



First Congregational Church of Lebanon

United Church of Christ – Open and Affirming

TRINITY SUNDAY

June 7, 2020

“A religion without mystery must be a religion without God.”

–Jeremy Taylor

All hymns are included after the order of worship, on pages 5-7.

Prelude *Praeambulum Tertii Toni*

F. X. Murschhauser

Call to Worship (*Unison*; adapted from Psalm 8)

O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established, I ask: What are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Hymn 251 (*See below, p. 5*) *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty*

Nicaea

Prayer of Invocation

God, though we worship in places near and far today, we welcome your Spirit as it joins us together as one people. Lift up our worship, inspire our prayers, infuse them with your grace, your love, your power. We pray these things in your Son's name. 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

I have to make a confession: some of what grown-ups say can be confusing. That doesn't mean what we say isn't true, just that some things are so complicated we have trouble explaining ourselves. And sometimes, we make things more complicated than they need to be. In the church we talk about the Trinity—the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Others talk about the Creator, Sustainer, and Redeemer. I'm going to ask you to focus not on this stuff but on what you really need to know: God is Love, and to know God we have to love others. We read that in the First Letter of John. If you're going to know one verse of Scripture, this would be a good one to learn—and then act on it. Because right now, our world needs all the love it can get!

Hymn 451 (See below, p. 6) *Open My Eyes, That I May See* Open My Eyes

Scripture Lessons

2 Corinthians 13:11-13. ¹¹Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹²Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. ¹³The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Matthew 28:16-20. ¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Sermon *"Love Incarnate" (See separate document)* Stephen R. Silver

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, Terry, and Bryan.

We pray for Larry, as he recovers at home from surgery and adjusts to new challenges.

We pray for Pat, who is awaiting a lung transplant.

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:

Triune God, as the Father, you fashioned Creation; in Jesus, you redeemed us; and through the Spirit, you still make yourself known to us. The ancient creeds tell us you are three-in-one and one-in-three; mysterious, yet accessible. We, like those who came before us, rejoice that you have showered upon us your grace, your strength, your love. Help us always to appreciate and share this blessing.

We pray this, and all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, in the name of your son, the 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 redemption, God of grace, God of love: we are blessed by you, who came to save us, empowering us to serve your people. Use our gifts of time, skills, and money to further your work in the world. In the name of your Son we pray. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

For communion, you are invited to have some bread and juice on hand. We will share in the bread and cup at the appointed time. If you would like to receive a blessing, please let the officiant know.

Invitation and Communion Prayer

Sanctus

Ho - ly, Ho - ly Ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts:
7 Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Glo - ry be to you, O Lord most
11 High. Bless-ed is the one that comes in the name of the
15 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho -
20 san - na in the high - est.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving (*Unison*)

Because the broken bread has meant our healing, because the outpoured cup has meant our life, because our common sharing has meant the communion of our souls, and because we have here been graced by your presence, God, we give you thanks and pray that our lives may be renewed in the life and the love of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn 68 (See below, p. 7) *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* Ellacombe

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@fcclb.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.

Reginald Heber, 1783-1826

NICAEA 11.12.12.10.
John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

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!

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;

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;

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 Which wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 Per - fect in power, in love, and pur - i - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty! A - men.

Open My Eyes, That I May See 451

1 O-pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou hast for me.
2 O-pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth thou send-est clear.
3 O-pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth ev-ery-where.

Place in my hands the won-der-ful key that shall un - clasp and
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev - ery-thing false will
O - pen my heart, and let me pre-pare love with thy chil-dren

set me free. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
dis - ap-pear. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy
thus to share. Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy

will to see. O-pen my eyes; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!
will to see. O-pen my ears; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!
will to see. O-pen my heart; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di-vine!

The first woman to publish a collection of her own anthems, this author/composer has created in this hymn a sung prayer for illumination. It not only asks God to help us understand Scripture but also prays for the strength and courage to make God's love known to others.

