



## The Sunday of the Transfiguration • Annual Meeting Sunday

If you have come to church to find holy people, you have made a mistake. If you came to find God, you chose correctly.

*Kindly silence cell phones and other devices during worship. All hymns are included on pages 6-9.*

**Prelude**                      *Allegro, Concerto after Johann Ernst, BWV 592*                      Johann Sebastian Bach

Call to Worship

Psalm 50:1-6

One: The mighty one, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

**All:** Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

One: Our God comes and does not keep silence; before him is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around him.

**All:** He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people:

One: "Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"

**All:** The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge.

**Hymn 182** (p. 5)      *We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding*      Hyfrydol

## 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                      *Laudate Dominum*                      Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

## Children's Moment

This is a day when I remember the first time I preached from a pulpit. I preached on this morning's passage from the Gospel, and I did it in front of people I knew, people who knew me. I must have done an okay job, since they stuck with me over the years, encouraging me as I moved into the ministry, but also critiquing me when that was what I needed.

Do you have people like that in your life? I suspect you do, though you may not know or recognize them just now. These people are a blessing, and I thank God that you are not alone. None of us are. Ever. Because at a minimum, Jesus is with us. And that's a pretty big deal.

Hymn 199 (p. 6)      *Crown Him With Many Crowns*

Diademata

### Scripture Lessons

**2 Kings 2:1-12.** Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup>Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went to Bethel. <sup>3</sup>The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent."

<sup>4</sup>Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. <sup>5</sup>The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent."

<sup>6</sup>Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. <sup>7</sup>Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. <sup>8</sup>Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

<sup>9</sup>When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit."

<sup>10</sup>He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." <sup>11</sup>As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. <sup>12</sup>Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

**Mark 9:2-9.** <sup>2</sup>Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, <sup>3</sup>and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them.

<sup>4</sup>And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." <sup>6</sup>He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup>Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" <sup>8</sup>Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

**Sermon**                      “Designated Successor”                      Stephen R. Silver

**Hymn 195** (p. 7)              *All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name*                      Coronation

### **Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Pastoral Prayer**

*As we hold community members in prayer, please exercise care and discretion when sharing. Help keep our prayer list current by contacting Rev. Silver or the church office to add or remove names.*

Today we offer ongoing prayers for Pete, Arlene, Evelyn, Gordon, Greg, Jan, Edith, Eileen, Waneta, Terry, Juanita, Dan, Travis, Garrett, Sue, Rick, Edward, Duane, Priscilla, Ron, Lauren, Brian, Micah, Al, and Steve.

On this Annual Meeting Sunday, we gather as one people in your church. Though there may be times when we want things to go our way, when we think we have all the answers, when we think that we are right—period—we ask that in those times, please let us receive your Holy Spirit, and with it the power of discernment, that we might listen for your prompts and follow 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**                      “Oh, Had I Jubal’s Lyre” (from *Joshua*)                      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*)

God of Light, God of Revelation: In Jesus you have come to us. Inspired by this act of love, grace, and generosity, we present these gifts, a sign of our desire and commitment to share with others the blessing of new life you have bestowed upon us. Amen.

Hymn 394 (p. 8)

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Westminster Abbey

Benediction

Postlude

Grand Chœur (Douze Pièces, no. 12)

Théodore Dubois

\* \* \*

*Leading Worship This Week*

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organ/Piano • The FCC Choir • Beth Hilgartner, Soprano

Denise Moriearty, Liturgist • Ike Jacobs and Valerie Nevel, Ushers • Linda Jacobs, Zoom

*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.*

**NOTICE of ANNUAL MEETING – Sunday, February 11, 11:30 am**

The Annual Meeting of First Congregational Church of Lebanon, NH, will be held in the Sanctuary (with remote participation available on Zoom) on on **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024, AT 11:30 AM**, after that morning's worship service, for the following purposes:

1. To hear the reports of all officers, committees, and organizations, as required under the CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS of the church.
2. The election of all officers provided for under the CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS of the church.
3. To consider and act upon any other matters relating to the general church welfare that may properly come before this meeting.

