

Scripture Lessons

1 Samuel 17:1a, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49. ^{1a}Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle[,...] ⁴And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. ⁵He had a helmet of bronze on his head, and he was armed with a coat of mail; the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze. ⁶He had greaves of bronze on his legs and a javelin of bronze slung between his shoulders. ⁷The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron; and his shield-bearer went before him. ⁸He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, "Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. ⁹If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants; but if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us." ¹⁰And the Philistine said, "Today I defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man, that we may fight together." ¹¹When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.

[...] ¹⁹Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, were in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. ²⁰David rose early in the morning, left the sheep with a keeper, took the provisions, and went as Jesse had commanded him. He came to the encampment as the army was going forth to the battle line, shouting the war cry. ²¹Israel and the Philistines drew up for battle, army against army. ²²David left the things in charge of the keeper of the baggage, ran to the ranks, and went and greeted his brothers. ²³As he talked with them, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines, and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him.

[...] ³²David said to Saul, "Let no one's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine." ³³Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are just a boy, and he has been a warrior from his youth." ³⁴But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father; and whenever a lion or a bear came, and took a lamb from the flock, ³⁵I went after it and struck it down, rescuing the lamb from its mouth; and if it turned against me, I would catch it by the jaw, strike it down, and kill it. ³⁶Your servant has killed both lions and bears; and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, since he has defied the armies of the living God." ³⁷David said, "The Lord, who saved me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, will save me from the hand of this Philistine." So Saul said to David, "Go, and may the Lord be with you!"

³⁸Saul clothed David with his armor; he put a bronze helmet on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail. ³⁹David strapped Saul's sword over the armor, and he tried in vain to walk, for he was not used to them. Then David said to Saul, "I cannot walk with these; for I am not used to them." So David removed them. ⁴⁰Then he took his staff in his hand, and chose five smooth stones from the wadi, and put them in his shepherd's bag, in the pouch; his sling was in his hand, and he drew near to the Philistine.

⁴¹The Philistine came on and drew near to David, with his shield-bearer in front of him. ⁴²When the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him, for he was only a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance. ⁴³The Philistine said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. ⁴⁴The Philistine said to David, "Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the field." ⁴⁵But David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with sword and spear and javelin; but I

come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. ⁴⁶This very day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head; and I will give the dead bodies of the Philistine army this very day to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the earth, so that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, ⁴⁷and that all this assembly may know that the Lord does not save by sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord's and he will give you into our hand."

⁴⁸When the Philistine drew nearer to meet David, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet the Philistine. ⁴⁹David put his hand in his bag, took out a stone, slung it, and struck the Philistine on his forehead; the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell face down on the ground.

Mark 4:35-41. ³⁵On that day, when evening had come, [Jesus] said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." ³⁶And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. ³⁷A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" ³⁹He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. ⁴⁰He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" ⁴¹And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

Sermon "More Than a Children's Story" Stephen R. Silver

Hymn 463 (p. 7) *How Firm a Foundation* Foundation

Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Pastoral Prayer

As we hold community members in prayer, please exercise care and discretion when sharing.

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

God, we come before you unsure of ourselves. What, we wonder, do we have to offer you? Then, we recall this morning's scripture lesson. David had confidence, grounded in faith, that with you by his side, he would prevail. We may question the tools we have, but David had just five small stones. With those, he brought down Goliath. We know that we too will face foes, that we too will have to confront bullies, but with you behind us we know that we should have the courage and strength to do what must be done. And so, we pray: Let us receive your Spirit as David did, and let it be with us in all we do, as we seek to walk your path, to follow the way of Jesus.

We pray this, and all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. 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 in C for Glass Armonica, K. 356* Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

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*)

O God, though we may have only a few small, smooth stones, we know that with your Spirit at work, they may be transformed into gemstones. Take our gifts this morning, and transform them, that they may be used to do your work in the world, caring for those without and in need. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Hymn 367 (p. 8) *Fight the Good Fight* Pentecost

Benediction

Postlude *Rejoice Greatly, O My Soul, op. 59, no. 1* Marcel Dupré

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Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organist/Pianist • Phil Hammond, Liturgist

Corrine Erskine and Linda Gerlach, 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.

Frederick Douglass: What to the Slave Is Your Fourth of July?

Saturday, June 29, at 12:00 pm—Colburn Park (*Rain Location: FCC Sanctuary*)

All are welcome to this community reading of Frederick Douglass' 1852 speech, a collaboration with the Black Heritage Trail of NH and part of the City of Lebanon's Independence Day festivities. Members of the public are invited to take turns reading parts of the speech or just to come listen. Douglass' impassioned, provocative words broaden understanding of our nation's history and enter directly into our contemporary conversations about race and citizenship.

To sign up for a reading (regardless of Lebanon residency), contact Carol Rougvie at cbrougvie@gmail.com; for the Black Heritage Trail of NH, visit blackheritagetrailnh.org.

William Whiting, 1825-1878, alt.

MELITA 8.8.8.8.8.
John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

1 E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, Whose arm doth bind the
 2 O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word, The winds and waves sub -
 3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, who didst brood Up - on the cha - os
 4 O Trin - i - ty of love and power! Our breth - ren shield in

rest - less wave, Who bidd'st the might - y o - cean deep Its
 mis - sive heard, Who walk - edst on the foam - ing deep, And
 dark and rude, Who bad'st its an - gry tu - mult cease, And
 dan - ger's hour; From rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, Pro -

own ap - point - ed lim - its keep, O hear us when we
 calm a - mid its rage didst sleep, O hear us when we
 gav - est light, and life, and peace, O hear us when we
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; Thus ev - er - more shall

cry to thee, For those in per - il on the sea.
 cry to thee, For those in per - il on the sea.
 cry to thee, For those in per - il on the sea.
 rise to thee Glad hymns of praise from land and sea. A - men.

Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt.

ST. CATHERINE 8.8.8.8.8.

Henri F. Hemy, 1818-1888

Adapted by James G. Walton, 1821-1905

1 Faith of our fa - thers, liv - ing still In spite of dun - geon,
 2 Our fa - thers, chained in pris - ons dark, Were still in heart and
 3 Faith of our fa - thers, God's great power Shall win all na - tions
 4 Faith of our fa - thers, we will love Both friend and foe in

fire, and sword. O how our hearts beat high with joy
 con - science free, And blest would be their chil - dren's fate,
 un - to thee, And through the truth that comes from God,
 all our strife, And preach thee, too, as love knows how,

When - e'er we hear that glo - rious word! Faith of our fa - thers,
 If they, like them, should die for thee. Faith of our fa - thers,
 Man - kind shall then in - deed be free. Faith of our fa - thers,
 By kind - ly words and vir - tuous life. Faith of our fa - thers,

ho - ly faith, We will be true to thee till death. A - men.

463 How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

It seems odd now to think of singing this text to ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

TEXT: "K" in John Rippons's *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.

MUSIC: American folk melody; Funk's *Genuine Church Music*, 1832, alt.

FOUNDATION

11.11.11.11

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Fight the Good Fight

John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.

PENTECOST L.M.
William Boyd, 1847-1928

1 Fight the good fight with all thy might! Christ is thy
 2 Run the straight race through God's good grace; Lift up thine
 3 Cast care a - side, lean on thy guide; His bound - less
 4 Faint not nor fear, his arms are near; He chang - eth

strength, and Christ thy right. Lay hold on life, and
 eyes, and seek his face. Life with its way be -
 mer - cy will pro - vide. Trust, and thy trust - ing
 not, and thou art dear. On - ly be - lieve, and

it shall be Thy joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.
 fore us lies; Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.
 soul shall prove Christ is its life, and Christ its love.
 thou shalt see That Christ is all in all to thee. A - men.

Do Your Part to Fill the Cart!

Join the fight against poverty and food insecurity in the Upper Valley by leaving contributions in our shopping cart in the Parish Hall, benefiting a variety of local service organizations.

This month, we're collecting non-perishable food and personal-care items on behalf of:

LISTEN COMMUNITY SERVICES

For a list of current and ongoing needs, please visit listen.org/food-pantry#itemsweneedthemost or see the list that is attached to the shopping cart itself.

Direct financial contributions to any Upper Valley service organization are always needed and much appreciated. Thanks for fighting local poverty and hunger!



15th Annual Carolan Festival—Saturday, June 29, at 7:00 pm

UVMC hosts an all-day gathering for those who play, listen, sing, or dance to the music of Irish harper and composer Turlough O'Carolan (1670-1738). After a full afternoon of workshops at several downtown locations, the evening concert at FCC will feature harpers Dominique Dodge and Rachel Clemente. *Adults \$25 (suggested), under-18 free; more at carolanfestvt.com.*

Classicopia: The Folk Cello—Sunday, June 30, at 2:00 pm (Rescheduled from April 21)

South African cellist Jacques-Pierre Malan joins Dan Weiser to explore folk influences in music for cello and piano by Edvard Grieg, Astor Piazzolla, and a suite based on Georgian tunes by Sulkhan Tsintsadze. *Adults \$20, FCC members \$15, children free; more at classicopia.org/concert/the-folk-cello/.*

Oak Hill Music Festival: Season Three!—Weds., July 10, and Friday, July 12, both 7:00

Having successfully launched this innovative festival in 2022, Hanover-born bassoonist Leah Kohn and her violinist husband Niv Ashkenazi return with several other superb musicians for a week in residence at FCC. They'll play two concerts here—"Folk Music" and "The Romantic Virtuoso"—and a third in Norwich ("Landscapes") on Saturday, July 13. *Complete details, musician information, and ticket options at www.oakhillmusicfestival.com.*

Classicopia: Czech, Please!—Sunday, July 14, at 2:00 pm

Dan Weiser welcomes violinist Andréa Picard Boecker and cellist Alicia Ward for a program of music that dances and moves the spirit, in piano trios by Bedrich Smetana and Antonín Dvorák. *Adults \$20, FCC members \$15, children free; more at classicopia.org/concert/czech-please/.*

Classicopia Summer Music Camp—Week of August 5-10, FCC/UVMC

Faculty Concert—Friday, August 9, 7:30 pm / Student Concert—Saturday, August 10, 10:00 am
Pianist Dan Weiser and a superb group of colleagues lead this week of immersive instruction in a range of instruments and voice for students aged 8-18. *More at classicopia.org/summer-camp/.*

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH—SPECIAL UCC OFFERING

This offering supports the growth of ministry and local congregations across the country. This year's theme—"On Holy Ground"—suggests the program's goal of establishing new churches and supporting existing ones. By renewing faith communities 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!



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 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 • prayer@fcclieb.org • music@fcclieb.org • www.fcclieb.org