

Book of Samuel, Saul was a great warrior, every inch the king, but he was also a disaster, doing what he wanted and ignoring God.

Choosing a leader, whether of a country or a school club, is a big deal. We should choose people who are wise, who are dedicated to the community, who remember that people count. When you have a chance to choose, whether a team captain or the President of the United States, I hope you'll remember that.

Musical Offering Siciliano, from *Sonata in E*, BWV 1035

J. S. Bach

Scripture Lessons

1 Samuel 8:4-20, 11:14-15. ⁴Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, ⁵and said to him, “You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations.” ⁶But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to govern us.” Samuel prayed to the Lord, ⁷and the Lord said to Samuel, “Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. ⁸Just as they have done to me, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. ⁹Now then, listen to their voice; only—you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them.”

¹⁰So Samuel reported all the words of the Lord to the people who were asking him for a king. ¹¹He said, “These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots; ¹²and he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. ¹³He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. ¹⁴He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his courtiers. ¹⁵He will take one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and his courtiers. ¹⁶He will take your male and female slaves, and the best of your cattle and donkeys, and put them to his work. ¹⁷He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. ¹⁸And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves; but the Lord will not answer you in that day.”

¹⁹But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said, “No! but we are determined to have a king over us, ²⁰so that we also may be like other nations, and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles.” [...]

¹⁴Samuel said to the people, “Come, let us go to Gilgal and there renew the kingship.”

¹⁵So all the people went to Gilgal, and there they made Saul king before the Lord in Gilgal. There they sacrificed offerings of well-being before the Lord, and there Saul and all the Israelites rejoiced greatly.

Mark 3:20-35. ²⁰[A]nd the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. ²¹When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” ²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” ²³And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered. ²⁸“Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin” — ³⁰for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.” ³¹Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” ³³And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” ³⁴And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

Sermon

“Your Parents Were Right”

Stephen R. Silver

Hymn 348 (p. 6)

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Olivet

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.

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

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:

Holy God, you have endowed us with a most amazing gift: the ability to choose. With this blessing comes responsibility, and danger. We are at times frightened by the choices before us, or we are locked in indecision. Sometimes, we succumb to the temptation to choose what is easy, or what feels good. Help us to resist these urges, to be strong like the faithful before us, to know that we have each and all been endowed with a tremendous, potentially life-changing gift. Let us use it in the way Jesus would.

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

Sinfonia in G Minor, BWV 797

J. S. Bach

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*)

On this Sunday we come before you, God, hoping that we may share the wondrous joy, boundless curiosity, and open hearts of our children. Accept these gifts now, we pray, as a sign of this desire. In the name of Jesus 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 347 (p. 7) *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* Linstead

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 Allegro assai, from *Sonata in E*, BWV 1035 J. S. Bach

* * *

Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organist • Leslie Stroud, Traverso • Brian Clancy, Tenor

504 This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

NUN DANKET ALL' C.M.
Melody by Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

1 This is the day the Lord hath made; He calls the hours his own.
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est strains The Church on earth can raise;

Let heaven re - joice, let earth be glad, And praise sur-round the throne.
The high - est heavens, in which he reigns, Shall give him no - bler praise.

The musical score is written in 2/2 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are placed below the vocal line. The score is divided into two systems, each with a vocal line and a piano line. The first system contains the first two lines of lyrics, and the second system contains the last two lines of lyrics. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes, providing a harmonic foundation for the vocal line.

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

348

Ray Palmer, 1808-1887, alt.

OLIVET 6.6.4.6.6.6.4.
Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

1 My faith looks up to thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread, And griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold; sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray; Take all my
My zeal in - spire; As thou hast died for me, Oh, may my
Be thou my guide; Bid dark-ness turn to day; Wipe sor-row's
Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -

guilt a - way; Oh, let me from this day Be whol - ly thine.
love to thee Pure, warm, and changeless be, A liv - ing fire.
tears a - way; Nor let me ev - er stray From thee a - side.
trust re - move; Oh, bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul. A - men.

Celebrate the Children's Community Corner Next Week on Children's Sunday!

After this challenging year, the Children's Community Corner is excited to lead worship and mark the end of the school year. We'll lift up our 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.

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

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

Meet at the trailhead on Stevens Rd in Lebanon (north of Hardy Hill Rd, at intersection with Alden Rd); bring a picnic lunch, water, bug spray, sunscreen and appropriate clothing.

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Luke 10:1-9

Fred Kaan, 1975; alt.

C F G Dm G C G

1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em-ploy, reach-ing out with a shout of joy:
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at his ta - ble he set the tone,
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,

C F G Dm7 C G C

bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 teach-ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im-man - u - el) ev - ery-where!

Refrain (first time *p*, second time *f*)

C C7 F Dm G C F C

Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain, pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!

This hymn came into being when composer Doreen Potter asked poet Fred Kaan to write a text for her adaptation of a Jamaican folk melody. It was first used at the World Council of Churches Assembly in Nairobi (1975), and in Vancouver (1983).

Tune: LINSTEAD L.M. with refrain
 Jamaican folk song
 Adapt. Doreen Potter, 1975

SHELTER SUNDAY
The Excitement Is Building...

If you'd like to honor or remember the father(s) in your life with a contribution for Shelter Sunday, please complete and return 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 information.

Any amount is gratefully welcome!

Dedications received by 12:00 pm on Thursday, June 17, will be listed in the bulletin on FATHER'S DAY, JUNE 20.

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

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.

FATHER'S DAY IS SHELTER SUNDAY

Every Father's Day (June 20 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 has provided decent, affordable housing 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 the father(s) in your life with a contribution to Shelter Sunday, please complete the form below and return it to the church office. Any amount is welcome, and directly supports building projects. Thanks! (Payable to FCC, memo "Shelter Sunday.")

All dedications must be received by noon on THURSDAY, JUNE 17, in order to be listed in the worship bulletin on FATHER'S DAY, JUNE 20. (Contributions accepted beyond that date.)



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