



First Congregational Church of Lebanon

United Church of Christ – Open and Affirming

The Fourth Sunday of Easter • Mother's Day • Blanket Sunday

May 8, 2022

“There is no limit to the power of a good woman.”

—Robert H. Benson

Kindly silence cell phones and other devices during worship. All hymns are included on pages 6-8.

Prelude *Prelude on “Eventide”* C.H.H. Parry

Call to Worship Psalm 23

Leader: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

People: He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

Leader: He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

People: Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Leader: Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

People: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Hymn 12 (p. 5) *From All That Dwell Below the Skies* Lasst uns erfreuen

Prayer of Invocation

God, though we worship in places near and far today, we welcome your Spirit as it joins us together as one people. Lift up our worship, inspire our prayers, infuse them with your grace, your love, your power. We pray these things 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

Anthem *I Give You a New Commandment* Peter Aston

Children's Moment

Today we celebrate Mother's Day. It's a time for us to thank all of those who have been mothers to us—not only our Moms, but those who have filled that role over the years: grandmothers, aunts, kind women, even single dads. We give thanks for the unconditional, supportive love that embraces us and supports us. So, let's be grateful for all the mothers in our lives, and let us thank God for sharing this gift with us.

Hymn 202 (p. 6) *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun* (vv. 1-5)

Duke Street

Scripture Lessons

Acts 9:36-43. ³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs.

³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

John 10:22-30. ²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one."

Sermon *"Men and Women at Work"*

Stephen R. Silver

Hymn 215 (p. 7) *What Wondrous Love Is This*

Wondrous Love

Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Pastoral Prayer

As we hold our community members in prayer, please exercise care and discretion when sharing.

Today we offer our ongoing prayers for Pete, Lloyd, Arlene, Evelyn, Barbara, Greg, Edith, Jan, Eileen, Michelle, Stephanie, Paulette, Carolin, Juanita, and Terry.

We pray for the people of Ukraine, that they may know peace. We pray, too, for the Russian leadership, that their hearts may be renewed and turned to you, and for the Russian people, that they may be freed from tyranny and corruption.

Tender God: we thank you on this day for the love you have shared with us in Jesus, the love that surrounds us through the Holy Spirit, the love that makes itself known to us every day. Help us to truly appreciate your immense bounty, to embrace what you have done, to share it with others.

We look at this world and ask, “Why is there not enough love?” But we need to look at ourselves and acknowledge what we must do, how we must share love—just as you did in coming to us in the person of your son, even dying on a cross for us. We give thanks and praise that you so loved us.

We pray this, and all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, in the name of your Son, our Savior. 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 often ignored, we invite your support of our ongoing community ministry.

Offertory

King of All Ages, Throned on High

Paul Isom

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 infinite grace and love, we are your sheep, and you care for us. For this we offer our thanks and praise. But like Peter, we know that we are also blessed and challenged to be shepherds. With these gifts, we proclaim that we have accepted your call to tend to your flock. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Hymn 826 (p. 8)

Lift High the Cross

Crucifer

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

Prelude on "Croft's 136th"

C.H.H. Parry

* * *

Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organ/Piano • The FCC Choir • John Gilliatt, Liturgist

Linda and Ike Jacobs, Ushers • Bob Gerlach, 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 or speak with Rev. Silver directly.

Celebrate the Children's Community Corner—Children's Sunday, June 12

After another "remote" year, the Children's Community Corner is excited to lead worship and mark the end of the school year. Please join us for this special moment in our communal life!

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

*** * * Upstanders for the Children of Ukraine—A 3C's Fundraiser! * * ***

Concerned about the children caught in the tragedies of war in Ukraine, FCC's kids want to help! They're making Ukrainian-style eggs, cross necklaces, and baked goods to offer for a donation on Children's Sunday. (*Delivery can be arranged for those who'd like something but can't attend that day.*) **All donations will be sent to a reputable charity providing resources for Ukraine's children.** For questions or delivery requests, please contact Nan Parsons.

Remember Bike & Build? They're Coming Back!—June 14-16

For almost 20 years, this inspiring program has raised funds, participated in construction projects, and advocated for affordable housing in a series of national and regional biking trips. FCC has hosted B&B's Northern Route since 2008, but all routes were canceled in 2020-21 because of the pandemic. In June we will once again open our building to these enterprising, dedicated young adults for two nights, on their journey from Portsmouth to Seattle. While in town, they'll work on projects with UV Habitat and Cover Home Repair.

