



The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

June 25th, 2023

The Order of Morning Worship

June 25th, 2023

Nine-thirty

Welcome

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship Psalm 67 and 1 Chronicles 16 Pastor

❖ Hymn of Exultation #75 *O Father, You Are Sovereign* Congregation

Scriptural Call to Repentance 1 John 1:8-9 Pastor

Collective Confession Luther's Prayer Congregation

O Lord, merciful and mighty, we unworthy sinners, come to You in humble repentance and confess how we have transgressed Your holy Law. We are guilty of sins of omission and commission, evil thoughts, improper words, and wrong deeds. Forgive our iniquity and short-comings for the sake of the suffering and death of our Savior Jesus Christ. Let His obedience cover our disobedience, let His righteousness atone for our unrighteousness. Great God and Helper, You alone can forgive. With all our hearts we thank You for Your boundless mercy. Grant us grace with which we might accept Your gift of forgiveness with true faith and look upon the word of pardon as a message coming from You, assuring us and consoling our hearts before You. Let us treasure Your forgiveness and freely extend it to others by the power of Your resurrection. We pray in the name of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness Jeremiah 33:8 Pastor

Pastoral Prayer Pastor

Offering (collected from back to front) Congregation

Affirmation of Faith *The Heidelberg Catechism*¹ Congregation

Pastor: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

Congregation: That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.

¹ Catechisms are a question and answer format used for teaching in the church. The Heidelberg Catechism was written in 1563 and approved by the Church at the Synod of Dort (1618-1619).

He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to Him, Christ, by His Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

Pastor: What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

Congregation: Three things: first, how great my sin and misery are; second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery; third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.

❖ Creedal Song	<i>Holy Holy Holy is the Lord of Hosts</i>	Congregation
❖ Scripture Reading	Deuteronomy 7:6-11	Pastor
❖ Hymn of Reflection #616	<i>Leaning on the Everlasting Arms</i>	Congregation
The Sermon	Ruth 4:18-22 “The God of a Thousand Generations”	Pastor
❖ Hymn of Response #76	<i>Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven</i>	Congregation
❖ Benediction	Ephesians 3:20-21	Pastor

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

Postlude

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

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## Q & A with Pastor Doug

Today, Sunday, June 25, there will be a Question and Answer time with Pastor Doug immediately following the Fellowship Time. He will share about the classes he is taking through The Master's Seminary and will answer questions about the classes and their content.

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## Young Adult Fellowship Group will meet tonight at 6 pm in the church library.

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Hot Dogs & S'mores Rescheduled

Our Hot Dogs & S'mores event has been rescheduled to this Friday, **June 30**, 5:00-7:00 pm on the lawn at FCCW. We'll be cooking hot dogs, enjoying a firepit for s'mores, fellowship and conversation with our friends and neighbors.

Please contact Keri Bristow at 603-359-3948 or kerilynbristow@gmail.com if you can help with this fun event!

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## Save the Date!

**Friday, June 30** — 5:00-7:00 pm COT Hot Dogs & S'mores on the FCCW lawn (rescheduled from June 16)

**Friday, July 21** — 5:00-7:00 pm COT Hot Dogs & S'mores on the FCCW lawn

**Wednesday, July 26** — 5:30-8:30 pm Church History Supper Talk

**Friday, August 25** — 5:00-7:00 pm COT Hot Dogs & S'mores on the FCCW lawn

**Saturday, August 26** — 8:00 am-6:30 pm Jonathan Edwards Historical Bus Tour

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Greeters Needed

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Would you like to help welcome folks to worship on Sunday mornings? We need two volunteers each Sunday from 9:10 until the beginning of worship. If you would like to serve in this way there is a sign-up sheet in the Billings Room near the punch bowl. Questions? Contact Diana Snider at [dennisssnider@msn.com](mailto:dennisssnider@msn.com).

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Mid Vermont Christian School

Educating for Impact

We are hiring - We are growing!

We are seeking qualified and enthusiastic individuals who have a passion for being a missionary in Christian Education in Vermont!

Full-time openings:

- Elementary School Teacher
- Junior Senior High School Math and Elective Teacher

Part-time openings: (These could be put together for a full-time position.)

- Elementary General Music Teacher
- Junior Senior High School Foreign Language Teacher
- After School Care Director
- Student Support Services Director
- Athletic Director
- Physical Education Teacher

Call MVCS @ 802-295-6800 or email headofschool@mvcs.info for more information or to apply.

