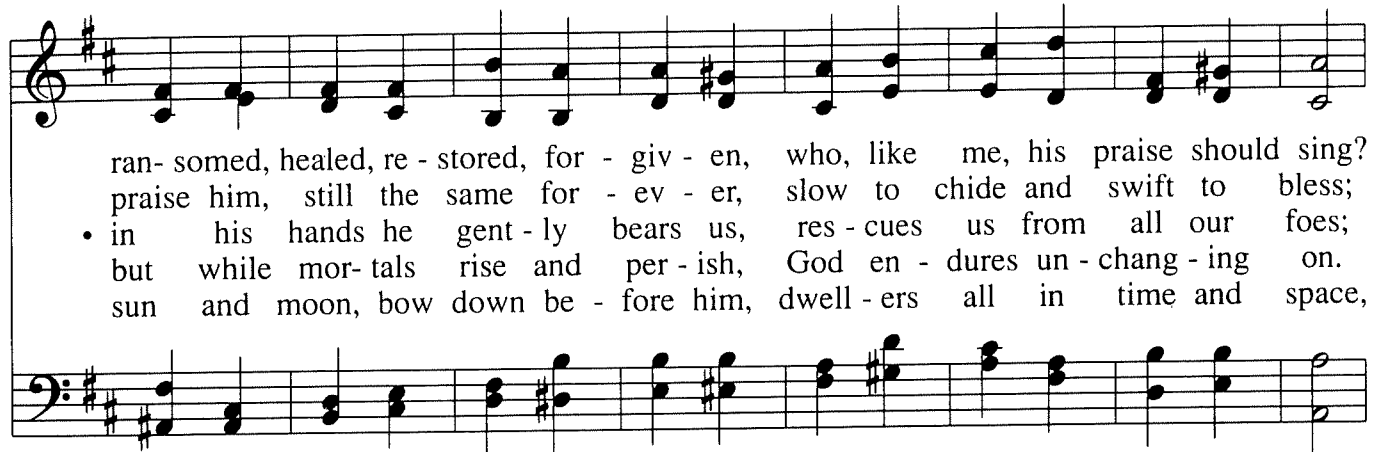
Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

76

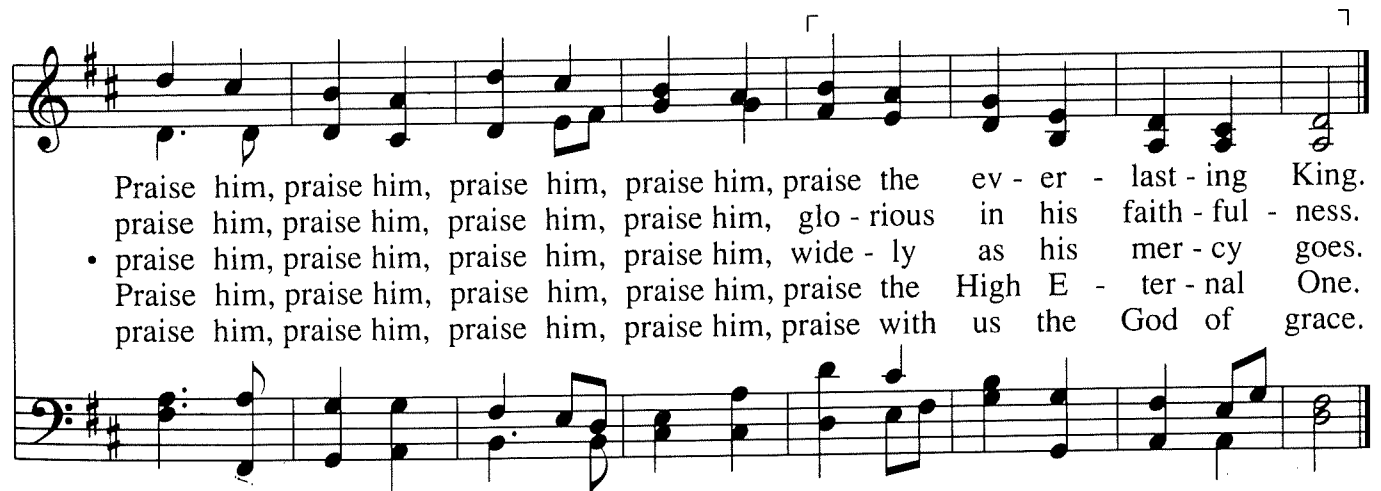
*Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the LORD,
O my soul. Ps. 103:22*



1. Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en, to his feet your trib - ute bring;
2. Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to our fa - thers in dis - tress;
3. Fa - ther - like, he tends and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows;
4. Frail as sum - mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
5. An - gels, help us to a - dore him; you be - hold him face to face;



ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, who, like me, his praise should sing?
praise him, still the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless;
• in his hands he gent - ly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes;
but while mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.
sun and moon, bow down be - fore him, dwell - ers all in time and space,



Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness.
• praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, wide - ly as his mer - cy goes.
Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise the High E - ter - nal One.
praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise with us the God of grace.

From Psalm 103
Henry F. Lyte, 1834; mod.

LAUDA ANIMA 8.7.8.7.8.7.
John Goss, 1869

“God’s Nobility”

Acts 17: 10 – 15

¹⁰ The brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. ¹¹ Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily *to see* whether these things were so. ¹² Therefore many of them believed, along with a number of prominent Greek women and men. ¹³ But when the Jews of Thessalonica found out that the word of God had been proclaimed by Paul in Berea also, they came there as well, agitating and stirring up the crowds. ¹⁴ Then immediately the brethren sent Paul out to go as far as the sea; and Silas and Timothy remained there. ¹⁵ Now those who escorted Paul brought him as far as Athens; and receiving a command for Silas and Timothy to come to him as soon as possible, they left.