**THE SOUPER BOWL IS HERE... BUT NOT FOR LONG!**

One week left to set a new **SOUPER BOWL** record! Bring in your donations of soup and other non-perishable items anytime (collection boxes in the Parish Hall), for our neighbors at **HEADREST, the UPPER VALLEY HAVEN, and LISTEN COMMUNITY SERVICES.**

*Donations may be left in the boxes in the Parish Hall until February 11. You may also bring them directly to any of the three beneficiaries (please let us know if you do so). THANK YOU!!*

**Lent Begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14 – Service at 7:00 pm**

All are welcome to gather as a community in our Sanctuary to initiate the holy season of Lent, with our friends from other Upper Valley churches. *If you are unable to attend in person, please contact the church office to receive the Zoom link.*

1 We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and  
 2 Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows, splen - dor bathes the  
 3 Strength-ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our

ho - ly place, Where we wait with hope and long - ing for some  
 flesh-joined Word, Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel as the  
 faith de - cline, We, like Pe - ter, find it tempt-ing to re -

to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for new as -  
 heav - enly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be - hold with  
 main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship gives us

sur - ance that our faith is not in vain, Search - ing  
 won - der how the Law and Proph - ets meet: Christ with  
 cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess, That our

like those first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.  
 gar - ments drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com-plete.  
 dai - ly lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.

*In his commentary on the text, hymnwriter Carl P. Daw, Jr., describes the "implicit comparison between the attitudes and assumptions of the disciples on the Mount of the Transfiguration and the expectations of present-day Christians as they gather for worship."*

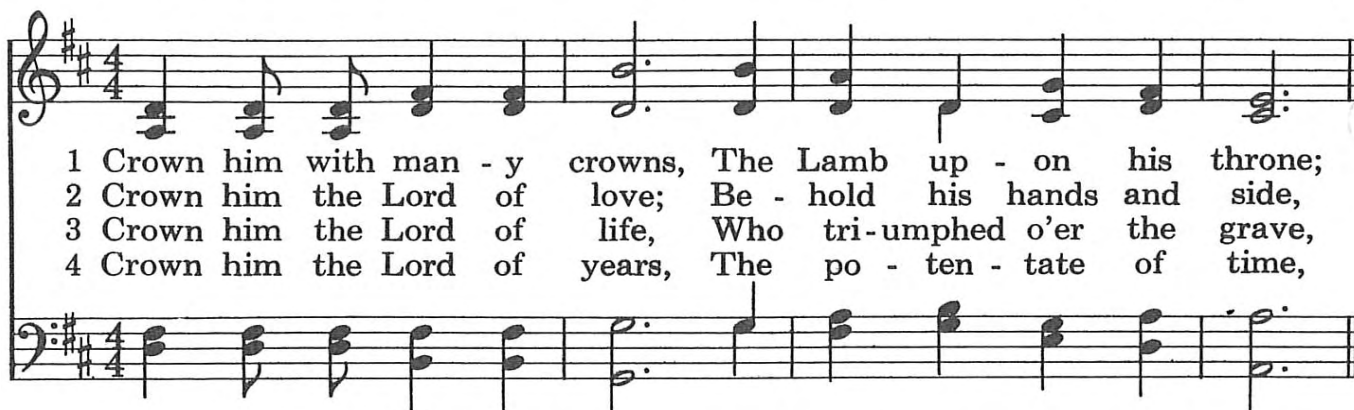
Tune: HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7.D.  
 Rowland H. Prichard, 1844  
 Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

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 Arrangement Copyright ©, Oxford University Press. From *The English Hymnal* 1906.

