

First Congregational Church of Lebanon

United Church of Christ - Open and Affirming

All Saints' Day (Observed) • Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost November 6, 2022

"I am not a saint, unless you think of saint as a sinner who keeps trying."

—Nelson Mandela

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

Prelude Adagio, Cello Sonata in C Major attr. George Frideric Handel

Call to Worship Adapted from Psalm 149

One: Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the

faithful.

All: Let Israel be glad in its Maker.

One: Let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

All: Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.

One: For the LORD takes pleasure in his people.

All: Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy!

Hymn 481 (pp. 56) I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

Grand Isle

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 "Mein glaübiges Herze," from BWV 68 Johann Sebastian Bach My faithful heart, rejoice, sing, celebrate, for your Jesus is here. Banish suffering and complaint: I will only say that Jesus is near.

Children's Moment

We're celebrating All Saints' Day this Sunday. This is a day when we remember all the faithful who have gone before us.

Does this mean there are no more saints? Were they only alive in the past? No! There are still saints among us, people whose lives reflect the love and grace of God. They may

sing, they may serve, they may extend hospitality to others. They can be old, or they can be young. They can be strangers who live on the other side of the world, or they can live in your home.

That's right—anybody can be a saint. That includes you!

Hymn 550 (p. 7) Give Praise to the Lord

Laudate Dominum

Scripture Lessons

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18. In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed. Then he wrote down the dream: ²I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea, ³and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another. [...]

¹⁵As for me, Daniel, my spirit was troubled within me, and the visions of my head terrified me. ¹⁶I approached one of the attendants to ask him the truth concerning all this. So he said that he would disclose to me the interpretation of the matter: ¹⁷"As for these four great beasts, four kings shall arise out of the earth. ¹⁸But the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever—forever and ever."

Luke 6:20-31. ²⁰Then [Jesus] looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

²²"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. ²⁴But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ²⁵Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

²⁷"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Sermon

"Live Like a Saint"

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, Juanita, Terry, Dan, Ethan, Travis, Larry, Garrett, and Penny.

O God, this week we remember the saints who came before us, those amongst us, and those we anticipate will come after us. We pray that we will support and nurture these people, that we will try to be one of them. We know that we may not succeed, but that

is no reason for us not to keep trying. Inspire and encourage us, as we seek to walk the path of Jesus.

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

Adagio II, Cello Sonata in C Major

attr. George Frideric 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)

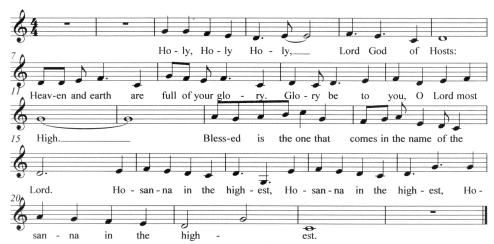
Ancient of Days, Author of Life, Eternal God: you have fashioned time, granting each of us a portion, trusting each of us to use this blessing faithfully. In gratitude for this precious gift and with renewed commitment to use it wisely on behalf of your Gospel, we present this morning's offering, praying in Jesus' name, 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

Sanctus



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 306 (p. 8)

For All the Saints

Sine Nomine

Benediction

Postlude

Allegro, Cello Sonata in C Major

attr. George Frideric Handel

Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organist • Margaret Gilmore, Cello • Betsy Alexander, Soprano

Dream Big Stewardship Sunday is Next Weekend, November 13

"For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind." (Isaiah 65:17)

Our annual stewardship appeal will be mailed this week, and you are invited to prayerfully consider your commitment to FCC's mission and ministry in the coming year. Next Sunday, we will gratefully dedicate our 2023 pledges together in worship.

Operation Christmas Child—National Collection Week: November 14-21

You're invited to support Operation Christmas Child, by which Samaritan's Purse ships shoe-boxes of supplies and toys to children worldwide. Gloria and Phil Hammond (802-295-3749) generously manage this at FCC; they'll give out as many shoeboxes as can be filled and returned to church by the collection week of November 14-21. You may also build a shoebox online.

For more information on this year's operation or to build a shoebox online, please visit www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/. Thanks!

