

The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

June 7th, 2020

The Order of Morning Worship

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

June 7th, 2020

Nine-thirty

Welcome

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship Isaiah 6: 1 – 3

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ² Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!”

❖ Hymn of Exultation

Number 100

Holy, Holy, Holy!

Holy, Holy, Holy!

Day and night they never stop saying: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come." Rev. 4:8

Γ D Bm A D G D

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

A D Bm A E7 A

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

D Bm A D G D

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

Γ Bm D G D G A7 D 7

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pur - i - ty.
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Scripture Reading

Galatians 4: 1 – 6

I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything,² but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father.³ In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world.⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Pastoral Prayer

Children’s Message

The Sermon

“As the Time Drew Near”

Pastor Doug Warren

Acts 7: 17 – 34

¹⁷ “But as the time of the promise drew near, which God had granted to Abraham, the people increased and multiplied in Egypt¹⁸ until there arose over Egypt another king who did not know Joseph.¹⁹ He dealt shrewdly with our race and forced our fathers to expose their infants, so that they would not be kept alive.²⁰ At this time Moses was born; and he was beautiful in God's sight. And he was brought up for three months in his father's house,²¹ and when he was exposed, Pharaoh's daughter adopted him and brought him up as her own son.²² And Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was mighty in his words and deeds.

²³ “When he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brothers, the children of Israel.²⁴ And seeing one of them being wronged, he defended the oppressed man and avenged him by striking down the Egyptian.²⁵ He supposed that his brothers would understand that God was giving them salvation by his hand, but they did not understand.²⁶ And on the following day he appeared to them as they

were quarreling and tried to reconcile them, saying, ‘Men, you are brothers. Why do you wrong each other?’²⁷ But the man who was wronging his neighbor thrust him aside, saying, ‘Who made you a ruler and a judge over us?’²⁸ Do you want to kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?’²⁹ At this retort Moses fled and became an exile in the land of Midian, where he became the father of two sons.

³⁰ ‘Now when forty years had passed, an angel appeared to him in the wilderness of Mount Sinai, in a flame of fire in a bush.’³¹ When Moses saw it, he was amazed at the sight, and as he drew near to look, there came the voice of the Lord:³² ‘I am the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob.’ And Moses trembled and did not dare to look.³³ Then the Lord said to him, ‘Take off the sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.’³⁴ I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt, and have heard their groaning, and I have come down to deliver them. And now come, I will send you to Egypt.’

❖ Hymn of Commitment

Number 455

And Can It Be That I Should Gain

And Can It Be That I Should Gain

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Rom. 5:8

1. And can it be that I should gain an in - t'rest
 2. 'Tis mys - t'ry all! Th'Im - mor - tal dies: who can ex -
 3. He left his Fa - ther's throne a - bove (so free, so
 4. Long my im - pris - oned spir - it lay fast bound in
 5. No con - dem - na - tion now I dread; Je - sus, and

in the Sav - ior's blood? Died he for me, who caused his
 plore his strange de - sign? In vain the first - born ser - aph
 • in - fi - nite his grace!), hum - bled him - self (so great his
 sin and na - ture's night; thine eye dif - fused a quick - ning
 all in him, is mine! A - live in him, my liv - ing

pain? For me, who him to death pur - sued? A - maz - ing love!
 tries to sound the depths of love di - vine. 'Tis mer - cy all!
 • love!), and bled for all his cho - sen race. 'Tis mer - cy all,
 ray; I woke, the dun - geon flamed with light; my chains fell off,
 Head, and clothed in righ - teous - ness di - vine, bold I ap - proach

C A7 D G C

How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst
 Let earth adore, let angel minds in-
 im - mense and free; for, O my God, it
 my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and
 th'e - ter - nal throne, and claim the crown, through

D G REFRAIN D D7

die for me?
 quire no more. A - maz - ing love! How can it
 found out me. A - maz - ing love! How
 fol - lowed thee. A - maz - ing love! How
 Christ, my own.