Woodstock Christian Child Care Job Opportunities

Looking for summer work, part or full time? Want to plug in some extra hours for college or fill in some more work hours? Woodstock Christian Child Care needs more summer workers, with the option of continuing in the fall, to help care for our extra summer preK - grade 1 classes and classes for ages 6 weeks to preK. If you are 18 years old or older, enjoy children, and have hours available, please contact WCCC Executive Director at rbrissonwccc@gmail.com. Positions available immediately. Thank you!

Deuteronomy 7:6-11

⁶“For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is *keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers*, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, *the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations*, ¹⁰and repays to their face those who hate him, by destroying them. He will not be slack with one who hates him. He will repay him to his face. ¹¹You shall therefore be careful to do the commandment and the statutes and the rules that I command you today.

First Chronicles 16:14-22

¹⁴He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth.
¹⁵*Remember his covenant forever, the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations,*
¹⁶the covenant that he made with Abraham, his sworn promise to Isaac,
¹⁷which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant,
¹⁸saying, “To you I will give the land of Canaan, as *your portion for an inheritance.*”
¹⁹When you were few in number, of little account, and sojourners in it,
²⁰wandering from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another people,
²¹he allowed no one to oppress them; he rebuked kings on their account,
²²saying, “Touch not my anointed ones, do my prophets no harm!”

Luke 1:46-55

And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in *God my Savior*, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on *all generations* will call me blessed;
for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
And his mercy is for those who fear him *from generation to generation.*

He has *shown strength with his arm;*

he has *scattered the proud* in the thoughts of their hearts;
he has *brought down the mighty* from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate;
he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham *and to his offspring forever.*”

Ephesians 3:20-21

Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus *throughout all generations*, forever and ever. Amen.

Taking Gathered Worship Home

Why does God record genealogies in Scripture? What does this particular genealogy in Ruth tell us? How does it help us trust in Christ today?

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 Ruth 4:18-22; Deuteronomy 7:6-11; First Chronicles 16:14-22; Luke 1:46-55; Ephesians 3:20-21. DISCUSS How is God's transcendence on display here? What about His immanence? MEDITATE on **Genesis 17:7 & Acts 2:39**. PRAY "Lord, *You* are the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Teach us to trust in *Your mighty power throughout generations.*"

Sunday Evening

Young Adult Fellowship meets at 6pm in the church library.

Monday

READ Ruth 4:18-22; Deuteronomy 7:6-11; Psalm 78:1-22. DISCUSS What does it mean that God is faithful "to a thousand generations"? SERVE by putting someone else's interests *above your own!* MEDITATE on **Genesis 17:7 & Acts 2:39**. PRAY, "Father God, You are faithful throughout generations; enable us to trust in You."

Tuesday

READ Ruth 4:18-22; First Chronicles 16:14-22; Acts 13:36. DISCUSS With whom did God make His covenant? MEDITATE on **Genesis 17:7 & Acts 2:39**. PRAY, "Lord our God, Thank You for protecting us through the generations. Make *our* generation faithful!"

Wednesday

READ Ruth 4:18-22; Luke 1:46-55; Psalm 78:1-22. DISCUSS How does Mary's understanding of the role of generations help us to understand Christ? How did it lead her in praising God? MEDITATE on **Genesis 17:7 & Acts 2:39**. PRAY, "Lord, You are God our Savior. You are holy and have done great things for us. Make us more like Christ, we pray."

Thursday

READ **Ruth 4:18-22; Ephesians 3:20-21; Psalm 78:1-22**. DISCUSS In what ways is your God too small? SERVE by putting someone else's interests *above your own*! MEDITATE on **Genesis 17:7 & Acts 2:39**. PRAY, "Christ Jesus, forgive us for thinking so little of You. Enable us to see You by faith as You truly are and to be entirely transformed into Your likeness."

Friday

READ **Ruth 4:18-22; Deuteronomy 7:6-11; First Chronicles 16:14-22; Luke 1:46-55; Ephesians 3:20-21**. DISCUSS What has God been teaching you this week through these passages? MEDITATE on **Genesis 17:7 & Acts 2:39**. SERVE by putting someone else's interests *above your own*! PRAY that we at FCCW would *trust Christ together*.

Saturday

PREPARE today for *gathered Sunday worship tomorrow*. CONSIDER What can you do today to be better prepared for gathering with God's people tomorrow? READ **Ruth 4:1-22**. *Invite others to join you tomorrow for worship services @ 9:30 am*. PRAY, "Lord, prepare Your people for Your praises. Gather us together to delight in You."

Genesis 17:7

"And I will establish *my covenant* between me and you and your offspring after you *throughout their generations* for an everlasting covenant, *to be God to you and to your offspring after you*."

Acts 2:39

"For the promise is for you *and for your children* and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself."