



## The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Kindly silence cell phones and other devices during worship. All hymns are included on pages 6-9.*

Prelude on "Ave Verum Corpus"

# Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Adapted from Psalm 84

People: My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Leader: Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

People: Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise. Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

Leader: As they go through the valley of Baca, they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools. They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

People: O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob! Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed.

Leader: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness.

People: O LORD of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

*Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

Ratisbon

## Prayer of Invocation

Eternal God, who have neither dawn nor evening, yet send us the alternate mercies of the darkness and the day—there is no light but yours without, within. As you lift the curtain of night from our dwellings, take also the veil from all our hearts. Rise with your morning upon our souls; quicken our labor and our prayer, and—though all else declines—let the noontide of your grace and peace remain. May we walk while it is yet day in the steps of him who, with fewest hours, finished your divine work. May we attend your Word as you hear our prayer. 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

I'm going to tell you a story about a place far, far away, about a time long, long ago. Or so it seems to me. Time flies when you get old. No, it's not about Star Wars or Luke Skywalker or Darth Vader. It's about my grandnephew's fourth birthday party in southern New Hampshire, in the distant city of Keene. My grandson was an invited guest. My wife and I attended too. As the party progressed, we could see that our grandson, also four, was intrigued by the presents my grand nephew had received. After singing "Happy Birthday" and having lots of cake and ice cream, we got in the car to go home. "You know," said Bruin (our grandson), "Theo (my nephew) wasn't very nice to me. He didn't want to share any of his new toys, let me play with them." We explained that because the toys were absolutely new and as such were "special," it made sense that Theo would want to keep them close for a while. "We're sure that the next time you see Theo, he'll be glad to share them with you." "Oh," came the response. "Then it's OK if I don't want to let anyone play with my new toys at my birthday next week!"

You probably all know some kids who don't like to share things. And as you grow older you will become aware of some adults, grown-ups, who don't like to share things either. They don't see it as their business to be friendly or helpful. But—and this is one of the things we learn in church—you don't have to have to *give* people *things* in order to share. You can smile, laugh, play a game together. When you talk to someone, perhaps another child who seems lonely, you're sharing friendship, part of yourself. You're accepting them as a human being. That is being helpful to others. And *that* is what Jesus wants us to do.

Hymn 50 (p. 7)      *Sun of My Soul, Thou Savior Dear*

Hursley

### Scripture Lessons

**Leviticus 4:27-31.** <sup>27</sup>If anyone of the ordinary people among you sins unintentionally in doing any one of the things that by the Lord's commandments ought not to be done and incurs guilt, <sup>28</sup>when the sin that you have committed is made known to you, you shall bring a female goat without blemish as your offering, for the sin that you have committed. <sup>29</sup>You shall lay your hand on the head of the sin offering; and the sin offering shall be slaughtered at the place of the burnt offering. <sup>30</sup>The priest shall take some of its blood with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and he shall pour out the rest of its blood at the base of the altar. <sup>31</sup>He shall remove all its fat, as the fat is removed from the offering of well-being, and the priest shall turn it into smoke on the altar for a pleasing odor to the Lord. Thus the priest shall make atonement on your behalf, and you shall be forgiven.

**Psalm 50:7-15.** <sup>7</sup>“Hear, O my people, and I will speak, O Israel, I will testify against you. I am God, your God. <sup>8</sup>Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before me. <sup>9</sup>I will not accept a bull from your house, or goats from your folds. <sup>10</sup>For every wild animal of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills. <sup>11</sup>I know all the birds of the air, and all that moves in the field is mine.

<sup>12</sup>“If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and all that is in it is mine. <sup>13</sup>Do I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats? <sup>14</sup>Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High. <sup>15</sup>Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”

**Matthew 18:10-14.** <sup>10</sup>“Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; for, I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven. <sup>12</sup>What do you think? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? <sup>13</sup>And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. <sup>14</sup>So it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost.

**Sermon**

“Unburnt Offerings”

Christopher L. Chase

**Hymn 344** (p. 8)

*Lead Us, Heavenly Father, Lead Us*

Dulce Carmen

### **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 to add 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, Jimmy, and Jean. We also offer the following prayer:

We stand before your presence, God,  
with arms outstretched;  
Hands empty, we bring no gifts,  
no offering do we bear that is worthy of a Lord.  
And yet, O God, are you pleased to receive us,  
to accept care and sorrow from our hands.

You suffer our folly, O triune God!  
Instead of rebuke, you weep for our sins;  
instead of damnation, you shed drops of your own blood.  
Your judgments renew despite the desolation  
of war, oppression, and personal affliction;  
yes, such statutes declare your love!  
And so we are bold, most merciful father,  
to ask you, who set before us the ways  
of life and death,  
to attend to our present concerns.

It is written that the imagination of the human heart  
 is evil always—  
 and behold, there is war, aggression, cruelty, greed.  
 It is written that man is born to trouble  
 as the sparks fly upward—  
 and behold, there is suffering, pain, and loss:  
 Grant, we pray, that your kingdom come  
 into this world of seemingly endless woe!  
 Grant peace unto the oppressed and oppressor alike,  
 for both stand in need of your grace.  
 Give solace also to the dying, the ill, the depressed, the lonely  
 and those denied the simple dignity of work.  
 We speak not in abstraction, Lord,  
 for there is much suffering in our midst:  
 we remember the cares and concerns brought before you today,  
 both those spoken and those born in mind.  
 Others too require thy grace:  
 in silence now we lift up their names before you,  
 making a special prayer for each.  
 And so, omnipotent and everlasting Lord,  
 in whose hand the fates of all nations lie,  
 we conclude our poor petition:  
 assured of thy loving kindness through Jesus' death and resurrection  
 we lay our supplication at the foot of your eternal throne. **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**                      *O wie selig seid ihr doch, ihr Frommen*, op. 122, n. 6                      Johannes Brahms

### **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.

**Hymn 423** (p. 9)      *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life* (vv. 1-4)      Germany

## Benediction

May God, as we depart his house, keep us—though our paths diverge—on a common way. May he smooth our cares, calm our hearts, and inspire in us love of neighbor and also the sojourner from afar. Amen.

**Postlude**      *Fugue in G Minor ("The Little")*, BWV 578      Johann Sebastian Bach

## *Leading Worship This Week*

Dr. Christopher L. Chase, Guest Preacher

Ernie Drown, Organist • Susan Pratt, Liturgist

Linda and Bob Gerlach, Ushers • Dawn Troutman, Zoom Greeter

*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](mailto:prayer@fccleb.org) or speak with Rev. Silver directly.*

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



Music  
at the  
Meetinghouse

## **Live Music Returns to FCC!**

***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.*

***Cameo Baroque Fall Benefit Concert—Sunday, September 19, at 4:00***

Ernie Drown, Beth Hilgartner, Leslie Stroud, and Laurie Rabut share their considerable collective musicianship with us in a program featuring French Baroque chamber music. Cameo Baroque's events always support a local non-profit; while this concert's beneficiary is still TBD, all are invited to help further FCC's community mission while enjoying an excellent program!

***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***

## Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

RATISBON 7.7.7.7.7.  
Johann Werner's "Choralbuch," 1815

1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly Light,  
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn Un - ac - com - pa - nied by thee;

Sun of right-eous-ness, a - rise, Tri-umph o'er the shades of night;  
Joy - less is the day's re - turn, Till thy mer - cy's beams I see,

Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.  
Till they in-ward light im - part, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart. A-men.

- 3 Visit, then, this soul of mine;  
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
Fill me, Radiance divine,  
Scatter all my unbelief;  
More and more thyself display,  
Shining to the perfect day.

### Do Your Part to Fill the Cart!

Greater Lebanon continues to struggle with poverty and food insecurity. We've resumed our collection for a different beneficiary each month, in our shopping cart in the Parish Hall.

**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!*

John Keble, 1792-1866

HURSLEY L.M.

"Katholisches Gesangbuch," Vienna, c.1774

1 Sun of my soul, thou Sav - ior dear, It is not night if  
 2 When the soft dews of kind - ly sleep My wea-ried eye - lids  
 3 A - bid with me from morn till eve, For with-out thee I  
 4 Watch by the sick; en - rich the poor With bless-ings from thy  
 5 Come near and bless us when we wake, Ere through the world our

thou be near; Oh, may no earth - born cloud a - rise  
 gen - tly steep, Be my last thought, how sweet to rest  
 can - not live; A - bid with me when night is nigh,  
 bound - less store; Be ev - ery mourn - er's sleep to - night,  
 way we take, Till in the o - cean of thy love

To hide thee from thy serv - ant's eyes.  
 For - ev - er on my Sav - ior's breast.  
 For with - out thee I dare not die.  
 Like in - fants' slum - bers, pure and light.  
 We lose our - selves in heaven a - bove. A - men.

