



The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

“We’ve learned that piling up material goods cannot fill the emptiness of lives which have no confidence or purpose.”

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

Prelude *Allegro, from Concerto in G (after Johann Ernst), BWV 592* J. S. Bach

Call to Worship

Psalm 107:1-9, 43

One: O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

All: Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

One: Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

All: Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress; he led them by a straight way, until they reached an inhabited town.

One: Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind. For he satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things.

All: Let those who are wise give heed to these things, and consider the steadfast love of the LORD.

Hymn 6 (p. 5) *O Worship the King, All Glorious Above* Lyons

Prayer of Invocation

Steadfast Love: like a child running down the sidewalk to play with her best friend on a summer's day, you eagerly come towards us.

Child of God: with the anxious heart of a mother waiting at midnight, you long for us to come home, your arms aching to hold us.

Fullness of Grace: when all others have turned away from us, you throw open the gates of the kingdom, inviting us in to share at the Table of Hope prepared just for us.

God, hear us as we pray in Jesus' name. Amen. (Thom Shuman)

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

Children's Moment

Hymn 649 (p. 6) *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

New Britain

Scripture Lessons

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23. ²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. [...] ¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind. [...]

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me¹⁹—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

Luke 12:13-21. ¹³Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.”

¹⁶Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ ¹⁸Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

Sermon “Smoke and Mirrors”

Gail T. Dimick

Hymn 391 (p. 7) *Be Thou My Vision*

Slane

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, Juanita, Terry, Dan, and Ethan.

How can we forget them, Calling God, those who have been thrown aside by the world, those whose cries are no longer heard by the powerful? How can we judge them, those who make choices with which we disagree, those who are so different from us? How can we still follow the hurlers of angry words, the purveyors of prejudice? Continue to teach us better ways of living and doing, God of grace. You gather us from our foolishness, so we might be led into acts of mercy. You redeem us from our mistakes to we might bend down and feed those who hunger for hope. Your compassion, so warm and tender, is gifted to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. (Thom Shuman)

We pray this, and all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, in Jesus' name. 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 "Rêverie," from 24 Pièces en style libre, op. 31 Louis Vierne

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)

We offer not only our gifts, Compassionate God, but our time, so we might spend more moments with the lonely; our words, so the voiceless might be healed; our hands, that the hungry might be fed; our hearts, so that the rejected might find a home. We pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen. (Thom Shuman)

Hymn 432 (p. 8) How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord Repton

Benediction

Postlude The Lost Chord Arthur Sullivan

Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Gail Temperley Dimick, Guest Pastor
Ernie Drown, Organist • Betsy Alexander, Liturgist
Linda and Bob Gerlach, Ushers • Linda Jacobs, 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.

* * *



Music
at the
Meetinghouse

Summer Music!

Masks, distanced seating, and proof of vaccination required.

Classicopia: Summer Music Camp Faculty Concert—Friday, August 12, at 7:30 pm

Pianists Dan Weiser and Elizabeth Borowsky, along with Elizabeth's accomplished siblings, cellist Frances and violinist Emmanuel, are here for the week of August 8 leading Classicopia's newly revived summer camp for young musicians. The faculty will offer a special public concert with music of Max Bruch, Gabriel Fauré, Astor Piazzolla, and more; the camp's students will play a couple fun pieces as well. *Adults \$20, FCC members \$15, children free; more at classicopia.org.*

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH—SPECIAL UCC OFFERING

The Strengthen the Church offering supports the growth of ministry and local congregations across the country. This year's theme—"All Together"—invokes the communal spirit of Pentecost. 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 pandemic. We have resumed the monthly collection of items in our shopping cart in the Parish Hall, to support need through a variety of beneficiaries.

JULY/AUGUST—non-perishable food and personal-care items for UPPER VALLEY HAVEN
Specific needs: canned beans (black/kidney), tuna, shelf-stable milk, instant oatmeal, pasta sauce.

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

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above

6

Based on Psalm 104
Robert Grant, 1779-1838, alt.