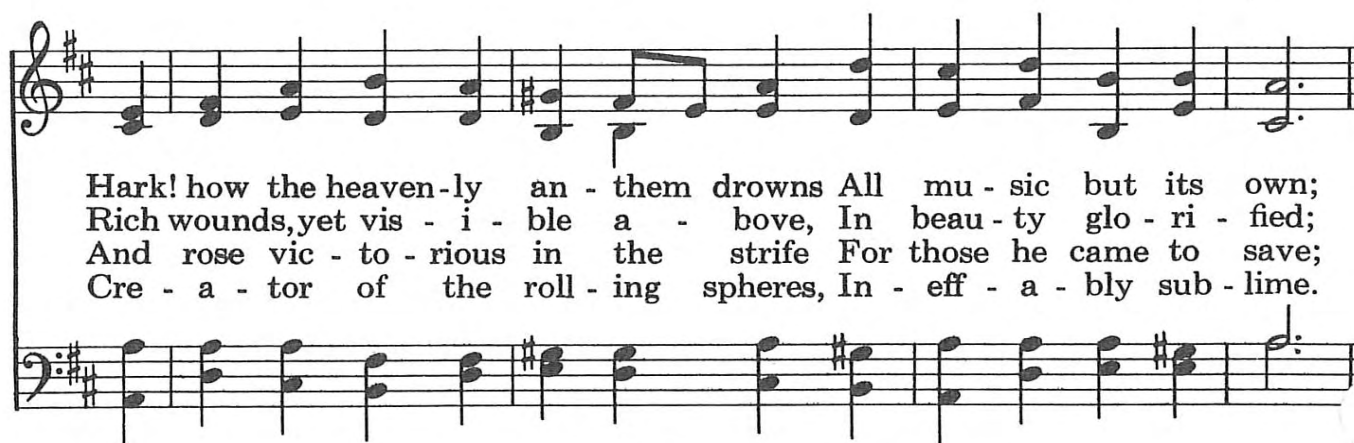
## Crown Him With Many Crowns

Matthew Bridges, 1800-1894  
 Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, St. 3

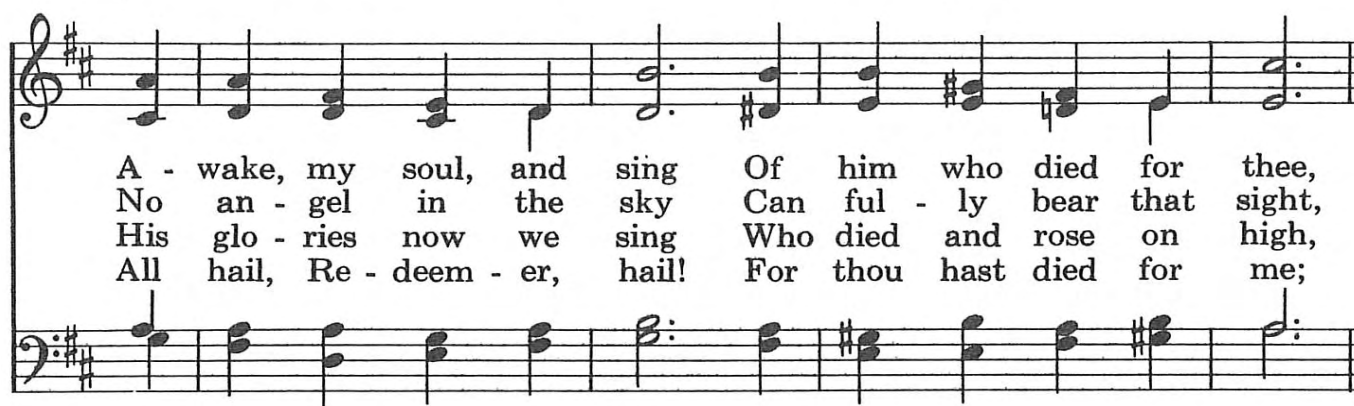
DIADEMATA S.M.D.  
 George J. Elvey, 1816-1893



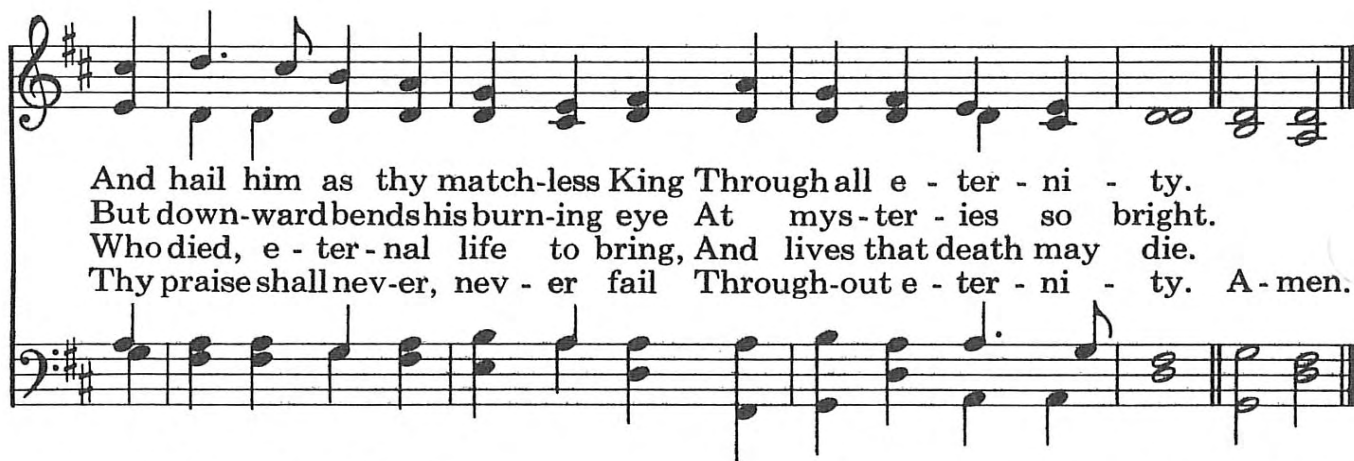
1 Crown him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on his throne;  
 2 Crown him the Lord of love; Be - hold his hands and side,  
 3 Crown him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the grave,  
 4 Crown him the Lord of years, The po - ten - tate of time,



