



The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

May 16th, 2021

The Order of Morning Worship

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

May 16th, 2021

Ten-thirty

Welcome

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship

1 Peter 2: 9 – 10

We come to the Lord by grace through faith in Jesus

Pastor: Christ. It is He who has made us what we are. So what are you?

“We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that we may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called us out of

Congregation: darkness into His marvelous light. Once we were not a people, but now we are God’s people; once we had not received mercy, but now we have received mercy.”

Pastor: So let us enter into the worship of God most High in Christ the Lord who has come for us!

❖ Hymn of Exultation

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.

Before we celebrate baptism as a sign and seal of God's covenant with us and our children, let us remember anew how we are supposed to live as a covenant community together: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment and the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself." All the law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments. We gather here together this morning not because we have satisfied these requirements but because Christ has done so for us and we now joyfully worship Him with all that we are.

Collective Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart, soul, or strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In Your mercy forgive our many sins and the disbelief that drives us in such rebellion. Turn us from our sin and back to You. Direct our path that we may delight in Your will, walk in Your ways, and bring glory to Your name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness

Genesis 17: 7

The Lord made this great promise to Abraham: "I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you."

❖ Our Faith in Jesus as the Christ

Number 845

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Special Music

Handbells

Melodies from Childhood
Arrangements by Christine Anderson and John Carter

Baptism

Rhyes Lawson Bauer

Words of Institution

Matt 28: 18 – 20; Acts 2: 39; Col 2: 9 – 12

Questions for Convert/Parents of Infant

1. Do you acknowledge that our children are conceived and born in sin and therefore deserve condemnation and so are in need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you believe the doctrine of this congregation to be what is taught in the Old and New Testaments and therefore the truth of God Himself?
3. Do you hereby exclusively commit your child to Christ and promise in humble reliance upon His Holy Spirit that you will bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

Questions for Congregation

Do you, the members of FCCW, promise to receive this child as one of your own and to love and care for him as you are able, and do you promise that by God's grace you will endeavor to pray for and assist these parents in their fulfillment of the covenant?

Administration of Sacrament

I baptize you, Rhyes Lawson Bauer, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Introduction to the Congregation

Baptismal Prayer

❖ Baptismal Hymn

Children of the Heavenly Father

Number 131

Children of the Heavenly Father

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

Chords: 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 -

Chords: 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 -

Chords: D, F, 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 Sermon

Ephesians 4: 1 – 16

Pastor Doug Warren

“Serving in the Lord’s Treasury, Part III”

❖ Hymn of Commitment

Number 441

Jesus Shall Reign

He will rule from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth. Ps. 72:8

G D A⁷ D G C^{#dim} D A E⁷ A 7 D

1. Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does his suc -
 2. To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
 3. Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue dwell on his
 4. Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns; the pris - 'ner
 5. Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar

G D Em D A D A⁷ D G D A⁷ D

ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from shore to
 throng to crown his head; his name, like sweet per - fume, shall
 • love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es shall pro -
 leaps to lose his chains, the wea - ry find e - ter - nal
 hon - ors to our King; an - gels de - scend with songs a -

A G D G C^{#dim} D Em⁷ D Em D A⁷ D 7

shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 rise with ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 • claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
 rest, and all the sons of want are blest.
 gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men!

Benediction

Psalm 41: 13 and Revelation 1: 5 – 6

Blessed be the Lord, God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. And Blessed be His people in Jesus Christ. Blessed be His Church whom He loved enough to save through His death. Blessed be His Bride whom He freed from sin by His blood. Blessed be His Kingdom of Priests for the glory of His name forever and ever. Amen.

Pastor:

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 ~~

Teen Challenge Choir, Next Sunday, May 23

The Teen Challenge Choir will be singing and giving testimony during our Adult Sunday School Class at 9:15 am and singing during our Morning Worship Service. Their men's home encourages men to advance in life and become pillars in their families and communities. Their women's home, with its loving and caring environment, helps residents in their journeys of restoration with their children and families. Finally, their transition and outreach center in Rutland is serving and partnering with the community at large. To learn more about Teen Challenge go to <https://tcvermont.org/#landing>.

Meet and Greet for Parents and Caregivers

Saturday, May 22
10:30 am – 11:30 am

A reception for parents and caregivers of children from birth to kindergarten. This will be an opportunity to meet other young families in our community. Activities provided for the children as caregivers get to know each other. Light refreshments will be served.

- Connect with other families in the area
- Free coffee
- Kids coloring stations
- Open to the public
- Strollers welcome!

Register at fccw.net/meetandgreet/.

Posters are in the Narthex. Feel free to share it with your family, friends, and neighbors.

Stay the Course

Teen Challenge Spring Gala

When: June 4 at 6:00 pm

Where: Rutland Country Club

To purchase tickets, go to <https://tcvermont.org/fundraising-events/stay-the-course-spring-gala/> or call 802 – 635 – 7807.

Posters are in the Narthex. Feel free to share it with your family, friends, and neighbors.