G F C G Am/C G/D D7 G 7

be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
 can it be that thou, my God,

Charles Wesley, 1738
 Alt. 1990

SAGINA L.M.D.
 Thomas Campbell, 1825

Communion

Congregation

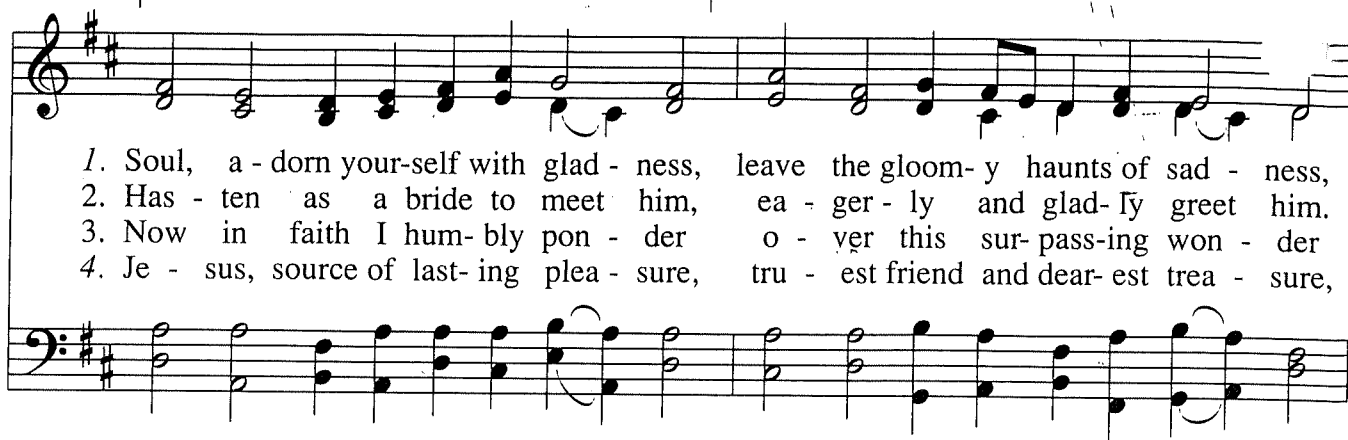
Communion Hymn

Number 421

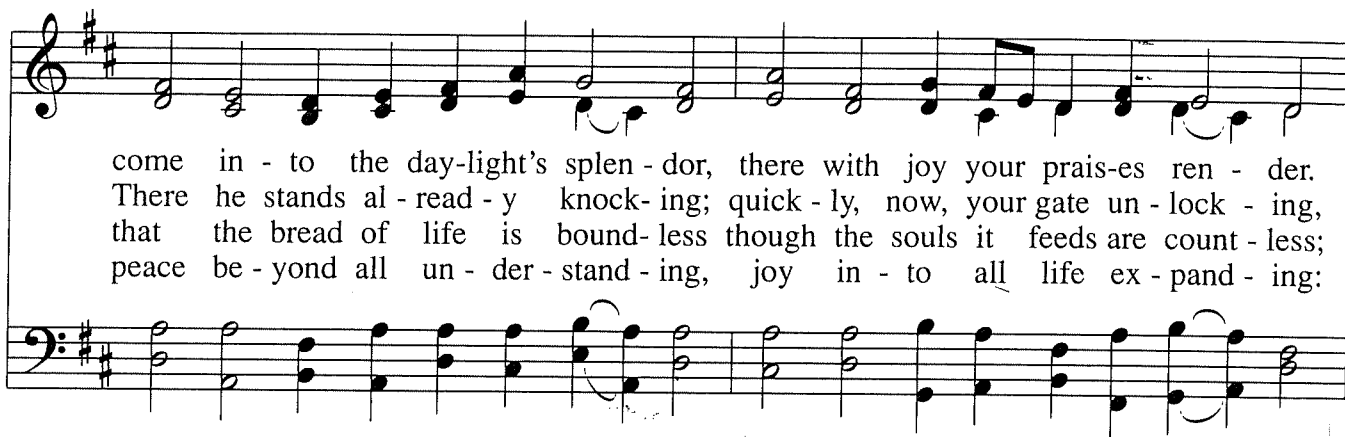
Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

