



## The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

“Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic. Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year; it is the struggle of a lifetime. Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble.”

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

Prelude Andante/Allegro, *Trio Sonata in G Minor*, HWV387 G. F. Handel

Call to Worship Psalm 84:1-7

One: How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!

**All:** My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

One: Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

**All:** Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise. Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

One: As they go through the valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools.

**All:** They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

Hymn 68 (p. 5)      *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*      Ellacombe

## Prayer of Invocation

God of life and all living, we give you thanks this October Sunday for the chilly, windy beauty of autumn days—for leaf-lost trees and wet streets, for geese and birds vanishing south, for squirrels finishing their acorn gathering. We thank you for the warmth of family, friends, and the church that sustains us. We thank you for the Good News, for this opportunity to confess our sins and receive forgiveness and reconciliation. We thank you for Jesus Christ, our model, our strength, our redeemer, and friend, in whose name we gather to worship today. Amen. *(Rev. Maren Tirabassi)*

## 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

*Schlage doch, gewünschte Stunde*

Melchior Hoffmann

*Strike, longed-for hour; break forth, thou beautiful day! You angels, come to me. Strike, I desire from the bottom of my heart, thou death-knell.*

### Children's Moment

#### Hymn 341 (p. 6)

*Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*

Rest

### Scripture Lessons

**2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18.** <sup>6</sup>As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup>I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup>From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

[...] <sup>16</sup>At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! <sup>17</sup>But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup>The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

**Luke 18:9-14.** <sup>9</sup>He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: <sup>10</sup>"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' <sup>13</sup>But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' <sup>14</sup>I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

### Sermon

"Good Trouble"

Gail T. Dimick

#### Hymn 410 (p. 7)

*God Is Calling through the Whisper*

W żłobie leży

### 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.

We also offer this prayer by Carol Penner (posted on *The Contemplative Network*):

At the starting line of this day,  
we call on your name, God of grace.

As we run the race you have set before us,

help us to keep our eyes on your goals, not our own.  
When we falter, give us fresh strength and courage.  
When we are fleet-footed, let us give you the glory.  
Keep us from wanting to win at other's expense  
or to count ourselves better than those at our side.  
All runners are your children.  
In the race You imagine,  
each one is a winner. Amen.

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**                      *Largo, from Trio Sonata in G Minor, HWV387*                      G. F. Handel

### **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 the universe, you were with us at the beginning of our lives, and you will be by our side when we draw our last breath. In between, we struggle through life, too often trying to find our way based on our own wants and desires. In our giving to you this day, may you bless us so that we might better keep our eyes focused on you, that one day we might be able to echo your servant Paul as he said, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." We pray this in the name of Jesus who loved us even to the cross! Amen. (*United Methodist Church GBOD*)

**Hymn 349** (p. 8)                      *O for a Closer Walk With God*                      Caithness

### **Benediction**

**Postlude**                      *Allegro, from Trio Sonata in G Minor, HWV387*                      G. F. Handel

## Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Gail Temperley Dimick, Guest Pastor • Betsy Bowse, Liturgist  
Ernie Drown, Organist • Laurel Stavis, Alto • Alicia Casey, Violin • Ben Van Vliet, Violin  
Corrine Erskine and Linda Gerlach, 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](mailto:prayer@fccleb.org) or speak with Rev. Silver directly.*



Music  
at the  
Meetinghouse

## Fall Concerts!

*Masks, distanced seating, and proof of vaccination required.*

### ***Camerata New England: Piano Trios—Saturday, October 22, at 7:00 pm***

Violinist Omar Chen Güey, cellist Linda Galvan, and pianist Hannah Shields perform for the first time since the pandemic shutdown, sharing music of Johannes Brahms, W. A. Mozart, and Fritz Kreisler. *Adults \$28, 18-and-under free; for more information, visit [www.cameratanewengland.org](http://www.cameratanewengland.org).*

### ***Classicopia: Lyrical Ladies (Viola and Piano)—Sunday, October 23, at 2:00 pm***

Pianist Daniel Weiser and acclaimed German violist Anna Pelczer offer a unusual selection of powerful music by women, including Luisa LeBeau, Dora Pejacevic, and Rebecca Clarke. *Adults \$20, FCC members \$15, children free; for more, visit [classicopia.org/concert/lyrical-ladies](http://classicopia.org/concert/lyrical-ladies).*