Newsletter Submissions

It will soon be time to start working on the June Newsletter. If you, your board or committee would like something in the newsletter, please send it to me by May 25. Thanks.

Congratulations Graduates

It's Spring and time for graduation! We, at FCCW, are happy to have several graduates in our midst. They have worked hard, and we want to honor them and their accomplishments. Let's shower them with congratulations by sending them a card, a note, or a message to let them know that we are celebrating with them. The graduates are listed below. Addresses may be found in the Membership list.

Law School - Steven Bauer

College - Abby Kaija, Lauren Kaija, Karis Warren

High School - Ashley Carroll, Colby Warren

~ From The Deaconesses



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.

Young Adult Fellowship Group tonight at 6 pm.

Serving in the Lord's Treasury, Part III

1. We Are Called by Christ into His Body Together (1-6).

2. The King Gives Gifts to His People for His Purposes (7-11).

3. Our Growth Together Glorifies Christ, Our Head (12-16).

CONCLUSION: Our King, Jesus Christ, is establishing His Kingdom throughout all the earth. He has called us into this Kingdom and has given us gifts, talents, and treasures for that Kingdom's flourishing. By faith in Christ we are to use all of those resources, including human resources, to His glory in building His Kingdom. Our relationships are part of our faithfully stewarding His good gifts. Let us love and serve one another together to the praise of our glorious King.

First Peter 4: 7 – 11

The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.⁸ Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.⁹ Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.¹⁰ As each has received a gift, use it to **serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:**¹¹ whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Psalm 68: 1 – 35

God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered;

and those who hate him shall flee before him!

² As smoke is driven away, so you shall drive them away;

as wax melts before fire, so the wicked shall perish before God!

³ But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God;

they shall be jubilant with joy!

⁴ Sing to God, sing praises to his name;

lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts;

his name is the Lord; exult before him!

⁵ Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.

⁶ God settles the solitary in a home; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity,
but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.

...

¹⁸ You ascended on high, leading a host of captives in your train

and receiving gifts among men,

even among the rebellious, that the Lord God may dwell there.

¹⁹ Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up; God is our salvation. *Selah*

²⁰ Our God is a God of salvation,

and to God, the Lord, belong deliverances from death.

...

³⁴ Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel,

and whose power is in the skies.

³⁵ Awesome is God from his sanctuary; the God of Israel—

he is the one who gives power and strength to his people.

Blessed be God!

Taking Gathered Worship Home

How do we manage and enjoy the human resources King Jesus is deploying for the advancement of His Kingdom? Do we realize that *God has blessed us with relationships* for this purpose? How are we serving our King in this way? What gifts has the King entrusted to your care that you have been keeping to yourself? How can we change that?

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 **Ephesians 4:1-16; Psalm 68:1-35; First Peter 4:7-11**. DISCUSS, How does a biblical view of stewardship transform the way we look at relationships? How are we faithfully managing and enjoying the people with whom God has blessed us? PRAY “Jesus, You are Lord of all. Please help us to serve you through our care for one another together as a congregation at FCCW.”

Sunday Evening

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

Monday

READ **Ephesians 4:1-16; Psalm 68:1-35**. DISCUSS, Paul quotes from Psalm 68. In that Psalm God is described in relation to His victory over His enemies and His care of His people. How does this relational description apply to us? As God’s stewards what is our role? MEDITATE on **First Corinthians 12:7**. PRAY, “Lord, You are faithful in all Your ways. Help us to be faithful too.”

Tuesday

READ **Ephesians 4:1-16; James 1:16-22**. DISCUSS, From whom do our gifts come? How are we to use them? What is the role of Scripture? How are you using the gifts God has given you? MEDITATE on **First Corinthians 12:7**. PRAY, “Jesus, thank You for being a trustworthy and good master. Teach us to be doers of Your Word. Enable us to invest in the good gifts You have given us and make use of them for Your Kingdom.”

Wednesday

READ **Ephesians 4:1-16; Colossians 2:6-15** DISCUSS, Here we see our connection with King Jesus in relationship to others. What does it mean to be in Christ? How is the different from those who are against Him? MEDITATE on **First Corinthians 12:7**. PRAY, “Jesus, thank You for giving us new life in you and connecting us with Your body.”

Thursday

READ **Ephesians 4:1-16; Colossians 1:24-29**. DISCUSS, Paul was able to rejoice in his sufferings because they ultimately benefitted his brothers and sisters in Colossae. How was he able to do that? What are ways that you are sacrificing to benefit others? How does your faith in Christ enable you to do that? MEDITATE on **First Corinthians 12:7**. PRAY, “Lord, enable us to walk in Your ways. Guide us in Your truth.”

Friday

READ **Ephesians 4:1-16; Psalm 68:1-35; First Peter 4:7-11**. DISCUSS, Who determines which gifts we receive? What are we supposed to use them for? MEDITATE on **First Corinthians 12:7**. PRAY for faithfulness at FCCW and revival throughout the area.

Saturday

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

READ **Acts 18:1-28**. Remember to invite your friends and neighbors too!

First Corinthians 12: 7

*“To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit
for the common good.”*