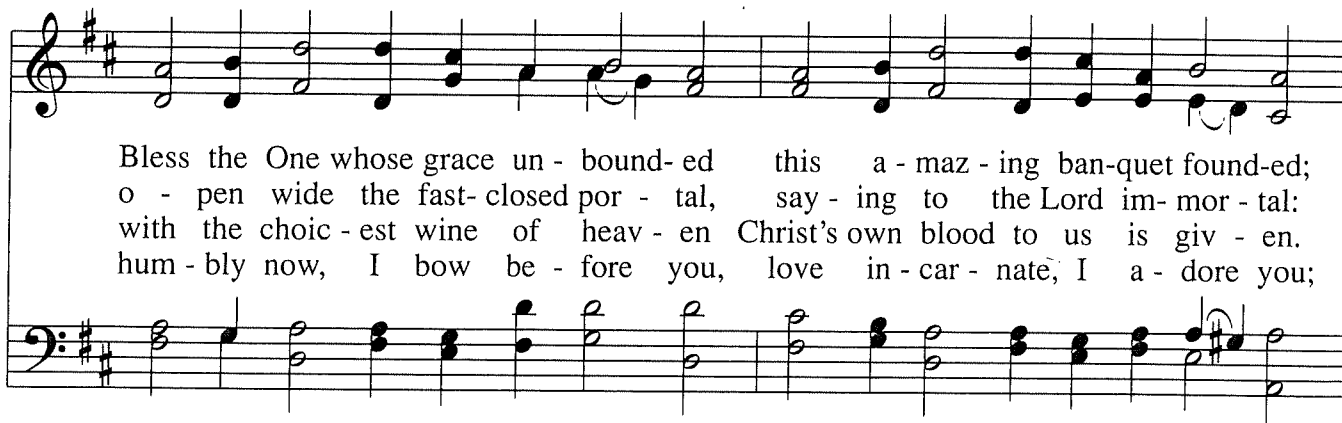
"Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come."
 ... "Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!" Rev. 19:7, 9



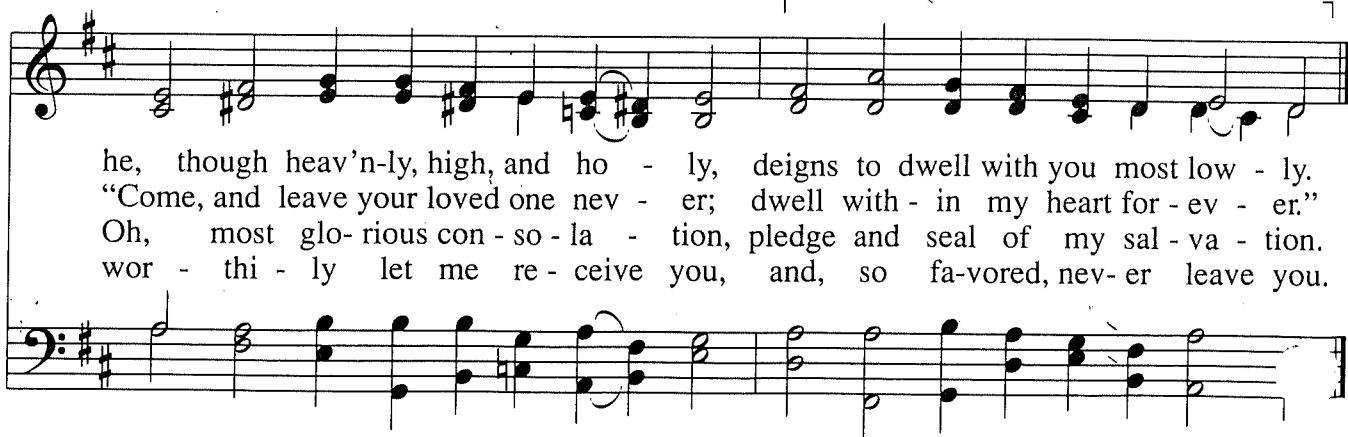
1. Soul, a - dorn your-self with glad - ness, leave the gloom- y haunts of sad - ness,
 2. Has - ten as a bride to meet him, ea - ger - ly and glad-ly greet him.
 3. Now in faith I hum-bly pon - der o - ver this sur-pass-ing won - der
 4. Je - sus, source of last-ing plea - sure, tru - est friend and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

²⁰ Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, ²¹ equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Congregation may be seated after the Benediction for silent prayer

❖ Hymn of Anticipation

Number 385

God Be with You Till We Meet Again (v. 1)

I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up. Acts 20:32

Unison

1. God be with you till we meet a - gain;

Harmony

by his coun - sels guide, up - hold you, with his sheep se -

Unison

cure - ly fold you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.

Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880

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

RANDOLPH Irreg.
Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Postlude

~~ Organist: Anne Hablitzel ~~

Tithing

Online Giving is now available. Please go to <https://www.fccw.net/donate/> and choose the fund you would like to give to. This is a very safe and secure way for you to be able to give to the church.

If you are uncomfortable with online giving and prefer to mail your tithe, please don't hesitate to continue to mail your checks to FCCW, 36 Elm Street, Woodstock, VT 05091.

Deacons' Offering – Next Sunday, June 14

This month's Deacons' offering will go towards the work of the Deacons. Our church receives many requests for help from not just within our church body but the community at large. The Deacons' have a great many opportunities to share God's love with folks in need, whether it is paying a bill for them or buying them a pair of glasses. This is a vital ministry that our church has to reach into our communities and share the gospel in a loving, gracious way. If you are in need or know someone who is, please contact Jerry Morton, the Deacons' Mercy Minister at 802-672-1793 or email at ejerrym@aol.com.

Morning Worship Services

Even though our Sunday morning services have returned to meeting in person, we will continue to offer our services streamed live through our website: fccw.net and Facebook. Below are the links for the live stream of the Sunday Morning Worship Service:

1. Live Stream: fccw.net/livestream, click on the arrow to start the Live Stream.

2. Live Stream via Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/First-Congregational-Church-of-Woodstock-Vermont-1514061492225108>

3. Live Stream via YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWwcbQa26ywlNlXKwd9KSgEA/videos>

The Order of Worship, Sermon Notes and Taking Gathered Worship home are available on fccw.net/livestream. If you have any questions, concerns, or prayer requests, please don't hesitate to call (802) 457-9818 or email fccwinfo@gmail.com.

Social Distancing Practices for FCCW Worship Services

First, **trust in the Lord** and not our procedures. Then practice these protocols faithfully as a way of loving one another. Christ is in control AND He normally works through His people to accomplish what He is doing. (Jeremiah 9:23-24; Second Corinthians 1:8-11; Hebrews 2:9-18; 10:23-25)

Second, if you are sick, PLEASE STAY HOME. If you are not sure, stay home and make use of the live-stream. No one with an elevated temperature should come for any reason.

Third, we encourage those with health risks, co-mortality factors, and household contact with those who have such risk factors to STAY HOME and make use of the live-streaming for a little longer. As those without these issues return to more gatherings, even with social distancing protocols, there will be more virus transmission. So please wait and allow the rest of the population to build the necessary herd-immunity for you to be able to participate more safely later.

Fourth, *if and only if* you do not have higher risk of serious COVID complications and do not live with anyone who does, then please come participate in the worship services following these precautions:

- Please wear a facemask (no one will be permitted entrance without one).
- Please come in with your household members and sit together.
- Please maintain a distance of six (6) feet from anyone not in your household.
- Please keep an empty pew between your household and anyone else.
- Please refrain from shaking hands or any other physical contact with anyone not in your own household.
- Please thoroughly wash your hands before and after the worship service.
- Please only one person in the bathroom (or parent and child) at a time.

Fifth, please know we are doing the following to help protect you and our neighbors:

- Disinfecting all public surfaces, doorknobs, etc. before and after every service.
- Praying for the congregation and all our neighbors.
- Continuing to provide live-streaming for those unable to join physically yet.
- Removed hymnals and Bibles from the pews, providing Orders of Worship with printed hymns. You may want to bring your own Bible.
- Rope off every other pew to help maintain adequate distance between households.

Sixth, in order to minimize potentially lethal virus transmission

- We will use individual cups and wafers for communion.
- No passing offering plate—please place offering in box in the back.
- No-Contact Greeters will assist with social distancing protocols outside of entrances.
- Hand-sanitizer stations at entrances.