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

68

Isaac Walls, 1674-1748, *all.*

ELLACOMBE C.M.D.
"Gesangbuch," Württemberg, 1784

1 I sing the might-y power of God, That made the moun-tains rise,
2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord, That filled the earth with food;
3 There's not a plant or flower be - low, But makes thy glo - ries known;

That spread the flow - ing seas a - broad, And built the loft - y skies.
He formed the crea-tures with his word, And then pro-nounced them good.
And clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, By or - der from thy throne,

I sing the wis-dom that or-dained The sun to rule the day;
Lord, how thy won-ders are dis-played, Wher-e'er I turn my eye:
While all that bor-rows life from thee Is ev - er in thy care,

The moon shines full at his com-mand, And all the stars o - bey.
If I sur-vey the ground I tread, Or gaze up-on the sky!
And ev - ery-where that man can be, Thou, God, art pres-ent there. A-men.

Children's Sunday Is Next Week!

Amidst our current turmoil, it is more important than ever to recognize and celebrate the children who study in our **Children's Community Corner** and the adults who lead them. Next Sunday we'll lift up our church's kids and teachers in worship, and we very much hope you'll join us to share this special moment in our church's communal life.

FATHER'S DAY IS SHELTER SUNDAY

Every Father's Day (June 21 this year), FCC makes a commitment to support the work of Upper Valley Habitat for Humanity, the local affiliate of an international, ecumenical ministry. Since 1986, Habitat for Humanity has provided decent, affordable housing and home ownership for deserving families who could not otherwise afford to buy a home. Families work alongside volunteers to build their own home, which they are then able to purchase at cost with a zero-interest mortgage.

If you'd like to honor or remember the father(s) in your life with a contribution to Shelter Sunday, please complete and return the form below (p. 9) or contact the church with your dedication information. Any amount is welcome, thanks! (*Payable to FCC, memo "Shelter Sunday"*)

All dedications must be received by noon on THURSDAY, JUNE 18 in order to be included in the worship bulletin on FATHER'S DAY, JUNE 21.

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!

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!**



Upper Valley
Habitat
for Humanity®

SHELTER SUNDAY
FATHER'S DAY
JUNE 21, 2020

Helping People in Need in the Upper Valley

Upper Valley Habitat for Humanity is the local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, an inclusive, ecumenical ministry providing decent, affordable home ownership for deserving families who could not otherwise afford to buy a home. Achieving home ownership is one of the most valuable steps that a family can take to establish a firm footing, in order to thrive on their own.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Houses are built by community volunteers, with many local vendors providing free or deeply discounted materials and services. Each selected family contributes at least 500 hours of "sweat equity," participating directly in the construction of their own house.

A Hand Up, Not a Hand-out

Our homes are sold to each family at the actual cost of the house, at no profit, with a zero-interest mortgage. The family repays the loan, providing Habitat with funds to continue homebuilding activities.

SHELTER SUNDAY – How FCC Helps Habitat

On June 21, you can help fulfill the dreams of local families with a contribution in honor or memory of the fathers in your life. Any amount is welcome. A gift of \$5 buys two 8-foot studs, \$10 buys one 10-foot pressure-treated 2 x 8, \$25 buys a gallon of paint, \$28 a bundle of shingles, \$68 a 50-lb bucket of nails, \$150 a window, etc.

Please fill out the form on the reverse and return it to the church office **no later than 12:00 pm on Thursday, June 18**; you may also simply email or call the office with your information. All dedications will be printed in the worship bulletin on June 21. *If you choose, a card recognizing your gift will be sent to those you wish to honor (please include a mailing address), or you can pick up the card and send it yourself.*

SHELTER SUNDAY

The Excitement is Building...

If you would like to honor or remember the father(s) in your life with a contribution for Shelter Sunday, please complete and mail this form to the church office (PO Box 230, Lebanon, NH 03766). You may also contact the office directly (603-448-4281/church@fccleb.org) with your dedication information.

Any amount is gratefully welcome!

Dedications received by 12:00 pm on Thursday, June 18, will be included in the bulletin on FATHER'S DAY, JUNE 21.

Given by _____

In honor of _____

Please send a card (include addresses)

In memory of _____

Contribution: _____ (payable to FCC, memo "Shelter Sunday")

Sponsored by the Mission & Social Action Committee



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