



## The Fifth Sunday of Easter

“The only person whose opinion counts, the creator God of the universe, looks at me in Christ and finds me more valuable than the jewels in the earth. Why worry about being snubbed now? Why care too much about what we look like in the mirror?”

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

# Johann Sebastian Bach

Psalm 148:1-11

People: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

**People:** Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

People: He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

**People:** Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

Hymn 306 (p. 5)      *The Church of Christ in Every Age*

Wareham

## 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

**Children's Moment**

We had a WIC clinic at the church this past week. Women, Infants, and Children is a government program that serves families in need across the country in many ways. When we were approached about being a host site a few years ago, we readily volunteered our Parish Hall. This is something we should take pride in.

We share our space with others, and it's not hard to do. All too often, though, we think we don't have the ability to help out—but when we really look at what we have, we realize we are blessed with so much. Sharing with others—this is a way of helping out, of doing what we are called by Jesus to do.

**Hymn 503** (p. 6)      *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

Unser Herrscher

**Scripture Lessons**

**Acts 11:1-18.** Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup>So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup>saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” <sup>4</sup>Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup>“I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup>As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup>I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ <sup>8</sup>But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ <sup>9</sup>But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ <sup>10</sup>This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup>At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup>The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup>He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup>he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ <sup>15</sup>And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup>And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>17</sup>If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” <sup>18</sup>When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

**Revelation 21:1-6.** Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.”

<sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup>Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.[...]”

**John 13:31-35.** <sup>31</sup>When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup>If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup>Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ <sup>34</sup>I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

**Sermon** “All Things Made New” Stephen R. Silver

**Hymn 420** (p. 7) O Holy City, Seen of John Morning Song

### **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, Terry, and Ethan.

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.

God of the resurrection, God of new life: we give thanks today for all we have received, including the ability to see things in a new light. We ask that you keep the spirit of Easter strong in us; that we will be ever open to your spirit; that we are able to turn aside from the distractions in our lives and instead follow Jesus, willingly, with faith and renewed enthusiasm. Be with us and in us this day and every day.

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 without, who are in need, who are often ignored, we invite your support of our ongoing ministry in and for the community.*

**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 heaven and earth, you share with us countless blessings. In thanksgiving, we now share with others what you have given to us. Let this morning's offering serve as a sign of the boundless grace that is to be found and shared in your Kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**Hymn 576** (p. 8) *For the Healing of the Nations*

Westminster Abbey

**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 C Major*, BUXWV 677

Dieterich Buxtehude

\* \* \*

***Leading Worship This Week***

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organ/Piano • The FCC Choir • Denise Moriearty, Liturgist

Linda and Bob Gerlach, Ushers • Linda Jacobs, Zoom Greeter

**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](mailto: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.

# The Church of Christ, in Every Age

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Fred Pratt Green, 1969

1 The church of Christ, in ev - ery age be -  
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the  
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a

set by change, but Spir - it led, Must  
 vic - tims of in - jus - tice cry For  
 car - ing church that longs to be A

claim and test its her - i - tage and  
 shel - ter and for bread to eat, and  
 part - ner in Christ's sac - ri - fice, and

keep on ris - ing from the dead.  
 nev - er live be - fore they die.  
 clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.

Poet Fred Pratt Green has been a chaplain, parish minister, administrator, and playwright. Since retiring from parish responsibilities in 1969, he has been an active hymnwriter and makes his home in Norwich, England.

Tune: WAREHAM L.M.  
 William Knapp, 1738

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## Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Benjamin Schmolak, 1672-1737  
Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878

UNSER HERRSCHER 8.7.8.7.7.7.  
Melody by Joachim Neander, 1650-1680

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,  
2 Gra-cious God, I come be - fore thee, Come thou al - so un - to me;

Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty, Waits for him who an-swears prayer.  
Where we find thee and a - dore thee, There a heaven on earth must be.

O how bless - ed is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!  
To my heart O en - ter thou, Let it be thy tem - ple now.

