



The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Christ can take the most sin-laden, selfish, evil person
and bring forgiveness and new life.

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

Call to Worship Psalm 14

All: O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion! When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people, Jacob will rejoice; Israel will be glad.

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

Today we read in the Hebrew Bible of a betrayal, of one man doing something awful to a friend. Yet, the man who did this awful deed is one of the greatest in all Scripture, a

hero to his people. But while David is a hero, he was also very flawed. Still, God worked with this man once he repented. Repentance does not make your bad deeds go away, but it does help set things right going forward. And that's what God wants from us and for us: a sincere effort to follow his path, no matter how difficult, throughout our lives.

Hymn 509 (p. 6) *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*

Holy Manna

Scripture Lessons

2 Samuel 11:1-15. In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. ²It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. ³David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, "This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite." ⁴So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. ⁵The woman conceived; she sent and told David, "I am pregnant." ⁶So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David. ⁷When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. ⁸Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. ⁹But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. ¹⁰When they told David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?" ¹¹Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing." ¹²Then David said to Uriah, "Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, ¹³David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

¹⁴In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. ¹⁵In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die."

John 6:1-21. After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ²A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each

of them to get a little.”⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him,⁹“There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?”¹⁰Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all.¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted.¹²When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.”¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets.¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.”¹⁵When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.¹⁶When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea,¹⁷got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them.¹⁸The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing.¹⁹When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified.²⁰But he said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.”²¹Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

Sermon *“Help! I’ve Fallen—Can I Get Up?”* Stephen R. Silver

Hymn 36 (p. 7) *For the Fruit of All Creation* Ar Hyd y Nos

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 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.

Loving, patient God: we turn to you, sometimes in praise, often in want, and yes, even in moments of desperation. Hear our prayers, we ask. Give us what we need, not what we want. We will pray shortly to be delivered from evil, but we do not know what it is. Help us to recognize what is wrong in our world, to fight for what is right, to stand with the good, and to know that you are with us, always.

We pray this, and all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, in the name of the risen 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 Largo, Trio in G Minor, HWV 393 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*)

Bountiful Lord, we present our gifts this morning as a sign of our hopes. Our hope for a world that comes to know you, that will follow you, and that will care for all your people, wherever, whomever they might be.

Hymn 290 (p. 8) *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts* Federal Street

Benediction

Postlude Allegro, Trio in G Minor, HWV 393 George Frideric Handel

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Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organ/Harpsichord • Jason Smoller, Oboe • Leslie Stroud, Flute
Stacey Steele and Dominic Watson, Ushers • Linda Jacobs, Zoom • Brian Clancy, Liturgist

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.

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!

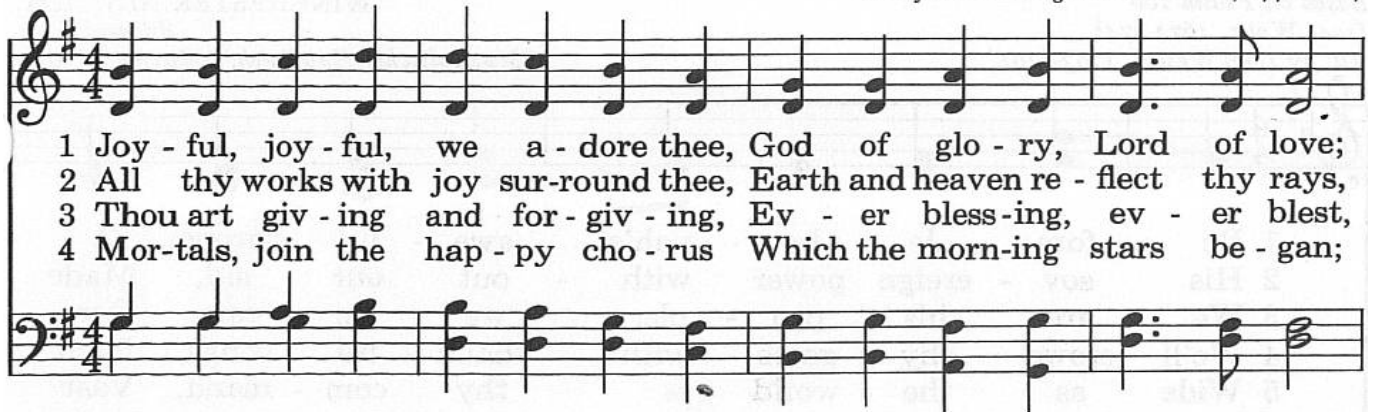
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

