

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost • World Communion Sunday October 2, 2022

"You don't need great faith. You need faith in a great God." —N. T. Wright

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

Prelude Communion on "Ecce Panis Angelorum" Alexandre Guilmant

Call to Worship

One: By the rivers of Babylon–there we sat down and there we wept when we remembered Zion.

All: On the willows there we hung up our harps.

One: For there our captors asked us for songs, and our tormentors asked for mirth, saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

All: How could we sing the LORD's song in a foreign land?

One: If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither!

All: Let my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth, if I do not remember you, if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.

Hymn 12 (p. 6) From All That Dwell Below the Skies Lasst uns erfreuen

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

Anthem O Taste and See

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Children's Moment

Today is World Communion Sunday. This is a day when Christians all over the world take communion and remember that they are part of the one body of Christ. Whether one lives in Europe, South America, China, Russia, or right here in the United States, Christians—who speak different languages and often have different worship traditions—all share in the Lord's Supper.

Psalm 137:1-6

That means we are all part of one family, and in celebrating communion this day, we recognize our brothers and sisters here—and on the far side of the world.

Hymn 415 (p. 7) In Christ There Is No East or West

McKee

Scripture Lessons

Lamentations 1:1-6. How lonely sits the city that once was full of people! How like a widow she has become, she that was great among the nations! She that was a princess among the provinces has become a vassal. ²She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers she has no one to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they have become her enemies. ³Judah has gone into exile with suffering and hard servitude; she lives now among the nations, and finds no resting place; her pursuers have all overtaken her in the midst of her distress. ⁴The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals; all her gates are desolate, her priests groan; her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter. ⁵Her foes have become the masters, her enemies prosper, because the Lord has made her suffer for the multitude of her transgressions; her children have gone away, captives before the foe. ⁶From daughter Zion has departed all her majesty. Her princes have become like stags that find no pasture; they fled without strength before the pursuer.

Luke 17:5-10. ⁵The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

⁷"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? ⁸Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

Sermon

"Let's Be Honest Here"

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.

O God, we can be angry. We can be resentful. We can let our ire and our frustration consume us. Free us, Holy One, from the forces that would twist us, from the impulse to vengeance that eats at us. We confess that the emotions described in Scripture may not seem to define us, but the anger towards nations, the enmity and bitterness that curdle the soul are known to us. Let us be inspired by Jesus; let us direct our energy to loving you and not hating others. Let us be open to your Holy Spirit, which calls us into community.

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.

OffertorySanctus, from Mass in G Major, D. 167Franz Schubert

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.

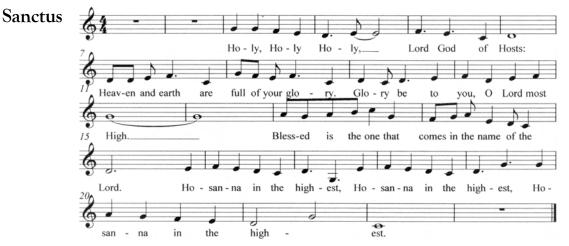
Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

God of All Creation, though we come from many places, we gather here today as one people, presenting these gifts in gratitude for the community in Jesus that you have given to us. Called to be one in Christ, we pray that this offering will not only help our brothers and sisters but also bring us closer to them, and them to us. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

For communion, you are invited to have some bread and juice on hand. We will share in the bread and cup at the appointed time. If you would like to receive a blessing, please let the officiant know.

Invitation and Communion Prayer



Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison)

Because the broken bread has meant our healing, because the outpoured cup has meant our life, because our common sharing has meant the communion of our souls, and because we have here been graced by your presence, God, we give you thanks and pray that our lives may be renewed in the life and the love of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn 347 (p. 8) Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

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

Postlude in F Major

Alexandre Guilmant

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Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor Ernie Drown, Organist • The FCC Choir • Linda Jacobs, Liturgist Linda Gerlach and Ike Jacobs, 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** or speak with Rev. Silver directly.

