



First Congregational Church of Lebanon

United Church of Christ – Open and Affirming

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 8, 2021

“I learned that we serve ourselves best when we serve others first.”

—Martin Sheen

Kindly silence cell phones and other devices during worship. All hymns are included on pages 5-8.

Prelude

Magnificat

Jean-François Dandrieu

Call to Worship

Psalm 34:1-8

Leader: I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

People: My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

Leader: O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.

People: I sought the LORD, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

Leader: Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.

People: This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD, and was saved from every trouble.

Leader: The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

People: O taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

Hymn 93 (p. 5)

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Cwm Rhondda

Prayer of Invocation

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

Hymn 228 (p. 6)

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Beecher

Scripture Lessons

Ephesians 4:25-5:2. ²⁵So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸Thieves must

give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. ^{5:1}Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

John 6:35, 41-51. ³⁵Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. [...]”

⁴¹Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” ⁴²They were saying, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven?’” ⁴³Jesus answered them, “Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

Sermon

“Wonderbread”

Gail T. Dimick

Hymn 489 (p. 7)

I Would Be True

Peek

Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Pastoral Prayer

As we hold our community members in prayer, please exercise care and discretion when sharing. Help us keep our prayer list current by contacting the church office to add or remove names.

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

Today we also offer the following prayer:

Eternal God, free us to follow Jesus. Liberate us from narrowness of vision and limited discipleship. Make us your people keen to serve you. Throughout our days, enliven our minds, inspire our conversation, inform our decisions, and protect those we love. And should today bring what we neither anticipate nor desire, increase our faith and decrease our pride until we know that, when we face the unexpected, we do not stand alone. Hear our prayers made in the presence and in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. (Wild Goose Publishing)

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

Duo

Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

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)

(United Methodist GBOD)

Patient and Merciful God, we hear your call to live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. Our ears hear these words in our worship; our minds know what they mean; our hearts long to follow them; but we know that tomorrow we will be tempted to slip into the familiar life where we ourselves are at the center of our world and the needs we focus on are almost entirely our own. In our giving this day, help us strengthen our resolve to love as Christ loves us, for it is in the name of Jesus that we pray. Amen.

Hymn 459 (p. 8)

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

Nettleton

Benediction

Postlude

Dialogue

Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Gail Temperley Dimick, Guest Pastor

Susan Sorensen, Guest Organist • Brian Clancy, Tenor • Dawn Troutman, Liturgist

Hymns used and reproduced under license 734395-A from OneLicense, valid 4/13/2021–4/12/2022.

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.

* Memorial Service for Jim Oronte (1953-2021)—Saturday, August 28, 11:00, at FCC *

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH—SPECIAL UCC OFFERING

Inspired this year by a simple theme—“**Renew!**”—the Strengthen the Church offering supports the growth of ministry and local congregations across the country. By renewing older faith communities, building new ones, and funding fellowships for young, emerging leaders in our church, this program is vital to the health of our denomination.

Please give as you are able to this nationwide effort to support church growth. We will accept contributions (payable to FCC, memo “Strengthen the Church”) until Labor Day. Thank you!

Do Your Part to Fill the Cart!

Greater Lebanon continues to struggle with poverty and food insecurity. Exacerbated by the challenges of the COVID-19 shutdown, local need remains high and will persist as pandemic benefits are phased out. We are resuming the monthly collection of items in our shopping cart in the Parish Hall, with a different beneficiary designated each month.

AUGUST—non-perishable food and personal-care items for LISTEN COMMUNITY SERVICES

Direct financial contributions to any Upper Valley service organization are always needed and appreciated. Thanks for fighting local poverty and hunger!



Music
at the
Meetinghouse

Live Music Returns to FCC!

Classicopia: Broadway Violin—Next Sunday, August 15, at 1:00

Pianist Dan Weiser brings live music back to our Sanctuary with violinist Timothy Schwarz and a selection of Broadway arrangements from the 1920s to the 1980s. Originally broadcast online last year, the program features favorite songs by Gershwin, Rodgers, Sondheim, Bernstein, Webber, and more. *Adults \$20, FCC members \$15, children free; for tickets and more, visit classicopia.org.*

Elizabeth Borowsky, Piano, and Cecylia Barczyk, Cello—Saturday, September 18, at 4:00

Join us for this concert by acclaimed local pianist and teacher Elizabeth Borowsky and her mother Cecylia Barczyk, a cellist who has performed internationally. Elizabeth has given several wonderful concerts here and is excited to return to our Sanctuary! *Full program details are forthcoming.*

The Anonymous Coffeehouse—Fridays, September 10 and 24, October 8 and 22, at 7:30

