



# First Congregational Church of Lebanon

*United Church of Christ – Open and Affirming*

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## The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 21, 2022

“Pit race against race, religion against religion, prejudice against prejudice.  
Divide and conquer! We must not let that happen here.”

—Eleanor Roosevelt

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

**Prelude** *Arabeske, op. 18* Robert Schumann

**Call to Worship** Psalm 71:1-6

One: In you, O LORD, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.

**All: In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me.**

One: Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

**All: Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.**

One: For you, O LORD, are my hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth.

**All: Upon you I have leaned from my birth; it was you who took me from my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.**

**Hymn 478** (p. 5) *All Things Bright and Beautiful* Royal Oak

**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**

I don't know about you, but when I was a kid the beginning of a new school year was a big deal. A new teacher, a new classroom, some new activities. Sometimes there was also a new school as I changed grades. It was always a big deal. But vacation was, too. And the

last days of that season were always special. The last days of being able to play all day, to sleep in, read, watch TV—just be. But I have to tell you, now that I’m an adult, going back to school is appealing, and I want to thank this church for my annual study leave. This past week I’ve done an online class with two scholars I admire, and I’ve read, too. Now, this may sound strange to you, but this has been a gift. It’s been one of those reminders that you don’t know how good you’ve got things until they change. My hope, my anticipation, is that you’ll better understand this when you graduate and enter the work force. You may love what you’re doing, but I hope you’ll look back at your schooling as a time of excitement and growth.

**Hymn 263** (p. 6)      *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*

Regent Square

### Scripture Lessons

**Isaiah 11:1-10.** A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. <sup>2</sup>The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. <sup>3</sup>His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. <sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

<sup>6</sup>The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. <sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder’s den. <sup>9</sup>They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>10</sup>On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

**Galatians 3:23-29.** <sup>23</sup>Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup>Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup>But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, <sup>26</sup>for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. <sup>27</sup>As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup>There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup>And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise.

**Sermon**

“My Good Book Report”

Stephen R. Silver

**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, Ethan, and Travis.

Holy, loving God: you are father, you are mother to us all. And though we acknowledge in prayer that we are siblings in Christ, we deal with the problems of families, often focusing on what is wrong, and what it is that makes our dysfunction unique.

Strengthen us, we pray, that we will love one another, that we will care for one another, that we will abide one another, that we will be the church, the family, the new community that you have called us to be.

Empower us, that we might overcome that which impedes our common life. Inspire us, that we might rejoice in that which enriches our common life. And give us wisdom, that we might give thanks for the common life into which you have led us.

We pray this, and all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, in the name of your Son Jesus, 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.*

**Offertory**                      "First Loss" (*Album für die Jugend*), op. 68, no. 16                      R. Schumann

**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)**

Lord of all Creation, where once we were guests, we are hosts. Where once we received, we are now givers. Where once we hungered, we now feed others. We ask now that you bless these gifts, that they may serve to make known that all are welcome at your table. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

**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**“Important Event” (*Kinderszenen*), op. 15, no. 6

R. Schumann

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**Leading Worship This Week**

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Pianist • Deb Scott, Liturgist

Chris Chase and Stacey Steele, Ushers • Dominic Steele, 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.*



Music  
at the  
Meetinghouse

**Classicopia in August!***Masks, distanced seating, and proof of vaccination required.***Classicopia: Clara and Fanny—This Saturday, August 20, at 7:30 pm**

Dan Weiser welcomes his friends Ralph Allen (violin) and Iris Jortner (cello) for wonderful piano trios by two of the preeminent composers of 19th-century Romanticism, Clara Schumann and Fanny Mendelssohn. While both women happen to have been connected to better-known men, they and their music fully deserve to be celebrated on their own! *Adults \$20, FCC members \$15, children free; more at [classicopia.org](http://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!*

**KICK-OFF SUNDAY IS SEPTEMBER 11!**

In three weeks we will inaugurate a new program year for the Children's Community Corner. *Come celebrate our children as they start a new year at school and at church!*

