



First Congregational Church of Lebanon

United Church of Christ – Open and Affirming

PENTECOST SUNDAY

May 31, 2020

“Before Christ sent the church into the world, he sent the Spirit into the church. The same order must be observed today.”

—John Stott

All hymns are included after the order of worship, on pages 5-8.

Call to Worship (Unison; adapted from Psalm 104)

O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full your creatures. Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great. When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground. We will sing to the LORD as long as we live; we will sing praise to our God while we have being. May our meditations be pleasing to God, for we rejoice in the LORD.

Hymn 6 (See below, p. 5)

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above

Lyons

Prayer of Invocation

God, though we are different places this Pentecost morning, we are still joined as one in your Spirit. Lift up our worship, inspire our prayers, and infuse all we do and offer with your grace, your love, and your power. We pray all these things in the name of your Risen and Ascended Son. Amen.

Gloria (Unison)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Words of Welcome; Our Ministry and Mission

During this time, we are not meeting in person. All are encouraged to stay in touch with one another by phone, email, or written cards. If you would like to organize a Zoom teleconference or telephone meeting, please be in touch with the Rev. Steve Silver (603-448-4281/silver@fccleb.org), and he'll get you set up and ready to go.

Children's Moment

Fire! It can be really neat, like when it's in a fireplace or campground. We can use it to make hot dogs and marshmallows and all sorts of tasty things. But fire can also be

dangerous—that’s why we have firefighters in our communities. Fire is a big deal. And that’s why it was so cool for fire to be part of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit, we are told, descended and rested above the heads of the faithful, small flames dancing about, showing the joy of new life we receive in Jesus. The Holy Spirit is still with us, though not as dramatically. And next time you see a fire, think of the awesome power and boundless love of God.

Hymn 66 (See below, p. 6)

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Pentecost

Scripture Lessons

Acts 2:1-21. When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?” ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning.

¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷“In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. ²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

John 20:19-23. ¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus

came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

Sermon “*Dreaming Dreams, Seeing Visions*” (See *separate document*) Stephen R. Silver

Hymn 234 (See *below*, p. 7) *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* Trentham

Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Pastoral Prayer

On this day we offer our ongoing prayers for Pete, Lloyd, Jessica, Martha, Micah, Joanne, Max, Kelee, Tammy, Arlene, Ruth, Ryle, Emily, John, Shirley, Dan, Roger, Jim, Beth, Evelyn, Susan, Barbara, Max, Greg, Larry, and Terry.

We pray for all those struggling with financial challenges, reduced hours and unemployment, and fears about the future.

We pray for the healthcare workers and first responders who are on the front line dealing with this pandemic.

We pray for wisdom and humility from all our leaders.

Today we offer the following prayer:

Holy God of Pentecost, you came to us in wind and flame, igniting a movement, giving birth to the church, long ago and every day since. While men and women have been responsible for tending the fire, it has grown, and it has waned, but it has never gone out. Empower us, we pray, to be keepers of the flame, to help the church be reborn to serve the needs of your children in an ever-changing world.

We pray this, and all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer (Unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering of Gifts

In times like this, it is especially fitting that we remember those who are without, those who are often ignored, those who are in need. In this spirit, we invite your support of this church, its mission, and its ministry. Please mail in your offering as you are able, in support of this church’s continuing work in and for the community.

Doxology (*Unison*)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication (*Unison*)

God of Pentecost: Your spirit descends upon us, inspiring us and enabling us to see visions and dream dreams. We give you our thanks for this life-changing gift. In gratitude, we offer you a portion of that with which we have been blessed, hoping and praying that this offering will help to spread the good news of your love. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Hymn 260 (*See below, p. 8*) *The Church's One Foundation*

Aurelia

Benediction

My friends, life is short. We do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So, be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.

Now go forth with the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the companionship of the Holy Spirit, this day and forevermore. Amen.

Joys, Concerns, and Prayer Requests

If you wish to have a **joy, concern, or prayer request** lifted up in the service, or if you know of anyone who may need special prayers, a card or phone call, or some other form of pastoral care, please email prayer@fccleb.org, or contact the church office or the Rev. Steve Silver directly.

Please note that we have suspended on-site worship services and other events through at least Sunday, June 28, following community guidelines. Contact the church office for information about particular events or assistance using the Zoom teleconferencing application.

MSA Needs Your Input for Its Upcoming Congregational Survey

It has been over four years since we last surveyed the congregation about the mission partners that FCC supports. The Mission and Social Action Committee seeks everyone's input now in order to update our mission priorities. A new survey will be distributed in the coming weeks.

To help us prepare the survey, we invite your suggestions of local, national, and global organizations that you feel FCC seems most naturally suited to support. Please submit your suggestions to the church office. Thanks!

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above

6

Based on Psalm 104

Robert Grant, 1779-1838, alt.

LYONS 10.10.11.11.

