

# First Congregational Church of Lebanon

United Church of Christ - Open and Affirming

# The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

June 30, 2024

Pray, and let God worry.

-Martin Luther

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

Prelude Larghetto/Allegro, Sonata in C, HWV 365 Georg

George Frideric Handel

Call to Worship

Adapted from Psalm 30

One: O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

All: O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

One: Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name.

All: For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

One: My soul will praise you and will not be silent.

All: O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

Hymn 796 (p. 5) We Come to You for Healing, Lord

Land of Rest

### 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

### Children's Moment

There's a lot to unpack from today's Gospel lesson, but I want to focus on this: Jesus is never too busy for us. There he is, surrounded by people, trying to go somewhere, when a woman reaches out to him for help. The disciples want to hurry him along to his destination, but the woman is in need of Jesus' healing power. So, he cares for her, and then he goes to Jairus' house and tends to his daughter.

Jesus is never too busy to be with those in need. God is never too busy to be with us. The spirit is always with us. Remember: Jesus is never too busy for us—and while your problem may seem small or insignificant, it's not so to Jesus, who wants to hear from you, from us. Always.

Hymn 83 (p. 6) If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee

Neumark

### Scripture Lessons

2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27. After the death of Saul, when David had returned from defeating the Amalekites, David remained two days in Ziklag. [...]

<sup>17</sup>David intoned this lamentation over Saul and his son Ionathan. <sup>18</sup>(He ordered that The Song of the Bow be taught to the people of Judah; it is written in the Book of Jashar.) He said: <sup>19</sup>Your glory, O Israel, lies slain upon your high places! How the mighty have fallen! <sup>20</sup>Tell it not in Gath, proclaim it not in the streets of Ashkelon; or the daughters of the Philistines will rejoice, the daughters of the uncircumcised will exult. <sup>21</sup>You mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew or rain upon you, nor bounteous fields! For there the shield of the mighty was defiled, the shield of Saul, anointed with oil no more. <sup>22</sup>From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan did not turn back, nor the sword of Saul return empty. <sup>23</sup>Saul and Jonathan, beloved and lovely! In life and in death they were not divided; they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions. <sup>24</sup>O daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you with crimson, in luxury, who put ornaments of gold on your apparel. <sup>25</sup>How the mighty have fallen in the midst of the battle! Jonathan lies slain upon your high places. <sup>26</sup>I am distressed for you, my brother Ionathan; greatly beloved were you to me; your love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women. <sup>27</sup>How the mighty have fallen, and the weapons of war perished!

Mark 5:21-43. <sup>21</sup>When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him; and he was by the sea. <sup>22</sup>Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet <sup>23</sup>and begged him repeatedly, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live." <sup>24</sup>So he went with him.

And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. <sup>25</sup>Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years. <sup>26</sup>She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. <sup>27</sup>She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, <sup>28</sup>for she said, "If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well." <sup>29</sup>Immediately her hemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. <sup>30</sup>Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my clothes?" <sup>31</sup>And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?"" <sup>32</sup>He looked all around to see who had done it. <sup>33</sup>But the woman, knowing what had

happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. <sup>34</sup>He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

<sup>35</sup>While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader's house to say, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?" <sup>36</sup>But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." <sup>37</sup>He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. <sup>38</sup>When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. <sup>39</sup>When he had entered, he said to them, "Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping." <sup>40</sup>And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. <sup>41</sup>He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha cum," which means, "Little girl, get up!" <sup>42</sup>And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. <sup>43</sup>He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

**Sermon** "Have a Little Faith"

Stephen R. Silver

Hymn 792 (p. 7)

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Balm in Gilead

### 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, Marcia, 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.

Today we also offer a brief prayer inspired by the words of Pope Francis: How often, dear God, we leave you in a corner, at the bottom of the boat of life, to wake you only in a moment of need! Let us ask for the grace of a faith that never tires of seeing the Lord, of knocking at the door of his heart.

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

Larghetto, Sonata in C, HWV 365

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)

We come to you, O God, as the summer starts, filled with joy and enthusiasm. We look forward to this time of renewal and restoration, mindful of the great gifts we have received from you. Let us remember those without, those in need, those looking for comfort and support, those whom Jesus calls us to be with. Let these gifts be a symbol of our commitment to love your people. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Hymn 319 (p. 8)

Just as I Am, Without One Plea

Woodworth

Benediction

Postlude

Allegro, Sonata in C, HWV 365

George Frideric Handel

Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor Ernie Drown, Organ/Harpsichord • Beth Hilgartner, Recorder Sue Pratt and Stacey Steele, Ushers • Dominic Watson, 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.

# We Come to You for Healing, Lord 796



Unlike many hymns on the theme of healing, this text appropriately includes the ministry of medical personnel as instruments of God's healing activity. It also acknowledges that illness is not limited to physical symptoms, but involves mental, emotional, and spiritual dimensions.

TEXT: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 2002 MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Annabel Morris Buchanan, 1938 Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc.

LAND OF REST

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NEUMARK 9.8.9.8.8.8. Georg Neumark, 1621-1681 Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878 Melody by Georg Neumark, 1621-1681 1 If thou but suf fer God guide thee, And hope in to 2 On - ly be still. his lei - sure In cheer - ful and wait thine So do 3 Sing, pray, and keep his ways un - swerv - ing; thy ways, He'll give thee strength, what-e'er be - tide thee, him through all hope, with heart con-tent To take what-e'er thy Fa - ther's pleas-ure part faith - ful - ly, And trust his word, though un - de - serv-ing; And bear thee through the vil Who trusts in God's days; une And all - de - serv - ing Nor doubt our most love have sent; in -Thou yet shalt find yet it true for thee; God nev - er forlove Builds on the rock chang - ing that nought can move. are known To him who chose wants us for his own. sook need The soul that trust - ed at him in - deed. A-men.



This African American spiritual offers a long-delayed answer to the prophet Jeremiah's question, "Is there no balm in Gilead?" (Jeremiah 8:22). No earthly remedy can compare with the healing that comes from a sense of God's presence; nothing else can heal "the sin-sick soul."



# Just as I Am, Without One Plea



# 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!

# Music at the Meetinghouse

# **Summer Concerts**

All in the FCC Sanctuary

### 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/.

### 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 listencs.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!



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 • 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@fccleb.org • prayer@fccleb.org • music@fccleb.org • www.fccleb.org