## 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!*



## Lead Us, Heavenly Father, Lead Us

James Edmeston, 1791-1867

DULCE CARMEN 8.7.8.7.8.7.

*"An Essay on the Church Plain Chant," 1782*

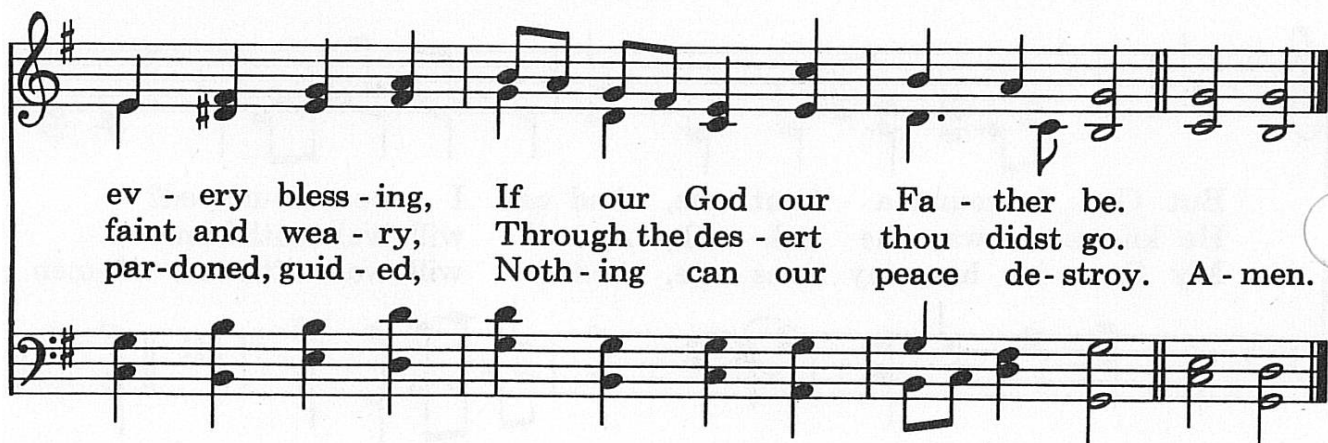

1 Lead us, heaven-ly Fa-ther, lead us O'er the world's tem-  
 2 Sav-ior, breathe for-give-ness o'er us; All our weak-ness  
 3 Spir-it of our God, de-scend-ing, Fill our hearts with



pes-tuous sea; Guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,  
 thou dost know; Thou didst tread this earth be-fore us;  
 heaven-ly joy; Love with ev-ery pas-sion blend-ing,



For we have no help but thee, Yet pos-sess-ing  
 Thou didst feel its keen-est woe; Lone and drear-y,  
 Pleas-ure that can nev-er cloy; Thus pro-vid-ed,



ev-ery bless-ing, If our God our Fa-ther be.  
 faint and wea-ry, Through the des-ert thou didst go.  
 par-doned, guid-ed, Noth-ing can our peace de-destroy. A-men.



## Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

Frank Mason North, 1850-1935

GERMANY L.M.  
Gardiner's "Sacred Melodies," 1815

1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, Where sound the  
 2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, On shad - owed  
 3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, From wom - an's  
 4 The cup of wa - ter given for thee Still holds the

cries of race and clan, A - bove the noise of self - ish  
 thresh-olds dark with fears, From paths where hide the lures of  
 grief, man's bur - dened toil, From fam - ished souls, from sor - rows'  
 fresh - ness of thy grace; Yet long these mul - ti - tudes to

strife, We hear thy voice, O Son of man.  
 greed, We catch the vi - sion of thy tears.  
 stress, Thy heart has nev - er known re - coil.  
 see The sweet com - pas - sion of thy face. A - men.



**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](mailto: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](mailto:church@fccleb.org) • [prayer@fccleb.org](mailto:prayer@fccleb.org) • [music@fccleb.org](mailto:music@fccleb.org) • [www.fccleb.org](http://www.fccleb.org)**