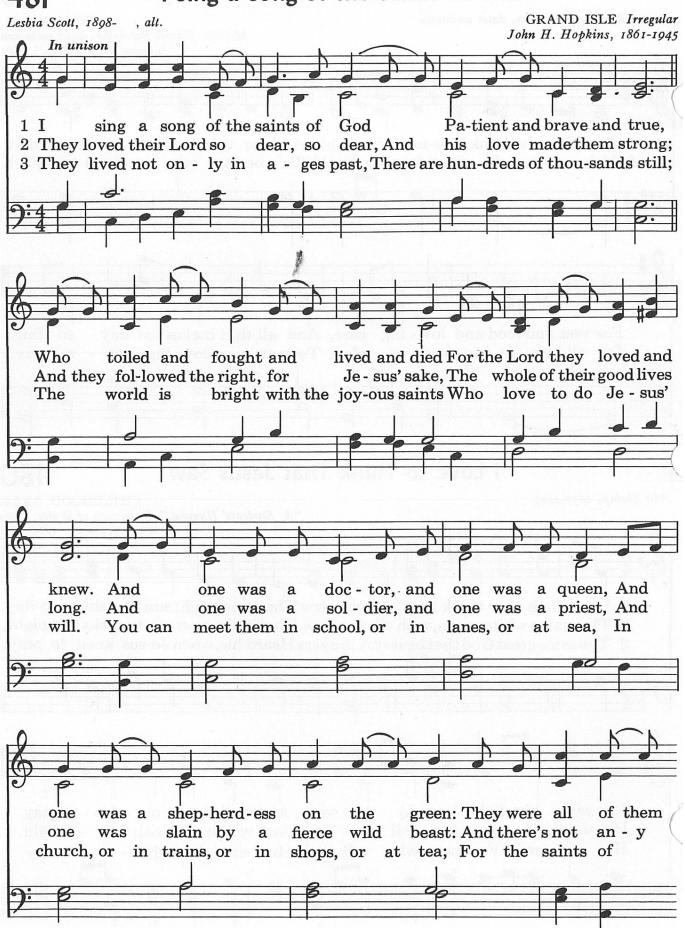
CHRISTMAS COMES TO ALL—LISTEN'S HOLIDAY BASKETS

For years FCC has participated in the Holiday Basket Program organized by LISTEN Community Services. Economic challenges have increased demand for this program.

LISTEN is returning to the familiar process of gathering donations of new items and gift cards, so we'll again offer a "giving tree" (of a sort) by which you may support this vital project.

Please look for a sign-up list by email (and in print on Sundays) later this month.

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God





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.



Upcoming Concerts

Masks, distanced seating, and proof of vaccination required.

Reflections: Music for Flute and Piano-Sunday, November 6, at 3:00 pm

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

The Anonymous Coffeehouse-Fridays, 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.

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

After hosting it online in 2021, UVMC brings this superb Boston-based ensemble to Lebanon for a master class (1:00 pm, free and open to observers) and a performance of both familiar and new music (adults \$20, under-18 free). For more, visit 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/.

Cameo Baroque Benefit for 19 Days: Musica Obscura—Friday, November 18, at 7:30 pm Ernie Drown and friends share their annual program to benefit the UV Haven's "19 Days of the Valley" effort. "Dark" music of J. S. Bach, G. P. Telemann, Michele Cabalone, Robert Valentine, Elisabeth Claude Jacques de la Guerre, and more. Freewill donation; more at cameoarts.org.

Classicopia: Four-Hand Holiday—Sunday, December 4, at 2:00 pm

Pianists Daniel Weiser and Elizabeth Borowsky renew this seasonal tradition with a selection of favorites in exciting, four-hand arrangements—from "Sleigh Ride" and "White Christmas" to The Nutcracker Suite. Adults \$20, FCC mems \$15, children free; visit classicopia.org/concert/four-hand-holiday-3/.

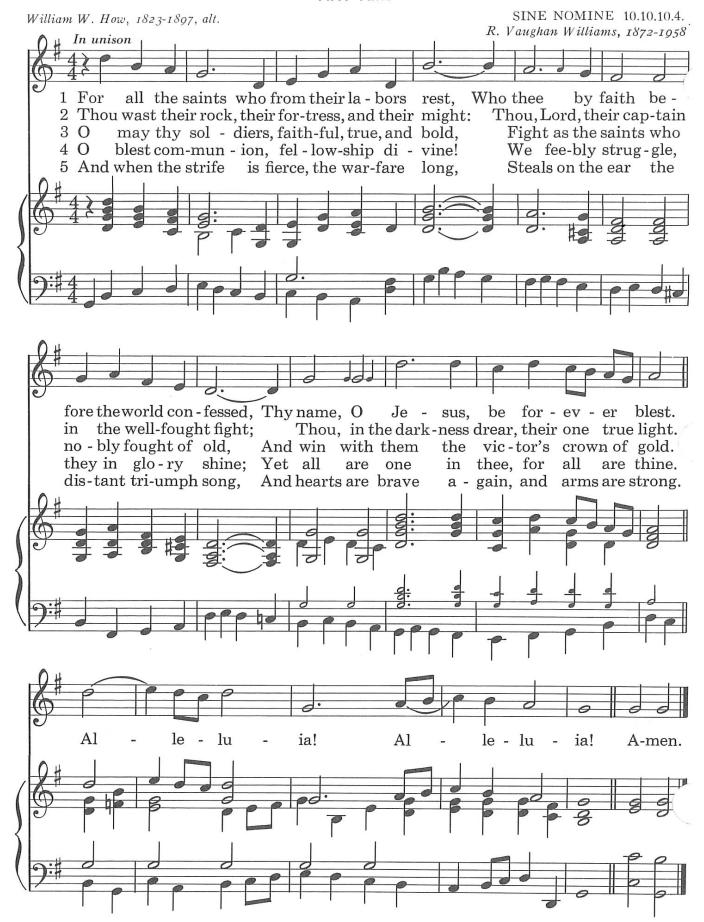
Give Praise to the Lord



This adaptation of Psalm 149 is organized by themes of praise and service, with a strong implication that they are not really separable but are two aspects of the same God-centered impulse. This text is set to a jubilant tune derived from a late 19th-century English anthem.

For All the Saints

First Tune





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 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