Classicopia: Elizabeth Borowsky and Jessica Deskin—Saturday, October 2, at 7:30

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

William Williams, 1717-1791

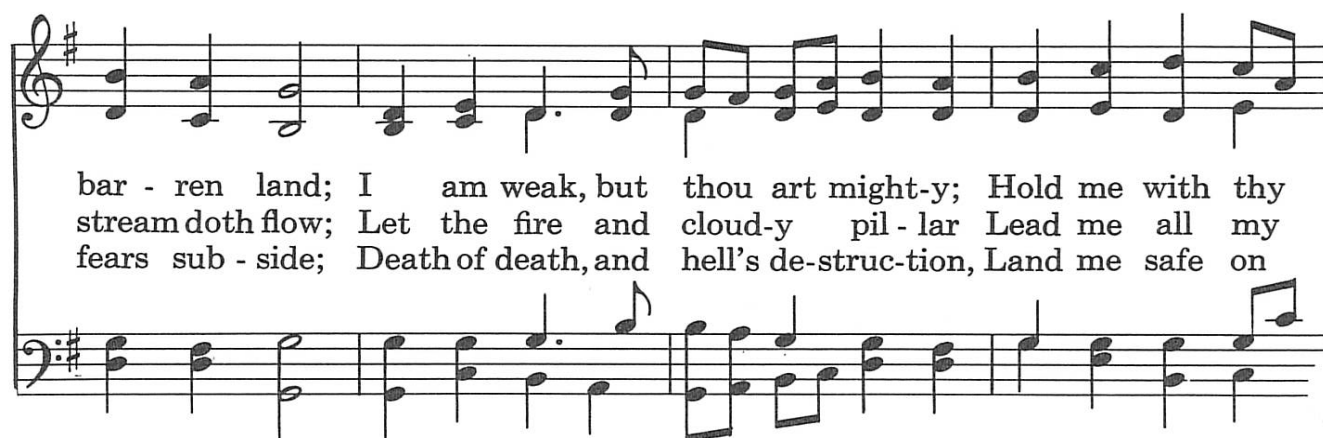
Tr. Peter Williams, 1727-1796, and others

CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.

John Hughes, 1873-1932



1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, Pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, Whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might-y; Hold me with thy
 stream doth flow; Let the fire and cloud-y pil - lar Lead me all my
 fears sub - side; Death of death, and hell's de-struc-tion, Land me safe on




power - ful hand; Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 jour - ney through; Strong De - liv - erer, strong De - liv - erer,
 Ca - naan's side; Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es,



Feed me till I want no more, Feed me till I want no more.
 Be thou still my strength and shield, Be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee, I will ev - er give to thee. A-men.


Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

BEECHER 8.7.8.7.D.
John Zundel, 1815-1882


1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to ev - ery trou - bled breast;
3 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, Let us all thy life re - ceive;
4 Fin - ish, then, thy new cre - a - tion; Pure and spot-less let us be;



Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, All thy faith - ful mer - cies crown;
Let us all in thee in - her - it, Let us find thy prom - ised rest;
Sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
Let us see thy great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in thee;



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;
Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in heaven we take our place,



Vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
End of faith, as its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
Pray, and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
Till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise. A - men.

I Would Be True

489

Howard A. Waller, 1883-1918

PEEK 11.10.11.10.10.
Joseph Y. Peek, 1843-1911

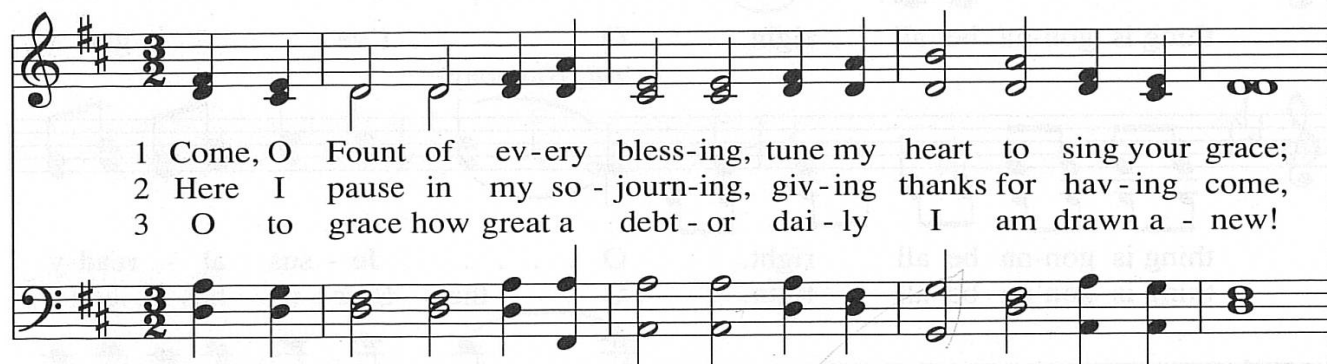
1 I would be true, for there are those who trust me;
2 I would be friend of all, the foe, the friend - less;