Hark! how the heaven-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own;  
 Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied;  
 And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For those he came to save;  
 Cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, In - eff - a - bly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing Of him who died for thee,  
 No an - gel in the sky Can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 His glo - ries now we sing Who died and rose on high,  
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



And hail him as thy match-less King Through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 But down-ward bends his burn-ing eye At mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 Who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, And lives that death may die.  
 Thy praises shall nev - er, nev - er fail Through-out e - ter - ni - ty. A - men.



## All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

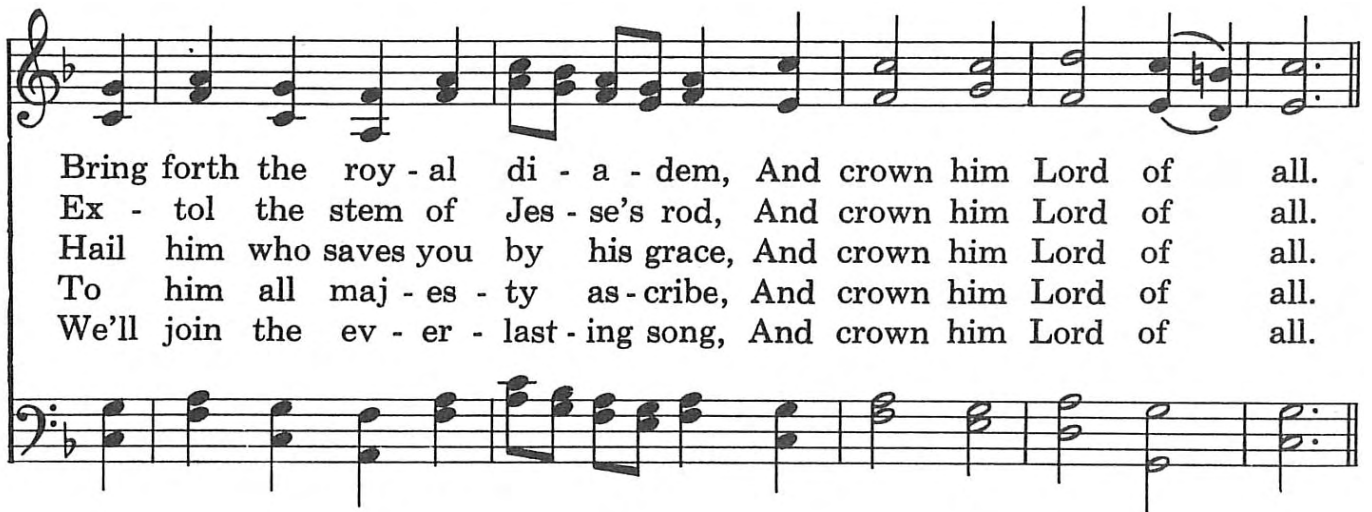
First Tune

Edward Perronet, 1726-1792  
 Alt. by John Rippon, 1751-1836

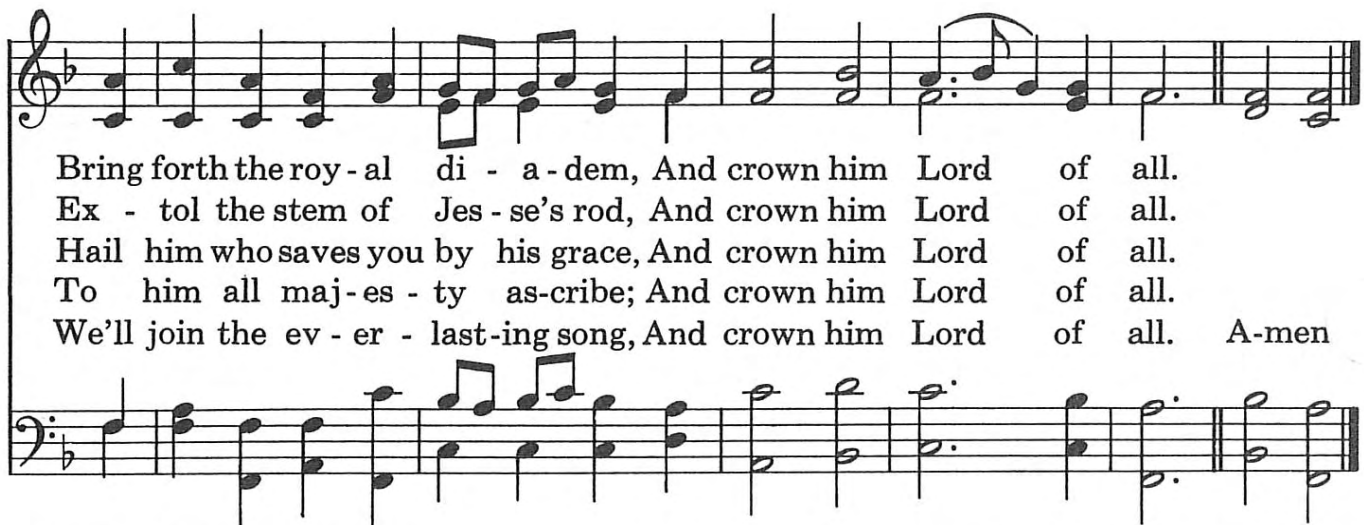
CORONATION C.M.  
 Oliver Holden, 1765-1844



1 All hail the power of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;  
 2 Crown him, ye mar - tyrs of our God, Who from his al - tar call;  
 3 Ye seed of Is - ra - el's chosen race, Ye ran - somed of the fall,  
 4 Let ev - ery kin - dred, ev - ery tribe, On this ter - res - trial ball,  
 5 O that, with yon - der sa - cred throng, We at his feet may fall;

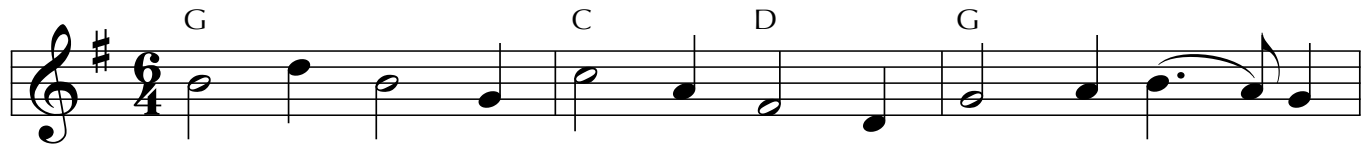


Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, And crown him Lord of all.  
 Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod, And crown him Lord of all.  