### ***The Anonymous Coffeehouse—Fridays, Oct. 28, Nov. 11 and 25, Dec. 2, all 7:30 pm***

Come enjoy our popular community venue for live local music! 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](http://anoncoffee.org).*

### ***Rachel Clemente, Harp—Saturday, October 29, at 5:30 pm***

This virtuoso harpist has established herself in the regional folk scene with traditional Scottish repertoire. Presented by UVMC. *Admission \$25; visit [uvmusic.org/event/harp-concert-with-rachel-clemente](http://uvmusic.org/event/harp-concert-with-rachel-clemente).*

### ***Reflections: Music for Flute and Piano—Sunday, November 6, at 3:00 pm***

Our flautist friend Leslie Stroud joins her frequent collaborator, the superb pianist Matthew Odell, for music by George Enescu, Robert Schumann, and Aaron Copland. *Suggested donation \$10.*

### ***The Balourdet Quartet—Saturday, November 12, at 4:00 pm***

After an online performance in 2020, UVMC brings back this superb Boston-based ensemble for a live master class and concert. *Admission TBD; visit [uvmusic.org/event/balourdet-quartet-performance](http://uvmusic.org/event/balourdet-quartet-performance).*

### ***Classicopia: Latin Cello—Sunday, November 13, at 2:00 pm***

Cellist Diego Carneiro—who has been named a Minister of Tourism for his native Ecuador—joins pianist Dan Weiser for a thrilling program by an unusual variety of Latin-American composers. *Adults \$20, FCC members \$15, children free; for more, visit [classicopia.org/concert/latin-cello/](http://classicopia.org/concert/latin-cello/).*

### ***Cameo Baroque—Friday, November 18, at 7:30 pm (JUST ADDED!)***

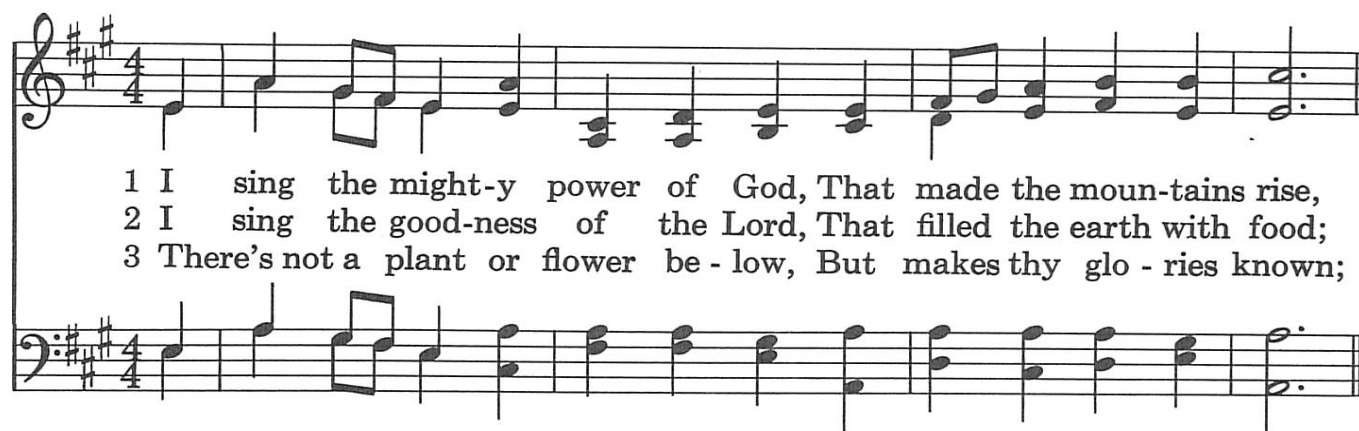
Ernie Drown and friends share another superb program. *Details tbd; more at [cameoarts.org](http://cameoarts.org).*

# I Sing the Mighty Power of God

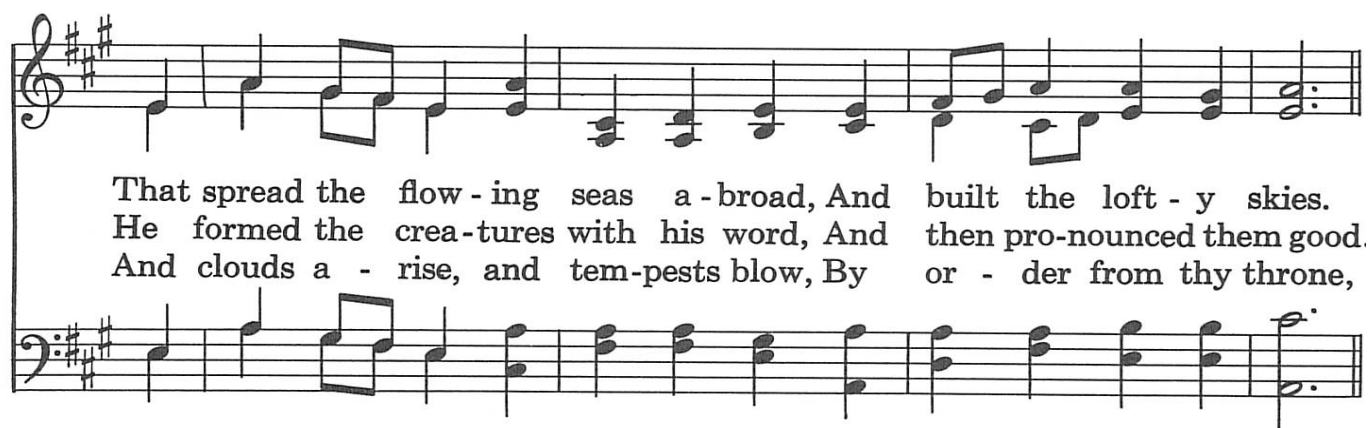
68

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, *all.*

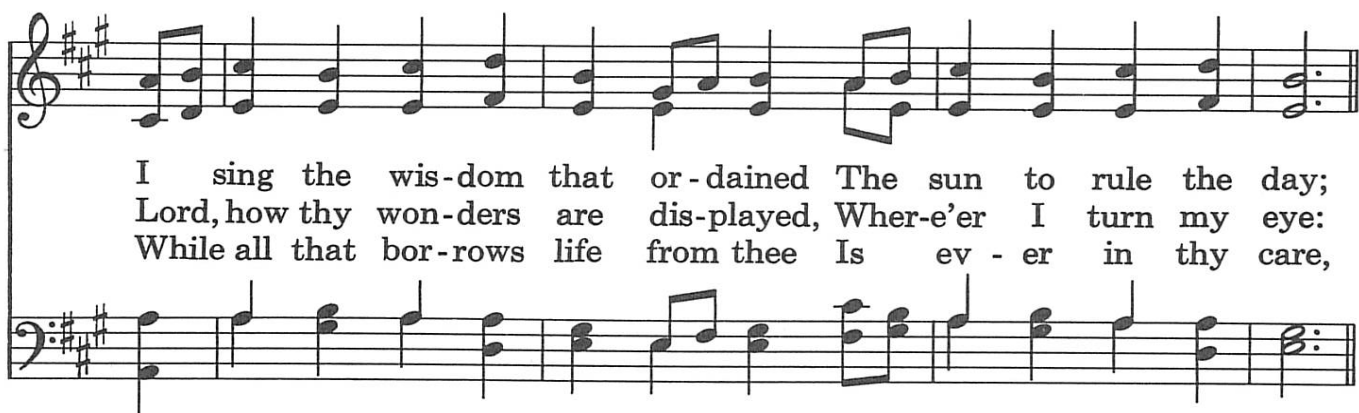
ELLACOMBE C.M.D.  
"Gesangbuch," Württemberg, 1784



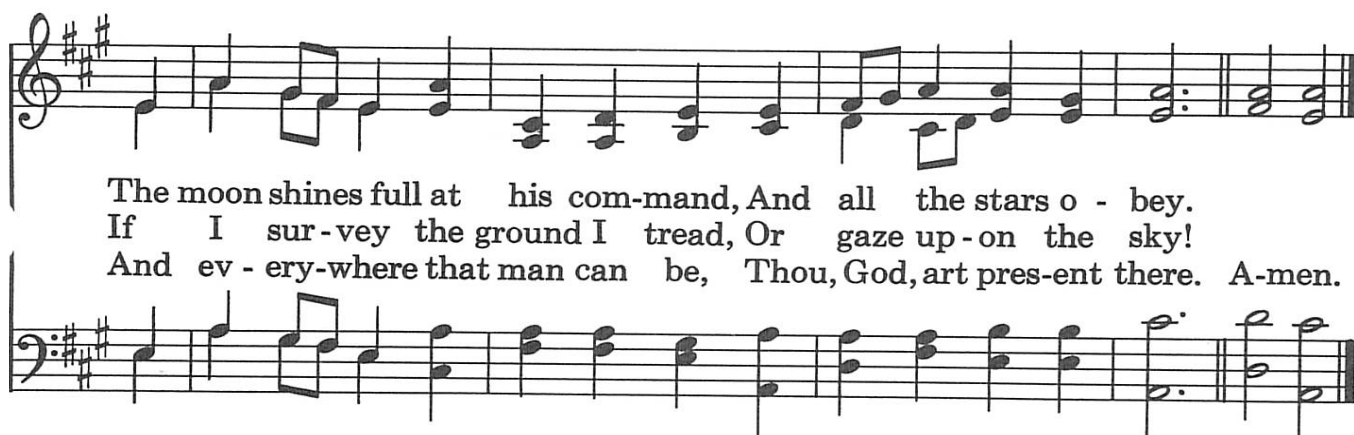
1 I sing the might-y power of God, That made the moun-tains rise,  
2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord, That filled the earth with food;  
3 There's not a plant or flower be - low, But makes thy glo - ries known;



That spread the flow - ing seas a - broad, And built the loft - y skies.  
He formed the crea-tures with his word, And then pro-nounced them good.  
And clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, By or - der from thy throne,



I sing the wis-dom that or-dained The sun to rule the day;  
Lord, how thy won-ders are dis-played, Wher-e'er I turn my eye:  
While all that bor-rows life from thee Is ev - er in thy care,



The moon shines full at his com-mand, And all the stars o - bey.  
If I sur-vey the ground I tread, Or gaze up-on the sky!  
And ev - ery-where that man can be, Thou, God, art pres-ent there. A-men.

# Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

341

John Greenleaf Whittier, 1807-1892

REST 8.6.8.8.6.

Frederick C. Maker, 1844-1927

1 Dear Lord and Fa - ther of man - kind, For - give our fool - ish ways.  
 2 In sim - ple trust like theirs who heard, Be - side the Syr - ian sea,  
 3 O sab - bath rest by Gal - i - lee! O calm of hills a - bove!  
 4 Drop thy still dews of qui - et - ness, Till all our striv - ings cease;  
 5 Breathe through the puls - es of de - sire Thy cool - ness and thy balm;

Re - clothe us in our right - ful mind; In pur - er lives thy  
 The gra - cious call - ing of the Lord, Let us, like them, with -  
 Where Je - sus knelt to share with thee The si - lence of e -  
 Take from our souls the strain and stress, And let our or - dered  
 Let sense be dumb, let flesh re - tire: Speak through the earth - quake,

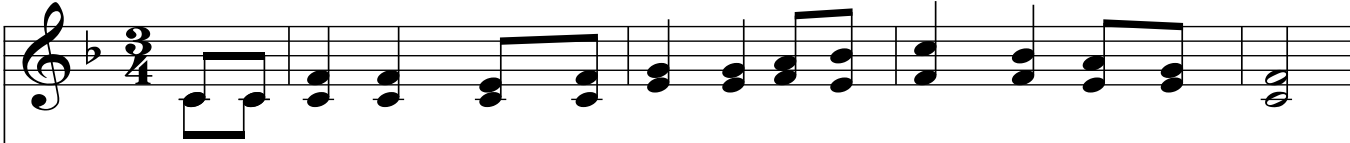
serv - ice find, In deep - er rev - erence, praise.  
 out a word, Rise up and fol - low thee.  
 ter - ni - ty, In - ter - pret - ed by love.  
 lives con - fess The beau - ty of thy peace.  
 wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm. A - men.

## Support the United Church of Christ's 2022 Hurricane Fund

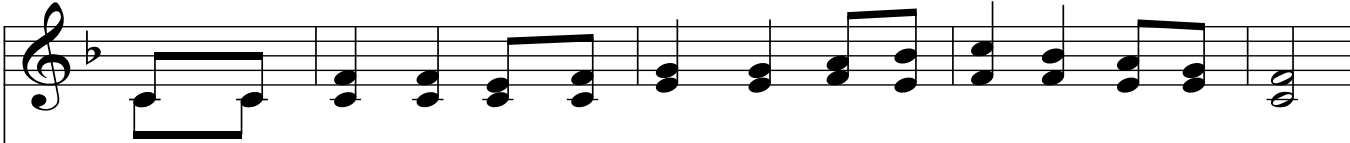
Following the staggering destruction in Puerto Rico, Florida, and elsewhere, the UCC appeals for help addressing the immediate needs of families and communities affected by Hurricanes Fiona and Ian. The **UCC Hurricane Fund** serves both urgent relief and long-term recovery.

Donating online is the fastest and most effective way to contribute: [support.ucc.org/donate-hurricanes-2022](https://support.ucc.org/donate-hurricanes-2022). You may also mail a check, payable to United Church of Christ (memo "Hurricanes 2022 Fund"), PO Box 71957, Cleveland, OH 44194.

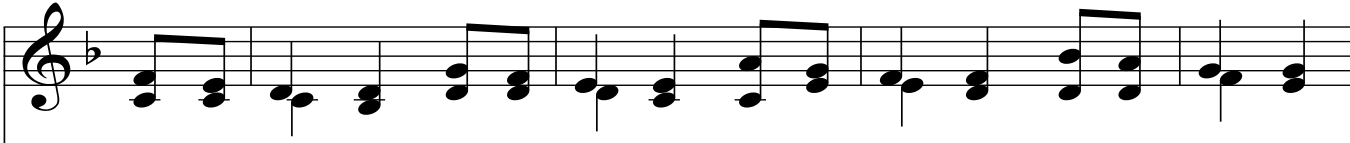
# 410 God Is Calling through the Whisper



1 God is call-ing through the whis-per of the Spir - it's deep-est sighs,  
 2 God is call-ing through the voic-es of our neigh-bors' ur-gent prayers,  
 3 God is call-ing through the mu-sic of sub-lime and hu-man arts,



through the thrill of sud-den beau-ties that can catch us by sur-prise.  
 through their long-ing for re-demp-tion and for res-cue from de-spair.  
 through the hymns of earth and an-gels, and the car-ols of our hearts.



Flash of light-ning, crash of thun-der; hush of still-ness, rush of won-der:  
 Place of hurt or face of need-ing; stri-dent cry or si-lent plead-ing:  
 Lift of joy and gift of sing-ing; days and nights our prais-es bring-ing:



God is call-ing—can you hear? God is call-ing—can you hear?  
 God is call-ing—can you hear? God is call-ing—can you hear?  
 God is call-ing—and we hear! God is call-ing—and we hear!

This wide-ranging text reminds us of the many surprising and urgent ways God calls to us, both to draw us near and to send us forth. In the third line of music it is especially effective at harnessing the momentum of the phrases that are each a note higher than the one before.

TEXT: Mary Louise Bringle, 2003

MUSIC: Polish carol; harm. Wilbur Lee, 1958

Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music Harm. © 1958 Broadman Press (admin. Music Services)

W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

8.7.8.7.8.8.7.7

(this tune in a higher key, 128)

## O for a Closer Walk With God

First Tune

William Cowper, 1731-1800

CAITHNESS C.M.  
"Scottish Psalter," 1635

1 O for a clos - er walk with God, A calm and heaven-ly frame,  
 2 Where is the bless - ed - ness I knew When first I saw the - Lord?  
 3 Re - turn, O ho - ly Dove, re - turn, Sweet mes-sen-ger of rest!  
 4 The dear-est i - dol I have known, What-e'er that i - dol be,  
 5 So shall my walk be close with God, Calm and se - rene my frame;

A light to shine up - on the road That leads me to the Lamb!  
 Where is the soul-re - fresh-ing view Of Je - sus and his word?  
 I hate the sins that made thee mourn And drove thee from my breast.  
 Help me to tear it from thy throne, And wor-ship on - ly thee.  
 So pur - er light shall mark the road That leads me to the Lamb. A-men.

### Neighbors in Need: **Behold!**—Special UCC Offering This Month

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 program through October 30, by cash or check (payable to FCC, memo "Neighbors in Need") or at [www.ucc.org/nin](http://www.ucc.org/nin). Thank you!*



**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)**