❖ Hymn of Response

Number 460

Amazing Grace!

Amazing Grace!

460

Who am I, O LORD God, and what is my family, that you have brought me this far?
1 Chron. 17:16

Chords: G, D7, Em, C, G, D7, G

1. A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that saved a wretch like me!
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears re - lieved;
3. Thro' man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I have al - read - y come;
4. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his Word my hope se - cures;

Chords: C, G, Em, G, D7, G

I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
how pre - cious did that grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
he will my shield and por - tion be, as long as life en - dures.

Chords: C, G, Em, G, D7, G

5. And when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil
a life of joy and peace.

6. When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we've first begun.

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13: 14

Pastor: The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

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 ~~

Young Adult Fellowship Group tonight at 6 pm.

Easter Offering – Last Day to Give

Galmi Hospital, in Niger, will be the recipient of our Easter sacrificial offering this year. Matt and Tara Megill, missionaries supported by us, are serving in Niger. Matt is the director of HIV & TB Programs and when asked about their needs, turned the focus to the hospital itself.

The ministry goals and vision for this project is to redevelop hospital facilities for the provision of high-quality medical care and to manage the redevelopment in ways that will not interrupt the provision of services. Also, the goal is to continue to shine the light of Jesus Christ in Niger through the provision of high-quality medical care.

The project has been ongoing, but there is still work to do on the construction of a new medical ward. Please pray about your part in this special opportunity to be a light in the land of Niger. All of our gifts will be an encouragement to Matt and the other doctors and medical staff serving there.

The online giving will be available through April 18th. Go to fccw.net/donate to give electronically. Checks and cash may be given via the mail or the offering box on the table at church until to April 18th. Please put cash in an envelope and label Easter offering. Please make checks payable to FCCW and write on the memo line Easter Offering.

To learn more about Galmi Hospital go to <https://galmi.org/>



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God's Nobility

1. The Bereans Are Commended for Their Nobility.

2. They Nobly Handled God's Word.

3. King Jesus Is Extending His Kingdom Over All Things.

CONCLUSION: We have been following the progress of Christ's Kingdom in the book of Acts. In Berea His people are commended for their noble eagerness to hear His Word, commitment to follow it, and daily discipline in measuring all things according to it. They resemble their King in these things and so demonstrate their royal identity. How is our nobility through our relationship with Christ showing through in our daily life? Let us trust our King by His grace to love and obey His Word each and every day!

Second Timothy 3: 16 – 17

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the child of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

First Corinthians 15: 35 – 58

³⁵ But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶ You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. ³⁹ For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. ⁴⁰ There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. ⁴¹ There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.

⁴² So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, *we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.*

⁵⁰ I tell you this, brothers: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹ Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³ For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵ “O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

Colossians 3: 1 – 17

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹ Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

¹² Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ **Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly**, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Taking Gathered Worship Home

Those in the synogogue at Berea listened to Paul's preaching. He used the Scriptures and it was according to this Word that they judged what He said. Many of them believed that Jesus must be the Messiah because of what the Bible says about Him. God used His Word to bring about faith in them just as He tells us in Romans 10:17. It is the Word of Christ that is the power to save. Let us look to this Word!

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 17:10-15; First Corinthians 1:18-31; 5:35-58; 15:35-58; Colossians 3:1-17.** DISCUSS, What is the significance of Christ's kingship? How are we made nobility in Jesus? What role does the King's Word serve? Why? How are we to handle His Scriptures? How does the certainty of His Kingdom coming comfort you? PRAY using this week's prayer.

Sunday Evening

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

Monday

READ **Acts 17:10-15; Luke 23:42; 2Peter 1:16-21.** DISCUSS, How are Christ's kingship and His Word related? How does this provide hope for those who believe in Him? MEDITATE on **Second Timothy 3:16-17.** PRAY using this week's prayer.

Tuesday

READ **Acts 17:10-15; James 2:1-13; Romans 10:17.** DISCUS: Why should we give such priority to God's Word? What does it accomplish? How do we get to know it? What does that knowing do in us? Notice how God the Father did what He protected Abraham from. How does this give us confidence? MEDITATE on **Second Timothy 3:16-17.** PRAY using this week's prayer.

Wednesday

READ **Acts 17:10-15; Ephesians 4:1-3; Philippians 3:21-22**. DISCUSS, Where is our citizenship? What is our guide? What does it mean to walk in a manner worthy of our calling? Which of these three things (eager receptivity, commitment, or discipline) is most difficult for you? MEDITATE on **Second Timothy 3:16-17**. PRAY using this week's prayer.

Thursday

READ **Acts 17:10-15; First Corinthians 15:35-58**. DISCUSS, As we await our King's return, how do we trust Him together? Do you continually remind yourself and others of the truth of Christ's return? What about His return are you especially looking forward to and why? How do you know He will return? MEDITATE on **Second Timothy 3:16-17**. PRAY using this week's prayer.

Friday

READ **Acts 17:10-15; First Corinthians 1:18-31; 5:35-58; 15:35-58**. DISCUSS, How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? MEDITATE on **Second Timothy 3:16-17**. PRAY using this week's prayer.

Saturday

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

READ **Acts 17:1-34**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for either the *live-stream or in-person service*. Ask Jesus to help us love our neighbors well.

Prayer for the Week

“O God, help us understand who we are—Your nobles, Your royalty—and to maintain behavior in keeping with You we are. Grant us a continuing hunger for spiritual truth. Make us ever thirsty for the feasts in Your precious Scriptures. Please deliver us from ever accepting teaching about You without examining the Word to see if the things we have read and heard are in fact so. Please watch over Your children, who so easily stray and misunderstand. In Jesus' name, Amen.” *James Montgomery Boice*