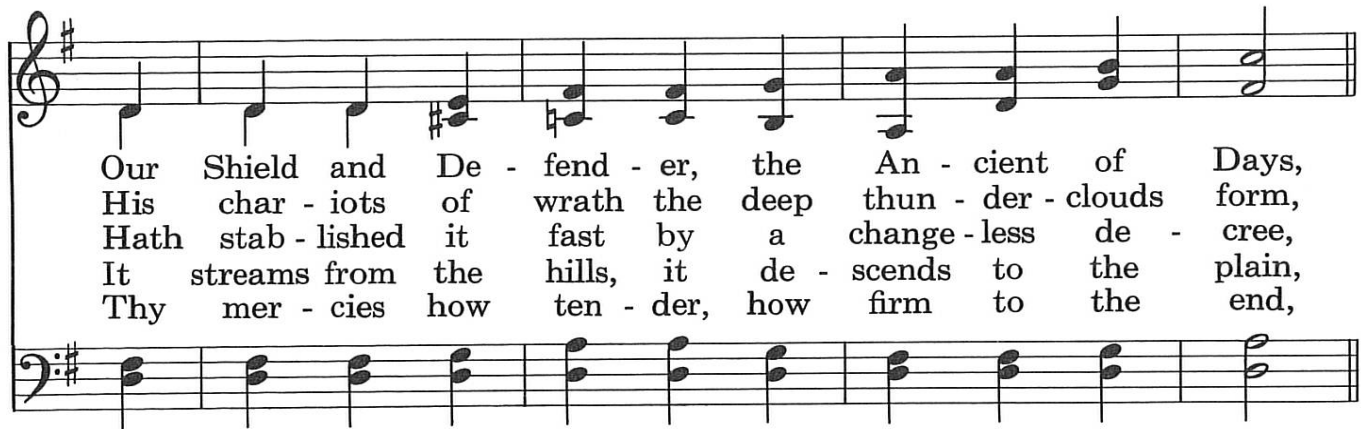
LYONS 10.10.11.11.
Arr. from J. Michael Haydn ?, 1737-1806



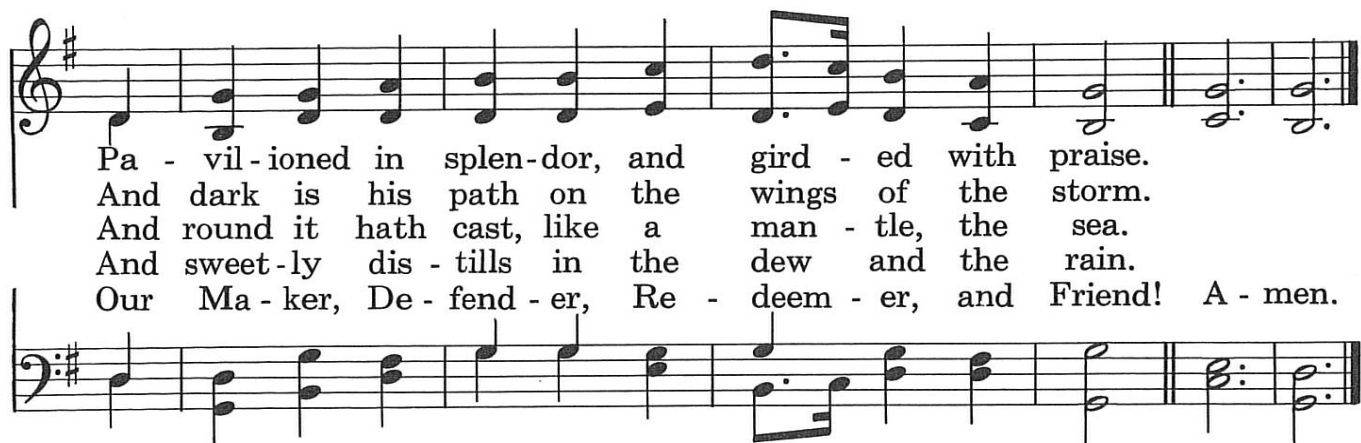
1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove,
2 O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
3 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
4 Thy boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?
5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,



O grate - ful - ly sing his power and his love;
Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space;
Al - might - y, thy power hath found - ed of old,
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
In thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;



Our Shield and De - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
Hath stab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
It streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
Thy mer - cies how ten - der, how firm to the end,



Pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
And dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
And round it hath cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
And sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
Our Ma - ker, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend! A - men.

649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16-17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it "Faith's Review and Expectation." Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

TEXT: Stanzas 1-4, John Newton, 1772; stanza 5, *A Collection of Sacred Ballads*, 1790; Navaho, Albert Tsosie

AMAZING GRACE

MUSIC: *Columbian Harmony*, 1829; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1910, alt.

CM

Text Phonetic Transcr. Cherokee, Kiowa, Creek, and Choctaw © Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference;

Phonetic Transcr. Navaho © Albert Tsosie

Ancient Irish

Tr. by Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931

Versified by Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935

SLANE 10.10.9.10.