The 2022 Lebanon CROP Walk—Next Sunday, October 9

Every year thousands across the country join the **CROP Hunger Walk**, organized by Church World Service to fight hunger, food insecurity, and poverty worldwide. First held in Bismarck, ND, in October 1969, the walk has become a community event in over 2000 towns, as local organizations advocate for hunger relief and share fellowship on a crisp fall afternoon.

This year's walk will happen in-person, and all contributions should be made online (not through FCC). We'll offer light food and refreshments to all participants on the front lawn, renewing our long tradition of post-walk fellowship and hospitality. Here's what you can do:

Walk!–Register online at events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/event/lebanonnh/, whether on your own or as a group of family and friends. Then, invite sponsors to donate in your name.

Serve!-Contribute food and/or help with post-walk fellowship; contact the church office.

Donate!-Give directly online at events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/event/lebanonnh.

Linstead

Music at the Meetinghouse

Fall Concerts!

Masks, distanced seating, and proof of vaccination required.

The Anonymous Coffeehouse—Fridays, Oct. 7, 14, 28; Nov. 11, 25; Dec. 2, all 7:30 pm The popular community venue for live local music returns! An informal "listening room" for emerging musicians, each show features several acoustic acts. Patrons come and go as they please; food and drink available. *Free admission. For performer info and more, visit anoncoffee.org.*

Alicia Casey, Violin, and Annemieke McLane, Piano—Saturday, October 15, at 4:00 pm These two excellent musicians, both on the faculty at UVMC, share a program sponsored by UVMC and Vermont Violins. Admission cost TBD; for more, please visit uvmusic.org.

Camerata New England-Saturday, October 22, at 7:00 pm

Classicopia: Dan Weiser, Piano, and Anna Pelczer, Viola–Sunday, October 23, at 2:00 pm Rachel Clemente, Harp–Saturday, October 29, at 5:30 pm

Leslie Stroud, Flute, and Matthew Odell, Piano-Sunday, November 6, at 3:00 pm

The Balourdet Quartet-Saturday, November 12, at 4:00 pm

Classicopia: Dan Weiser, Piano, and Diego Carneiro, Cello-Sunday, November 13, at 2:00 pm

Neighbors in Need: Behold!—Special UCC Offering This Fall

The UCC's Neighbors in Need program supports ministries of justice and compassion across the country. Two-thirds of the collection funds the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries in local and national initiatives, advocacy efforts, and the fight against systemic injustice. The rest goes to the Council for American Indian Ministry, the voice for Native Americans in the UCC, sustaining a proud denominational tradition of support. This year, NIN is focused on economic justice, amidst severe inflation and other challenges facing households nationwide.

Please contribute as you're able to this vital mission program, by cash or check (payable to FCC, memo "Neighbors in Need") or online at www.ucc.org/nin. Thank you!

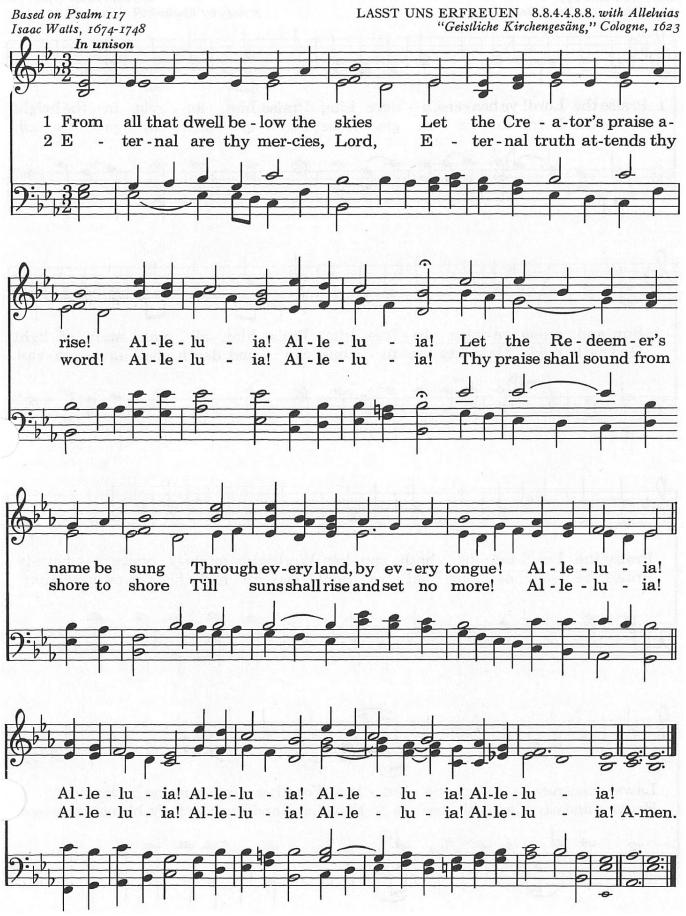
Fall Foliage with the FCC Outing Club—Pine Park, Hanover Sunday, October 16–Meet at Parking Lot on Rope Ferry Rd at 12:30 pm