Our plans for serving the Biker-Builders during their stay are still undetermined, but if you are willing to volunteer in some way, please contact the church office. For more about this incredible program and its cross-country routes, visit bikeandbuild.org/routes/.

From All That Dwell Below the Skies

12

Second Tune

Based on Psalm 117
Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

LASST UNS ERFREUEN 8.8.4.4.8.8. with Alleluias
"Geistliche Kirchengesäng," Cologne, 1623

In unison



1 From all that dwell be-low the skies Let the Cre-a-tor's praise a-
2 E-ter-nal are thy mer-cies, Lord, E-ter-nal truth at-tends thy



rise! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Let the Re-deem-er's
word! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Thy praise shall sound from



name be sung Through ev-eryland, by ev-ery tongue! Al-le-lu-ia!
shore to shore Till sun shall rise and set no more! Al-le-lu-ia!



Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men.

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

DUKE STREET L.M.

John Halton, d.1793

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun Doth his suc -
 2 For him shall end - less prayer be made, And prais - es
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue Dwell on his

ces - sive jour - neys run; His king - dom stretch from
 throng to crown his head; His name like sweet per -
 love with sweet - est song, And in - fant voic - es

shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 fume shall rise With ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings on his name. A-men.

4 Blessings abound where'er he reigns;
 The prisoner leaps to lose his chains,
 The weary find eternal rest,
 And all the sons of want are blest.

5 Let every creature rise and bring
 Peculiar honors to our King;
 Angels descend with songs again,
 And earth repeat the loud Amen.

What Wondrous Love Is This 215

Dm C Dm C Dm Am



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing
 3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing

Dm C Dm C



soul, what won - drous love is this, O my soul! What
 down, when I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to
 on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and

Dm Am B \flat Gm Am Em



won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of
 I was sink - ing down be - neath God's righ - teous
 God and to the Lamb who is the great I
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful

G Dm C Am C Dm Am



bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my
 frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my
 AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing

Em Am C Dm Am C Dm



soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
 soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!
 sing; while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!
 on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."

Lift High the Cross

826

Refrain
Descant

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name. *Fine*

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

the Lamb vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.
your death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

to Refrain

This majestic hymn celebrates the paradox that for Christians a means of painful death has been transformed into a symbol of renewed life; a sign of defeat has become an emblem of victory. With the cross traced on our foreheads at Baptism we are marked as Christ's own forever.

TEXT: George William Kitchin, 1887; rev. Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916, alt.
MUSIC: Sydney Hugo Nicholson, 1916; desc. Richard Proulx, 1985
Text and Music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company
Music Desc. © 1985 Hope Publishing Company

CRUCIFER
10.10 with refrain



The Anonymous Coffeehouse—Fridays, May 6 and 20, at 7:30

Come enjoy this popular community venue for live local music, before it breaks for the summer! Baked goods and non-alcoholic drinks available, all free of charge. *For more, visit anoncoffee.org.*

Nicolas Babineau and Alexis Chartrand—Saturday, May 7, at 7:00

UVMC and Vermont Violins bring us this talented duo, who explore the Québécois musical universe with fiddle, guitar, and foot percussion and offer an intimate, truly contemporary vision of the repertoire. *Adults \$15 (or \$25 w/afternoon workshop); more details at uvmusic.org.*

Classicopia: Jewish Broadway—Sunday, May 15, at 1:00

Violinist Tim Schwarz and pianist Dan Weiser follow up last year's popular "Broadway Violin" concert with a prequel featuring Broadway's golden years, in tunes by Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, Harold Arlen, and George Gershwin. *Adults \$20, FCC members \$15, children free; more at classicopia.org.*

Cameo Baroque: Music of Johann Sebastian Bach—Saturday, May 21, at 7:00

Our own Ernie Drown brings back his superb ensemble for an evening celebrating the master of Baroque music. *Free-will donation (\$20 suggested) to benefit the work of Doctors Without Borders in Ukraine; more at www.cameoarts.org and www.doctorswithoutborders.org.*

Roseminna Watson, Violin, and Melody Fader, Piano—Sunday, May 22, at 2:00

After a wonderful concert here last fall, these friends return with a new program ranging from W. A. Mozart and Frédéric Chopin to Claude Debussy, George Gershwin, and more. *Adults \$20, students/artists \$15, children \$5; tickets and more at www.eventbrite.com (search "Roseminna" in Lebanon, NH).*