Arr. from J. Michael Haydn ?, 1737-1806

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove,
 2 O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
 3 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
 4 Thy boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?
 5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

O grate - ful - ly sing his power and his love;
 Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space;
 Al - might - y, thy power hath found - ed of old,
 It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
 In thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;

Our Shield and De - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
 Hath stab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
 It streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
 Thy mer - cies how ten - der, how firm to the end,

Pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
 And dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
 And round it hath cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 And sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 Our Ma - ker, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend! A - men.

66

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Refrain

Ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov - ing in my

heart I will pray. Yes, ev - ery time I feel the

Spir - it mov - ing in my heart I will pray. *Fine*

1 Up - on the moun - tain, when my Lord spoke, out of God's

2 Jor - dan Riv - er, chil - ly and cold, it chills the

mouth came fire and smoke. Looked all a - round me, it looked so

bod - y but not the soul. There is but one train up - on this

fine, till I asked my Lord if all was mine. *to Refrain*

track. It runs to heav - en and then right back.

Like many African American spirituals, this one mixes the language of biblical narrative with veiled but effective allusions to the hope of escape from slavery, either by crossing rivers into free states or by participating in organized efforts like the Underground Railroad.

TEXT: African American spiritual

MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Joseph T. Jones, 20th cent.; adapt. Melva Wilson Costen, 1989

Music Adapt. © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen

PENTECOST

Irregular

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Edwin Hatch, 1835-1889, alt.

Second Tune

TRENTHAM S.M.

Robert Jackson, 1840-1914

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, Fill me with life a - new,
 2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, Un - til my heart is pure,
 3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, Till I am whol - ly thine,
 4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, So shall I nev - er die,

That I may love what thou dost love, And do what thou wouldst do.
 Un - til with thee I will one will To do and to en - dure.
 Un - til this earth - ly part of me Glows with thy fire di - vine.
 But live with thee the per - fect life Of thine e - ter - ni - ty. A-men.

Coming in June—Celebrating Children and Fathers!

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY IS JUNE 14. We are still determining how we'll mark this important milestone in our congregational year amidst current circumstances, but mark it we will! Plan to celebrate the **Children's Community Corner** and a great year for our kids. Please contact Nan Parsons (nlp3721@yahoo.com) to ask how your children can get involved.

SHELTER SUNDAY IS JUNE 21. Every year on Father's Day FCC makes a commitment to support the work of **Upper Valley Habitat for Humanity**, the local affiliate of an international, ecumenical ministry (uvhabitat.org). You can help fulfill the home-ownership dreams of local families with a contribution of any amount in honor or memory of the father(s) in your life. *Please consider a contribution, and contact the office with your dedication information.*

Fellowship Through Food—Sharing Meals in Tough Times

Would you enjoy having a meal provided by a friend? If you're weary of adding dinner to your to-do list, are overwhelmed with your child's home-schooling, or are experiencing a loss of income, we'd like to help by dropping off a meal. If any of these scenarios speaks to you—or if you enjoy cooking and would like to provide a meal—the Deacons invite you to email Steve Silver (silver@fcclb.org) or call the church office (603-448-4281). **Let's help each other!**

The Church's One Foundation

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Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900

AURELIA 7.6.7.6.D.

Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth,
3 'Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, And tu - mult of her war,
4 Yet she on earth hath un - ion With God, the Three in One,



She is his new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the word;
Her char - ter of sal - va - tion, One Lord, one faith, one birth,
She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for ev - er - more;
And mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion With those whose rest is won.



From heaven he came and sought her To be his ho - ly bride;
One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
Till with the vi - sion glo - rious, Her long - ing eyes are blest,
O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we



With his own blood he bought her, And for her life he died.
And to one hope she press - es, With ev - ery grace en - dued.
And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.
Like them, the meek and low - ly, On high may dwell with thee. A-men.





First Congregational Church of Lebanon

PO Box 230
10 South Park St
Lebanon NH 03766

Weekly Worship Resources Enclosed!

DATED MATERIAL—Please Deliver Promptly

Do you use email? Contact church@fccleb.org to receive this and other communication by email.

Welcome!

We are a Christ-centered community that celebrates the love of God. Although we are of varied minds, with varying measures of belief and unbelief, we are one body, bound together in Christ. We recognize the uniqueness of every individual as God's beloved child. We seek to respond faithfully to God's call for justice for all creation. We strive in word and deed to be faithful to Jesus' model of loving acceptance. We seek to create a sanctuary where all will know they are welcome and included.

No matter your age, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, race or ethnicity, physical or mental ability, or economic circumstance, you are invited into the full life and ministry of First Congregational Church of Lebanon, including its worship, sacraments, and rites.

Join us as we grow together in God's love.

First Congregational Church of Lebanon

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Susan Sorensen, Interim Organist and Choir Director • Nancy Parsons, Church School Superintendent

Barbara Teeter, Chair of Deacons • Linda Jacobs, Chair of Church Council • Barbara Jones, Moderator

Brian Clancy, Church Administrator

Church Office Hours: Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9:00-12:00 (or by appointment as needed)

603-448-4281 • church@fccleb.org • prayer@fccleb.org • music@fccleb.org • www.fccleb.org