As the Time Drew Near

1. The King is Never Late.
2. What Makes a Place Holy?
3. The Lord Will Gather His Holy People Together.

God is forever faithful. Through this summary of His mighty works to redeem His people we are reminded of how He has kept all His promises. As we await Jesus' return He will enable us to live as His holy people. He will deliver us just as He promised. He will deliver us from our sin, from all the unholy thoughts, words, and actions to which we are so prone. O people of God, Praise Him. Rejoice and declare His faithfulness for all to hear!

Psalm 119: 41 – 48

Let your steadfast love come to me, O Lord,
your salvation according to your promise;
⁴² then shall I have an answer for him who taunts me,
for I trust in your word.
⁴³ And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth,
for my hope is in your rules.
⁴⁴ I will keep your law continually, forever and ever,
⁴⁵ and I shall walk in a wide place,
for I have sought your precepts.
⁴⁶ I will also speak of your testimonies before kings
and shall not be put to shame,
⁴⁷ for I find my delight in your commandments, which I love.
⁴⁸ I will lift up my hands toward your commandments, which I love,
and I will meditate on your statutes.

Galatians 4: 1 – 6

I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ² but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³ In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴ But **when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.** ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

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

What is taking so long?! Have you ever erupted in frustration because something you really wanted was taking too long? All of us have. We think wrongly about not only time, but also often want the wrong things. But Christ is making us new. As you study and pray this week ask Him to show us what is truly desirable and that we can trust His timing in getting there.

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 7:17-34; Galatians 4:1-6; Psalm 119:41-48.** DISCUSS, How is God's salvation different from what we might imagine or desire? Why is it better? What makes a place holy? What does that say about us in Christ? PRAY for Christ to enable us to live as His holy instruments in the fallen world in which we live awaiting His return.

Sunday Evening

In lieu of the evening worship service tonight, please set apart some time to pray thanking God for allowing us at FCCW to gather again in person.

Monday

READ **Acts 7:17-34; Exodus 12:25; Deuteronomy 26:1-2; Ephesians 1:3-14.** DISCUSS, How does *waiting* characterize God's people? How does that relate to faith? For what were OT saints waiting? For what are we waiting? PRAY, "Lord Jesus, teach us to patiently wait on You. Remind us that You are faithful to Your promise. Teach us to serve You in holiness together."

Tuesday

READ **Acts 7:17-34; Deuteronomy 7:9; Psalms 42 and 43.** DISCUSS, Why is God's absolute faithfulness good news? How is it bad news? How does one approach the holy hill? Why? How do we please God? PRAY, "Lord God, You alone are holy and faithful in all Your ways. Please continue to conform us to Christ to walk humbly before You in all our thoughts, words, and actions."

Wednesday

READ **Acts 7:17-34; Exodus 3:1-6; Romans 8:1-8**. DISCUSS, What does it mean that Christ has made us holy? How are we supposed to demonstrate faith in Him by obedience? How is this related to our holiness? Why? PRAY, “Lord, You alone are holy. And you command us to be holy as You are holy. Enable us to do what we cannot through Your Holy Spirit.”

Thursday

READ **Acts 7:17-34; First Peter 2:1-10; Revelation 21:1-4**. DISCUSS, How are we who are in Christ related to the Temple? What are we going to see in the New Heavens and Earth? What about that excites you? How does the longing of Scripture for this reality expose coldness in our own hearts? PRAY, “Lord, teach us to trust You and obey You faithfully as our rightful King. Warm our hearts with Your affections. Make what matters to You matter to us. ”

Friday

READ **Acts 7:17-34; Galatians 4:1-6; Psalm 119:41-48**. How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? REJOICE if Christ has counted you as part of His own! PRAY for renewal in the Church and revival in our land.

Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow. There will be both the live-stream and in-person services available.

READ **Acts 7:1-60; Exodus 32:1-35**. Invite others to join you for either the *live-stream or in-person service* tomorrow. Ask Jesus to help us in the transition back to gathered worship in the building.

Psalm 119: 41

Let your steadfast love come to me, O Lord,
your salvation according to your promise.