Cantabile Women's Chorus: Gloria!—Sunday, June 5, at 4:00

We are delighted to welcome back Cantabile for a concert originally planned for January but canceled due to COVID. The program includes music of Antonio Vivaldi, Johannes Brahms, and a new commission from Philip Silvey to commemorate Cantabile's 20th anniversary last year. *Adults \$15, students/seniors \$10, under 13 free; more at www.cantabilewomen.org.*

Counterpoint: The Woods and the Waters—Friday, July 15, at 7:30

Director Nathaniel Lew brings VT's professional choral ensemble back to Lebanon for the first time in four years to celebrate landscapes near and far, with guest pianist Alison Cerutti. Music by Jude Navari, Benjamin Britten, and NH's own Amy Beach, along with the premiere of a piece by composer Travis Ramsey and poet Jim Schley—who both live in the Upper Valley. *Adults \$20, seniors \$15, students and limited means \$5; more at counterpointchorus.org/upcoming/.*

Register Now for Classicopia's Summer Music Camp!—Two Sessions: August 8-13 and 15-20

This immersive program offers instrumental and vocal instruction to students aged 8-18, with outstanding faculty and guest artists. *More details and registration at classicopia.org/summer-camp/.*

UCC Emergency Appeal for Ukrainian Refugee Assistance

The UCC is working both as a member of the ACT Alliance and through the relief agency of the Reformed Church in Hungary. Visit www.ucc.org/global-h-o-p-e/ukraine-emergency-appeal/.



Happy Mother's Day!

Thanks to all who gave to **CWS BLANKETS** this year! With your generous contributions, to the glory of God and in loving honor or memory of those listed below, Church World Service will **blanket the world with love!**

IN HONOR OF...

DeAnn Clancy and Amy Driscoll—*Grace, Katie, and Brian Clancy*

All mothers in our families: Jennifer, Amy, Dayle, Kathy, Sarah, Kate, Kristin, and Nicole—*Marcia Corkins and Pete Mason*

Ike's mom, Betty Adams; Ike's aunt, Terri Reese; dear friend Terry Grigsby; and daughters Carey Jacobs, Kim Cook, and Heidi Preston—*Linda and Ike Jacobs* / My wife, Linda Jean—*Isaac Jacobs*

Every wonderful mother and mother-figure in our church community and world—*Barbara Jones*

Marcia, a wonderful mother and partner—*Pete Mason*

My mother, Suzette Ragan—*Valerie Nevel*

Louise Parsons (G.G.), Shawna Osmer (Mommy), Genevieve Kirkpatrick (Grandma Chick), Tami Kirkpatrick, and Marcia Corkins—*Nan Parsons and Kailyn Rappaport*

Our mothers, Kathy and Phyllis; our daughter-in-law, Des; and Auntie Em—*Deb and Jon Scott*
Grammie, Great Grandma Kathy, Gigi, Amma, Grandma (Debbie), and Mommy (Deserai)—*Xavian, Emory, and Walter Scott*

JoAnn Smith and Rachel Silver—*Chip and Steve Silver*

My mom, Alana Natcher—*Dawn Troutman*

IN MEMORY OF...

My mother and grandmothers—*Ron Bailey*

Our mothers, Glenda Perkins and Eleanor Belding—*Kathy and Warren Belding*

Our mothers, Dorothy Ford and Lula Bennett—*Ginny and Lloyd Bennett*

My mother, Fran Howe—*Betsy Bouse*

Sandy Driscoll, and many aunts and grandmothers—*Amy Driscoll, and Grace, Katie, and Brian Clancy*

Laura W. Place—*Sue and Ken Gould and Family*

Our mothers, Emily Pike and Ruth Hammond—*Gloria and Phil Hammond*

Linda's mom, Barbara Sumner; Linda's Gram, Ruby Sumner; Linda's aunt, Betty Sumner King; and dear friends Laura Place and Betty Howard—*Linda and Ike Jacobs*

Marilyn Mason, a wonderful mother and wife—*Jane Mason and Pete Mason*

My friend Millie Hubbard—*Valerie Nevel*

Beatrice Parsons, Joyce Smith, Estelle Shaw Janos, and Natalie Perriello—*Nan Parsons and Kailyn Rappaport*

Our grandmothers, Naomi, Lona, Aya, and Florence; and Aunt Jeanie—*Deb and Jon Scott*

Ruth Silver—*The Silver Family*

My mother, Helen K. Smith—*Dr. Kenneth W. Smith*

Our moms, Frances C. Richmond and Doris Stone—*Carol and Chuck Stone*



First Congregational Church of Lebanon

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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
Jon Scott, Chair of Church Council • Linda Gerlach, Chair of Deacons • 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