## All Things Bright and Beautiful

Cecil F. Alexander, 1818-1895

ROYAL OAK 7.6.7.6. with Refrain

Traditional English Melody

Adapted by Martin Shaw, 1875-

In unison

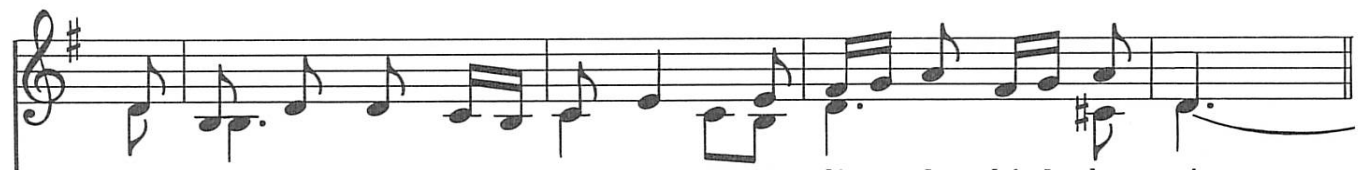
REFRAIN



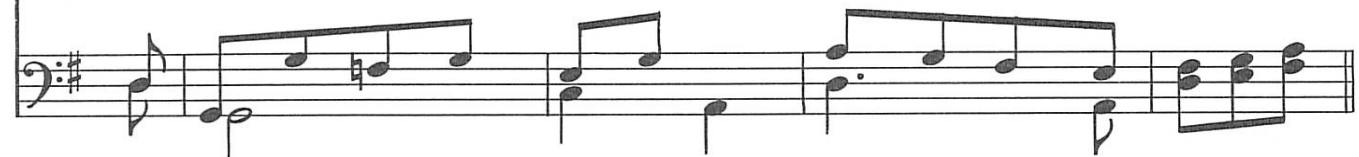
All things bright and beau-ti - ful, All crea-tures great and small,



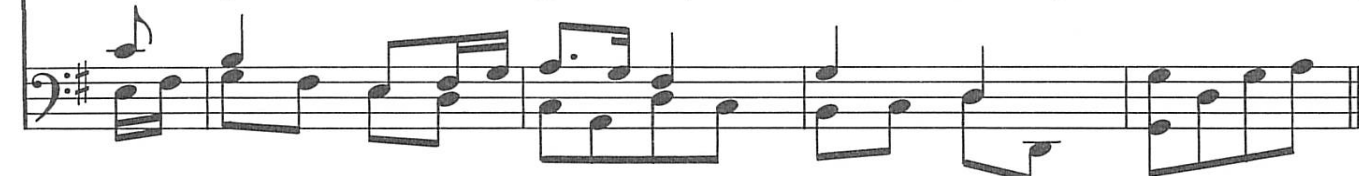
All things wise and won - der - ful, The Lord God made them all.



1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, Each lit - tle bird that sings,  
 2 The pur - ple-head - ed moun-tain, The riv - er run - ning by,  
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, The pleas-ant sum-mer sun,



He made their glow-ing col - ors, He made their ti - ny wings.  
 The sun-set, and the morn-ing That bright-ens up the sky,  
 The ripe fruits in the gar - den, He made them ev - ery one.



# Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

263

Latin: 7th century  
Tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

REGENT SQUARE 8.7.8.7.8.7.  
Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879

1 Christ is made the sure foun-da - tion, Christ the head and cor - ner stone,  
2 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, Come, O Lord of hosts, to - day!  
3 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants What they ask of thee to gain:  
4 Laud and hon - or to the Fa - ther, Laud and hon - or to the Son,

Chos - en of the Lord and prec - ious, Bind - ing all the Church in one;  
With thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness Hear thy peo - ple as they pray;  
What they gain from thee for - ev - er With the bless - ed to re - tain,  
Laud and hon - or to the Spir - it, Ev - er Three and ev - er One;

Ho - ly Zi - on's help for - ev - er, And her con - fi - dence a - lone.  
And thy full - est ben - e - dic - tion Shed with - in its walls al - way.  
And here - af - ter in thy glo - ry Ev - er - more with thee to reign.  
One in might, and One in glo - ry, While un - end - ing a - ges run. A - men.

## Lebanon United Methodist Seeks Church Administrator

Our neighbors are looking for new a part-time church administrator, as longtime admin Jody Prue will soon be leaving the position (and the area). If you or someone you know might be interested, please contact FCC's church office for the position listing, or contact LUMC directly at 603-448-5478/office@lebanonumc.net. *LUMC appreciates the help!*

## In Christ There Is No East or West

Second Tune

John Oxenham, 1852-1941

McKEE C.M.  
Negro Melody

Adapted by Harry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949

1 In Christ there is no East or West, In him no South or North;  
 2 In him shall true hearts ev-ery-where Their high com-mun-ion find;  
 3 Join hands, then, broth-ers of the faith, What-e'er your race may be!  
 4 In Christ now meet both East and West, In him meet South and North;

But one great fel-low-ship of love Through-out the whole wide earth.  
 His serv-ice is the gold-en cord Close-bind-ing all man-kind.  
 Who serves my Fa-ther as a son Is sure-ly kin to me.  
 All Christ-ly souls are one in him Through-out the whole wide earth.

## 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.

**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!*

# 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





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