

## First Congregational Church of Lebanon

United Church of Christ - Open and Affirming

# The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 4, 2021

"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are."

-Theodore Roosevelt

Kindly silence cell phones and other devices during worship. All hymns are included on pages 5-7.

Prelude

Komm, heiliger Geist, Herre Gott, BUXWV 199

Dieterich Buxtehude

Call to Worship

Adapted from Psalm 48:9-14

Leader: We ponder your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple.

People: Your name, O God, like your praise, reaches to the ends of the earth. Your right hand is filled with victory.

Leader: Let Mount Zion be glad, let the towns of Judah rejoice because of your judgments.

People: Walk about Zion, go all around it, count its towers, consider well its ramparts;

Leader: Go through its citadels, that you may tell the next generation that this is God, our God forever and ever.

People: He will be our guide forever.

Hymn 440 (p. 5) O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

Materna

### Prayer of Invocation

God, though we worship in places near and far today, we know your Spirit is with us, joining us together as one people. Lift up our worship, inspire our prayers, infuse them with your grace, your love, your power. We pray this 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

#### Children's Moment

"Holiday" is derived from the phrase "Holy Day." Now, I love my country, but there is NOTHING holy about the Fourth of July. So, what's going on? We now celebrate

holidays for all sorts of reasons, some having to do with faith, others not. Part of our responsibility as Christians is to recognize, to know the difference, and to not to confuse the two. When we do make this mistake, we might make idols out of figures and things that mean something to us but should never be confused with God or God's kingdom.

Hymn 437 (p. 6) My Country, 'Tis of Thee

America

#### Scripture Lessons

**2** Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10. Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, "Look, we are your bone and flesh. <sup>2</sup>For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was you who led out Israel and brought it in. The Lord said to you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over Israel." <sup>3</sup>So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord, and they anointed David king over Israel. <sup>4</sup>David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. <sup>5</sup>At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.

[...] <sup>9</sup>David occupied the stronghold, and named it the city of David. David built the city all around from the Millo inwards. <sup>10</sup>And David became greater and greater, for the Lord, the God of hosts, was with him.

Mark 6:1-13. [Jesus] left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. <sup>2</sup>On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! <sup>3</sup>Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." <sup>5</sup>And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. <sup>6</sup>And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. <sup>7</sup>He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup>He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; <sup>9</sup>but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup>He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. <sup>11</sup>If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." <sup>12</sup>So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. <sup>13</sup>They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

#### 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 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, Sandy, and Jimmy.

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

Today we also offer the following prayer:

Almighty God, on this weekend when we commemorate our nation's founding, we come to you to confess: to our fear, to our pride, to our selfishness, to our prizing partisanship above the common good. We ask that you imbue us with the grace and the faith to live up to the highest ideals on which this country was founded, to make real the promise. Forgive us for the idolatry of the flag, for confusing our preferences with your will. Let us remember that we are called to be Christians, disciples of Jesus, animated by your Spirit above and beyond all else. Amen.

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

Offertory Jesu, meines Lebens Leben

Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau

### Doxology (Unison)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below,

Praise God above, ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

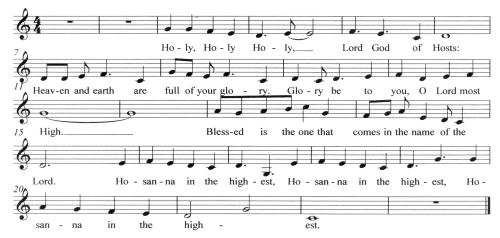
God of redemption, God of grace, God of love: we are blessed by you, who came to save us, empowering us to serve your people. Use our gifts of time, skills, and money to further your work in the world. In the name of your Son we pray. Amen.

#### 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



#### 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 433 (p. 7)

God of Our Fathers, Whose Almighty Hand

National Hymn

#### 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

Fugue in A Minor

Johann Sebastian Bach

### Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor • Stacey Steele, Liturgist Susan Sorensen, Guest Organist • Brian Clancy, Tenor

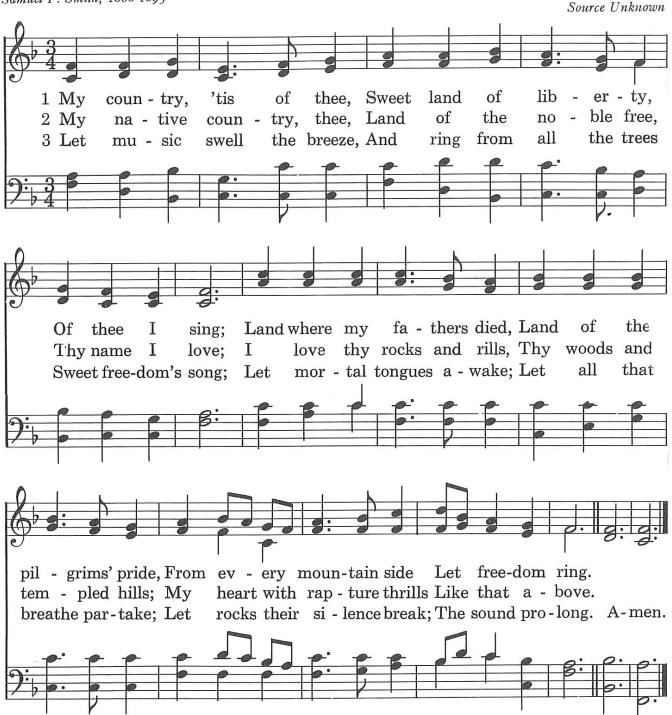
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If you wish to have a joy, concern, or prayer request lifted up in the service, or if you know of someone who may need special prayers, a card or phone call, or some other form of pastoral care, please email prayer@fccleb.org or speak with Rev. Silver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

MATERNA C.M.D. Katharine Lee Bates, 1859-1929 Samuel A. Ward, 1848-1903 spa-cious skies, For 1 O beau - ti - ful for am - ber waves of 2 O beau - ti - ful for pil - grim feet, Whose stern, im-pas-sioned stress 3 O beau - ti - ful he - roes proved In for lib - er - at - ing strife, 4 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream That sees be-yond the years pur - ple moun-tain maj - es - ties A - bove the fruit - ed plain! thor-ough-fare for free - dom beat A - cross the wil - der - ness! Who more than self their coun-try loved. And mer - cy more than life! Thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, Un-dimmed by hu - man tears! thee. God shed his grace on A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw, A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re fine, A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee, A - mer - i - ca! And crown thy good with broth-er-hood From sea to shin-ing self - con-trol, Thy lib - er - ty in law. Con-firm thy soul in suc-cess be no - ble-ness, And ev - ery gain di - vine. And crown thy good with broth-er-hood From sea to shin-ing sea. A-men.

Samuel F. Smith, 1808-1895

AMERICA 6.6.4.6.6.6.4.



4 Our father's God, to thee,
Author of liberty,
To thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by thy might,
Great God, our King.

## 433 God of Our Fathers, Whose Almighty Hand





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