I would be pure, for there are those who care;
I would be giv - ing, and for - get the gift;

I would be strong, for there is much to suf - fer;
I would be hum - ble, for I know my weak - ness;

I would be brave, for there is much to dare,
I would look up, and laugh, and love, and lift,

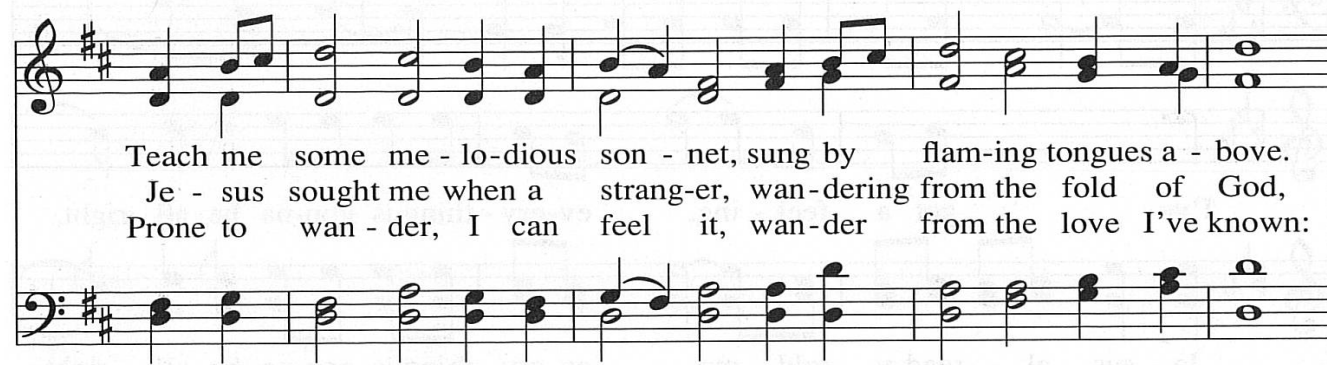
I would be brave, for there is much to dare.
I would look up, and laugh, and love, and lift. A - men.



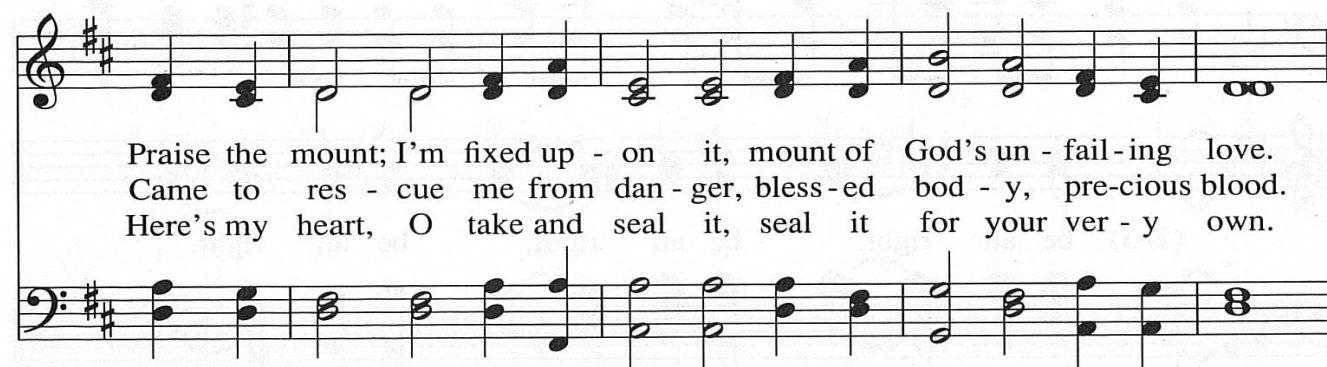
1 Come, O Fount of ev-ery bless-ing, tune my heart to sing your grace;
2 Here I pause in my so - journ-ing, giv-ing thanks for hav-ing come,
3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I am drawn a - new!



streams of mer - cy, nev-er ceas-ing, call for songs of end-less praise.
come to trust, at ev-ery turn-ing, God will guide me safe-ly home.
Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to you.



Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a - bove.
Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God,
Prone to wan - der, I can feel it, wan-der from the love I've known:



Praise the mount; I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - fail-ing love.
Came to res - cue me from dan - ger, bless-ed bod - y, pre-cious blood.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your ver - y own.

Converted to Methodism at age twenty, Robert Robinson soon became a Calvinistic Methodist preacher and later gained great popularity. The melody, associated with this text since 1813, is an American folk tune.

Tune: NETTLETON 8.7.8.7.D.
John Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, 1813



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