All are welcome—regardless of ability!—to enjoy this low-impact hike with FCC's Outing Club, led as always by ranger-extraordinaire Ron Bailey. We'll follow wooded trails along Girl Brook to Bailey Point (yup, named for him), then along the Connecticut River, on mostly-level ground with two short, easy grades. Recent upgrades make Pine Park quite a pleasant spot—come find out for yourself! Meet at the main entrance and lot at the end of Rope Ferry Rd, by Dartmouth's Outing Club and former golf clubhouse; bring water, lunch or snacks, bug/tick repellent, and appropriate clothing.

Bring your friends, family, and/or dogs, and share this experience of God's creation!

From All That Dwell Below the Skies

Second Tune

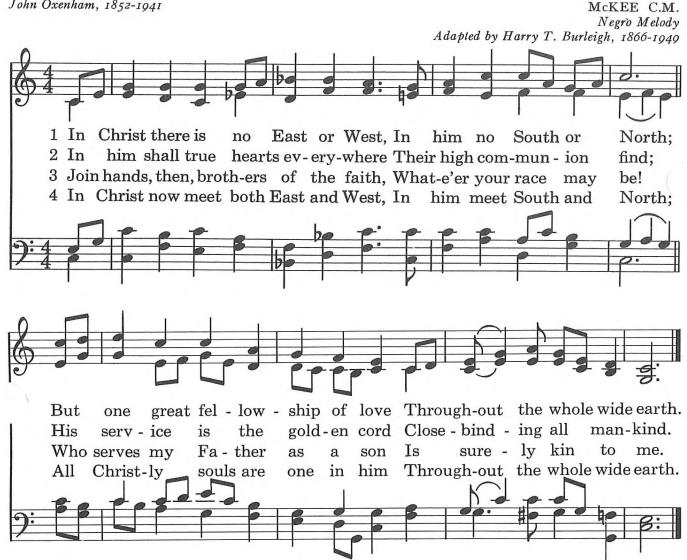


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In Christ There Is No East or West

Second Tune

John Oxenham, 1852-1041



READING WHILE BLACK-Book Group Starts This Week on Zoom

All are invited to join this weekly exploration of Esau McCaulley's Reading While Black: African American Biblical Interpretation as an Exercise in Hope (2020). Prof. McCaulley is a Black Christian who has a powerful story to tell, and his book leads us to look at Scripture with fresh eyes.

Discussions will be Wednesdays at 7:00 pm on Zoom, starting October 5. Books are available free of charge, but you still must request a copy as soon as possible. To RSVP or ask questions, please contact Rev. Steve Silver at silver@fccleb.org or 603-448-4281.



This hymn came into being when composer Doreen Potter asked poet Fred Kaan to write a text for her adaptation of a Jamaican folk melody. It was first used at the World Council of Churches Assembly in Nairobi (1975), and in Vancouver (1983). Tune: LINSTEAD L.M. with refrain Jamaican folk song Adapt. Doreen Potter, 1975

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First Congregational Church of Lebanon PO Box 230 10 South Park St Lebanon NH 03766

Weekly Worship Resources Enclosed!DATED MATERIAL-Please Deliver PromptlyDo 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