 Hail him who saves you by his grace, And crown him Lord of all.  
 To him all maj - es - ty as - crite, And crown him Lord of all.  
 We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, And crown him Lord of all.

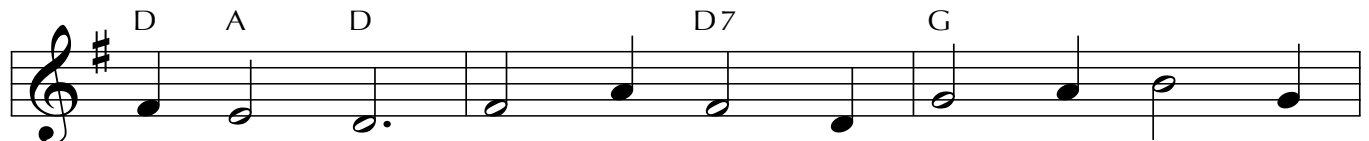


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 To him all maj - es - ty as - crite; And crown him Lord of all.  
 We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, And crown him Lord of all. A - men

# Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation 394



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and  
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of  
 3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from  
 4 Laud and hon - or to the Fa - ther, laud and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,  
 hosts, and stay; come, with all your lov - ing - kind - ness;  
 you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er  
 to the Son, laud and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's  
 hear your peo - ple as we pray, and your full - est  
 with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter  
 ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and



help for - ev - er, and our con - fi - dence a - lone.  
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.  
 in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.  
 one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Although this ancient text has often been used at church dedications, the first stanza clearly refers to the people of God and the second to the place where they meet. The stately and soaring tune is aptly named for the edifice where the composer served as organist and is buried.