Traditional Irish Melody

Harm. by David Evans, 1874-1948

In unison

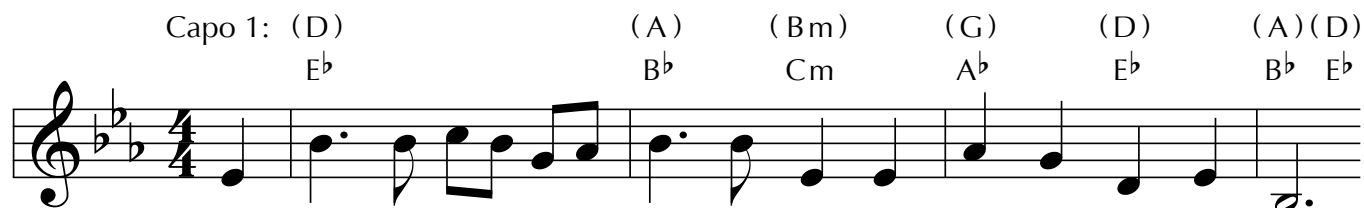
1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise,
 4 High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

Nought be all else to me save that thou art.
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 Thou mine in - her - it - ance, now and al - ways;
 May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav - en's Sun!

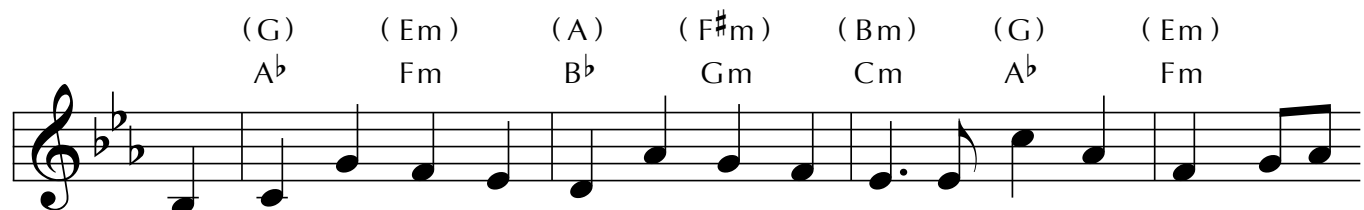
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 Thou my great Fa - ther, I thy true son;
 Thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

Wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 Thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
 High King of heav - en, my treas - ure thou art.
 Still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all. A - men.

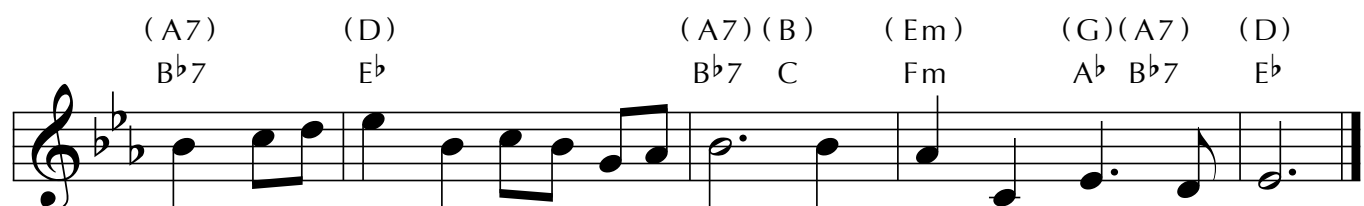
How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord 432



1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
 2 But if, for-get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
 3 We mar - vel how your saints be-came in hin-dranc-es more sure:
 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac-cord-ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re-freshed, re -
 if world-ly pres-sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un -
 whose joy - ful vir-tues put to shame the ca-sual way we wear your
 in old rou-tines or ven-tures new, may we not cease to look to



stored, that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
 wind its tan-gled skein of care: our in-ward life re - pair.
 name, and by our faults ob - scure your power to cleanse and cure.
 you: the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav-ored, done.

This reflection on Christian vocation was written to provide a new text for a pre-existing tune, and the poet has crafted his words so well that the two parts mesh smoothly. The tune is named for a noted British boarding school, whose music director was a friend of the composer.

TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, 1981
 MUSIC: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1888
 Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Company

REPTON
 8.6.8.8.6.6



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@fcclleb.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@fcclleb.org • prayer@fcclleb.org • music@fcclleb.org • www.fcclleb.org