

communicate, to believe, to form a new community, which we call the Church. It was a great day, and it's one we celebrate and hopefully re-enact this day. Happy Birthday, Church!

Reception of New Members

Lola F. Baldwin and Nan Luebbert

The Invitation and Lesson from Scripture

Ephesians 2:19-22

The Statement of Faith

Minister: Let us join together in the United Church of Christ Statement of Faith:

All: We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God. To your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

You judge people and nations by your righteous will, declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

The Covenant of Membership

The Congregation's Promise of Support

Deacon: Let us, the members of First Congregational Church, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

Congregation: We welcome you with joy as partners in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. God grant that together we may continue to grow in God's knowledge and love.

The Greeting of Christian Love

A Prayer for This New Relationship

Hymn 266 (p. 7) *One Holy Church of God Appears*

St. James

Scripture Lessons

Ezekiel 37:1-14. The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” ⁴Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.”

⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

¹¹Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ ¹²Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act,” says the Lord.

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.’”

Sermon

“Dry Bones... Again”

Stephen R. Silver

Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Pastoral Prayer

As we hold our community members in prayer, please exercise care and discretion when sharing, as what seems public for you may be private for others. Help us keep our weekly prayer list current by contacting Rev. Silver or the church office to confirm or remove names on the list.

On this day we offer our ongoing prayers for Pete, Lloyd, Arlene, Evelyn, Barbara, Greg, Larry, Edith, Jan, Eileen, and James.

We remember this day Marjorie Cole, who died last Friday, and ask for prayers for her whole family.

We pray for all those fighting the coronavirus or other illnesses, whether of mind, body, or spirit. We pray for the healthcare workers and first responders who are on the front line dealing with this pandemic. We pray for all those struggling with financial challenges, reduced hours and unemployment, and fears about the future.

Finally, we offer the following prayer:

God of the ages, God who came to us in Jesus, God who is with us in the Spirit, who manifests himself in the Church. We give thanks for your gift. Empower and enable us to make this gift available to all people, through our service, through our worship, through our fellowship—all done in the name of your son, Jesus.

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

Remembering those who are without, who are in need, who are often ignored, we invite your support of our ongoing ministry in and for the community.

Offertory *Nun bitten wir den heiligen Geist* Dieterich Buxtehude

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, who comes to us in the Holy Spirit, we thank you for the gift of the Church, for its witness, its fellowship, its service. As we have been so blessed, we desire to share this blessing with others, presenting these gifts now as a sign of our commitment and intent. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Hymn 238 (p. 8) *Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove* Mendon

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 communion of the Holy Spirit, this day and forevermore. Amen.

Postlude *Komm, Gott, Schöpfer, heiliger Geist, BWV 667* J. S. Bach

Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor
Ernie Drown, Organist • Brian Clancy, Tenor • Linda Jacobs, Liturgist

The altar flowers this morning are given by Dawn Troutman to the glory of God, in celebration of Pentecost, and in loving memory of Scheryl Fulkerson.

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

Come Down, O Love Divine

Bianco da Siena, c. 1367
Tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833-1890

DOWN AMPNEY 6.6.11.D.
R. Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

1 Come down, O Love di - vine, Seek thou this soul of
 2 O let it free - ly burn, Till earth - ly pas - sions
 3 And so the yearn - ing strong With which the soul will

mine, And vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
 turn To dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
 long, Shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near, With - in my heart ap - pear,
 And let thy glo - rious light Shine ev - er on my sight,
 For none can guess its grace, Till he be - come the place

And kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 And clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
 Where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes his dwell - ing. A - men.

One Holy Church of God Appears

266

Samuel Longfellow, 1819-1892

ST. JAMES C.M.
Raphael Courteville, ?-c.1735

1 One ho - ly Church of God ap - pears Through
2 From old - est time, on far - thest shores, Be -
3 The truth is her pro - phet - ic gift, The
4 O liv - ing Church, thine er - rand speed, Ful -

ev - ery age and race, Un - wast - ed by the
neath the pine or palm, One un - seen Pres - ence
soul, her sa - cred page; And feet on mer - cy's
fill thy task sub - lime; With Bread of life earth's

lapse of years, Un - changed by chang - ing place.
she a - dores, With si - lence, or with psalm.
er - rands swift Do make her pil - grim - age.
hun - ger feed; Re - deem the e - vil time! A-men.

The FCC Outing Club Is Back—Join Us on Signal Hill!

Sunday, June 6—Meet at Trailhead on Stevens Rd at 12:30 (Rain Date June 13)

Having been dormant during the pandemic, FCC's Outing Club returns next month, led as always by our in-house park ranger, Ron Bailey! This expedition follows a new, easier trail up

Signal Hill, traversing conservation land rich in local history and enjoying great views west toward Vermont from the summit. Meet at the trailhead on Stevens Rd (up from Hardy Hill Rd, at intersection with Alden Rd); bring a picnic lunch, water, bug spray, and appropriate clothing.

Bring your friends and share this experience of God's creation!

Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove

238

Simon Browne, 1680-1732, *all.*

MENDON L.M.

German Melody

Arr. by Samuel Dyer, 1785-1835

1 Come, gra-cious Spir - it, heav - en - ly Dove, With light and com - fort
2 The light of truth to us dis - play And make us know and
3 Lead us to Christ, the liv - ing Way, Nor let us from his
4 Lead us to heaven, that we may share Ful - ness of joy for

from a - bove; Be thou our guard - ian, thou our guide,
choose thy way; Plant ho - ly fear in ev - ery heart,
pre - cepts stray; Lead us to ho - li - ness, the road,
ev - er there; Lead us to God, our fi - nal rest,

O'er ev - ery thought and step pre - side.
That we from thee may ne'er de - part.
That we must take to dwell with God.
To be with him for ev - er blest. A - men.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It features a treble and bass clef staff. The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each corresponding to a line of music. The first system includes four numbered verses. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system concludes with 'A - men.' The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines.

Celebrate the Children's Community Corner—Children's Sunday, June 13

After this challenging year, the Children's Community Corner and its adult volunteers are excited to lead worship and mark the end of the school year. We'll lift up our congregation's kids and what they have learned this year, and we very much hope you'll join us to share this special moment in our church's communal life!

If you're interested in participating or have questions, please contact Nan Parsons (nlp3721@yahoo.com/603-863-8354) or the church office.



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

Ernie Drown, Organist and Choir Director • Nancy Parsons, Children's Community Corner
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