TEXT: Latin, 7th cent.; trans. John Mason Neale, 1851, alt.  
 MUSIC: Henry Purcell, c. 1680; adapt. Ernest Hawkins, 1843

WESTMINSTER ABBEY  
 8.7.8.7.8.7  
 (alternate tune: REGENT SQUARE)

*If you would like to receive daily devotional reflections from Rev. Steve Silver during Lent, please contact the church office or email him directly at [silver@fccleb.org](mailto:silver@fccleb.org).*

\* \* \* HOLY WEEK IS MARCH 24-31, 2024 \* \* \*





Music  
at the  
Meetinghouse

## Upcoming Concerts

All in the FCC Sanctuary

***The Anonymous Coffeehouse—Fridays, Feb. 9 and 23, Mar. 8 and 22, all at 7:30 pm***

Our comfy community venue for live folk music is thriving in its fourth season! Come and go as you please; food and drink available. *Free admission. For performers and more, visit [anoncoffee.org](http://anoncoffee.org).*

***Benjamin Kulp, Cello, and Chenyu Wang, Piano—Sunday, February 11, at 3:00 pm***

UVMC's longtime cellist Ben Kulp and new faculty member Chenyu Wang offer an eclectic, thoughtful program ranging from Samuel Barber, Arvo Pärt, and Olivier Messiaen to Ed Sheeran and Charlie Chaplin. *Adults \$20, under-18 free; visit [uvmusic.org/event/ben-kulp-cello-and-chenyu-wang-piano](http://uvmusic.org/event/ben-kulp-cello-and-chenyu-wang-piano).*

## CREATING NEW TABLES: PREPARED TO SERVE 2024

**Saturday, February 24, 8:00 to 4:00—Pembroke Academy, Pembroke, NH**

**Prepared to Serve** is a training event open to all congregations of the NH Conference (UCC), offering workshops on topics ranging from stewardship, lay leadership, and church finances to service, mission, and Christian education. **All are invited to participate in this enriching day!**

*FCC will pay for anyone interested to attend! Online registration deadline is February 12; fee includes meals and meeting resources. A complete conference booklet is available for review in the Parish Hall. For more information, please visit [www.nhcucc.org](http://www.nhcucc.org).*

## It's Almost Time for the Lenten Lunch Bag Offering

The arrival of Lent brings the **Children's Community Corner** Lunch Bag Offering! We ask for your participation in this annual collection of savings from a regular sacrifice during Lent. The total collection on Palm Sunday (March 24) will be split between **WISE of the Upper Valley** and **Epilogos Charities**. *(Decorated paper bags will be available, but not required to participate.)*

*The Children's Community Corner thanks you for supporting this stewardship project!*

## One Great Hour of Sharing: "Time to Share the Light"—UCC Mission Offering

This annual, nationwide UCC offering funds mission initiatives around the world. It supports healthcare, education, agriculture, refugee assistance, and disaster relief in over 130 countries. OGHS funds are leveraged with local, national, and global partners to maximize their impact.

*Please consider a contribution as you are able, and thank you for SHARING!*

*(Payable to FCC, with "OGHS" in the memo line. Contributions gratefully accepted until Easter.)*



**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@fcclieb.org](mailto:church@fcclieb.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 • Brian Clancy, Church Administrator**

**Jon Scott, Chair of Church Council • Linda Gerlach, Chair of Deacons • Barbara Jones, Moderator**

*Church Office Hours: Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9:00-12:00 (or by appointment as needed)*

**603-448-4281 • [church@fcclieb.org](mailto:church@fcclieb.org) • [prayer@fcclieb.org](mailto:prayer@fcclieb.org) • [music@fcclieb.org](mailto:music@fcclieb.org) • [www.fcclieb.org](http://www.fcclieb.org)**