### 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 Bellingham, WA.

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 evolving, 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/](http://bikeandbuild.org/routes/).*

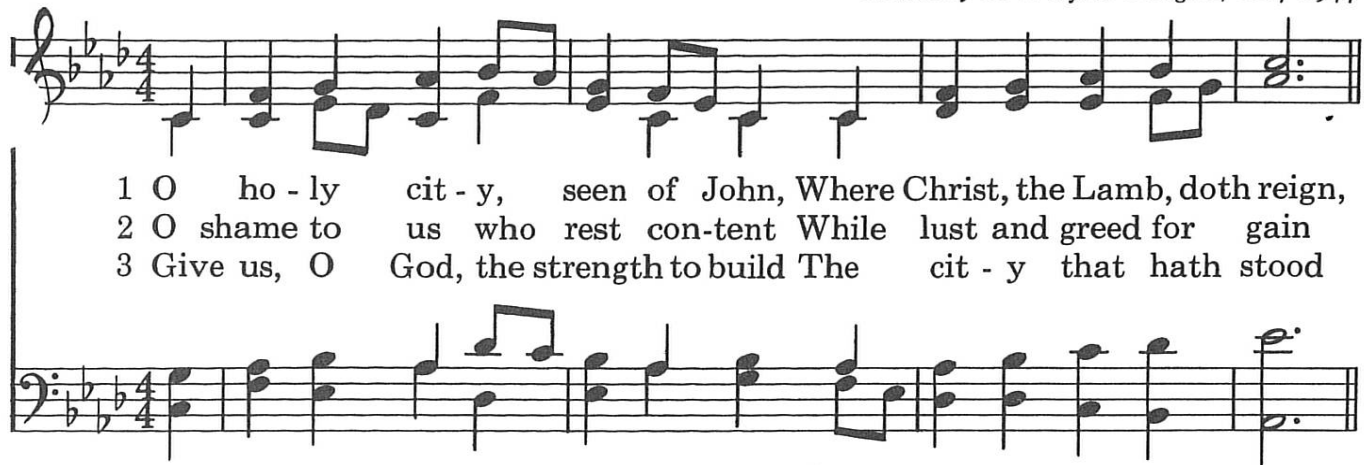


# O Holy City, Seen of John

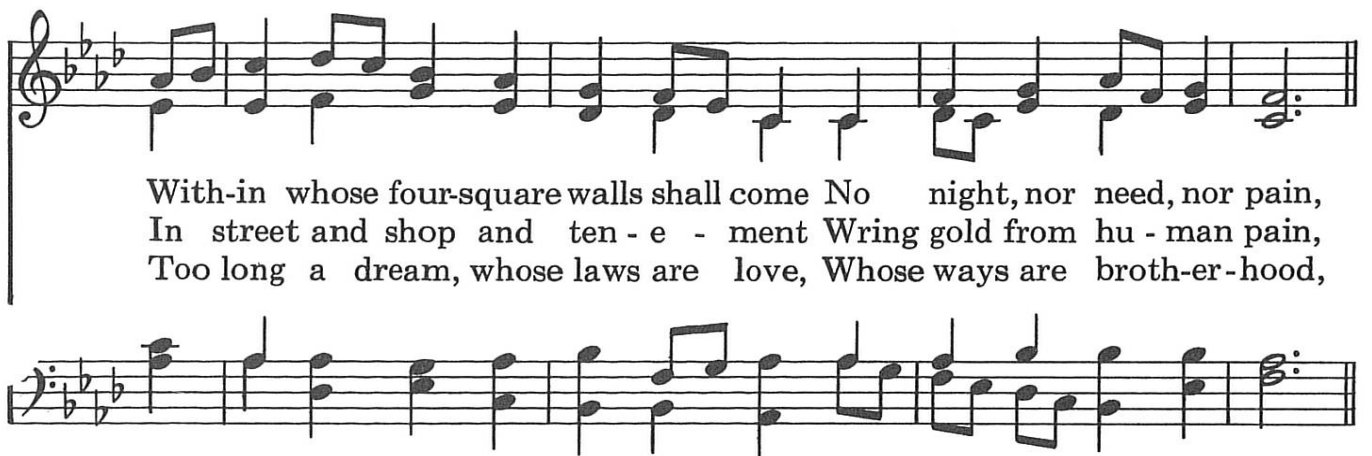
420

W. Russell Bowie, 1882-

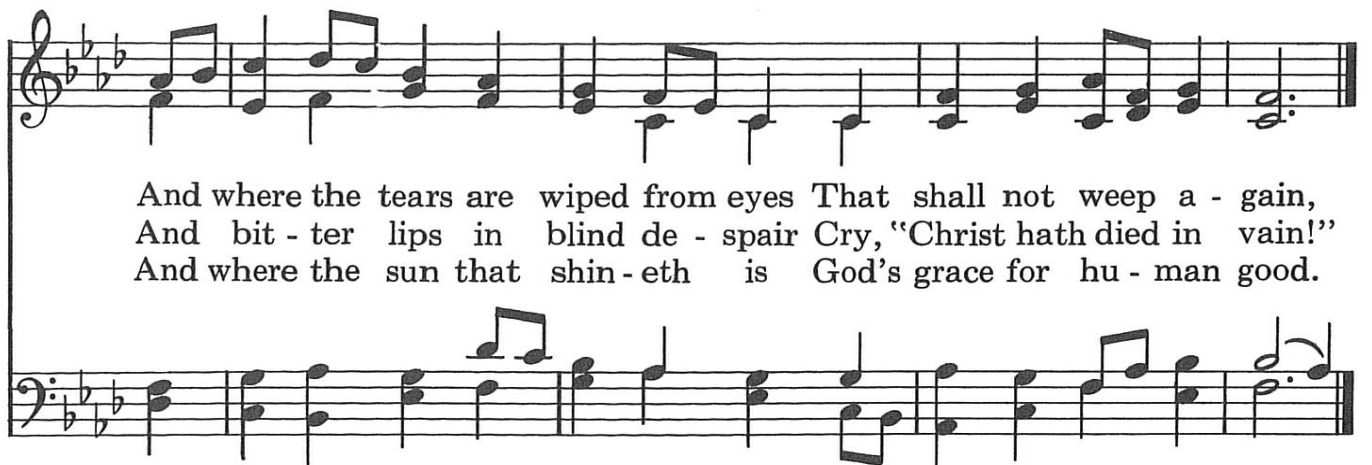
MORNING SONG 8.6.8.6.8.6.  
Melody, "Kentucky Harmony," 1816  
Harm. by C. Winfred Douglas, 1867-1944



1 O ho - ly cit - y, seen of John, Where Christ, the Lamb, doth reign,  
2 O shame to us who rest con - tent While lust and greed for gain  
3 Give us, O God, the strength to build The cit - y that hath stood



With-in whose four-square walls shall come No night, nor need, nor pain,  
In street and shop and ten - e - ment Wring gold from hu - man pain,  
Too long a dream, whose laws are love, Whose ways are broth - er - hood,



And where the tears are wiped from eyes That shall not weep a - gain,  
And bit - ter lips in blind de - spair Cry, "Christ hath died in vain!"  
And where the sun that shin - eth is God's grace for hu - man good.

4 Already in the mind of God  
That city riseth fair:  
Lo, how its splendor challenges  
The souls that greatly dare,  
Yea, bids us seize the whole of life  
And build its glory there.

## For the Healing of the Nations

Fred Kaan, 1965

1 For the heal - ing of the na - tions, God, we pray with  
 2 Lead us for - ward in - to free - dom; from de - spair your  
 3 All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the  
 4 You, Cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten your great name on

one ac - cord; for a just and e - qual shar - ing  
 world re - lease, that, re - deemed from war and ha - tred,  
 earth be banned; pride of sta - tus, race, or school - ing,  
 hu - man - kind; for our grow - ing in your like - ness

of the things that earth af - fords; to a life of  
 all may come and go in peace. Show us how through  
 dog - mas that ob - scure your plan. In our com - mon  
 bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our re -

love in ac - tion help us rise and pledge our word.  
 care and good - ness fear will die and hope in - crease.  
 quest for jus - tice may we hal - low life's brief span.  
 sponse and ser - vice earth its des - ti - ny may find.

*Fred Kaan's most widely published text was first sung at Pilgrim Church in Plymouth, England, at a service of worship marking Human Rights Day in 1965. It has been used for many subsequent occasions, including the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations.*

Tune: WESTMINSTER ABBEY 8.7.8.7.8.7.

Henry Purcell, c. 1680  
 Arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1842

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### ***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](http://classicopia.org).*

### ***The Anonymous Coffeehouse—Friday, May 20, at 7:30 (Season Finale!)***

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](http://anoncoffee.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](http://www.cameoarts.org) and [www.doctorswithoutborders.org](http://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](http://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](http://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/](http://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/](http://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/](http://www.ucc.org/global-h-o-p-e/ukraine-emergency-appeal/).

*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.*



**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  
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)*  
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