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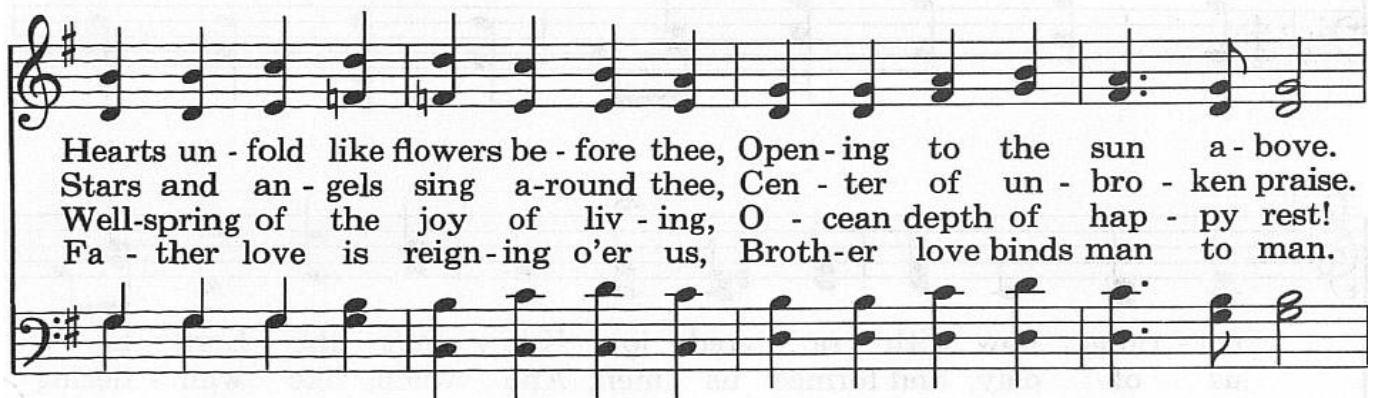
Henry van Dyke, 1852-1933

HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7.D.

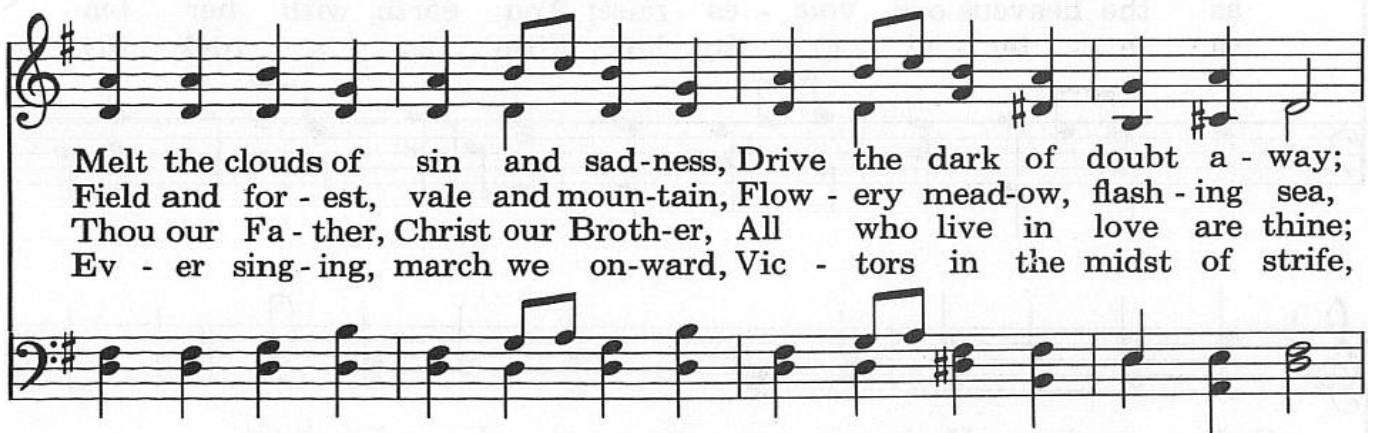
Arr. from Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827



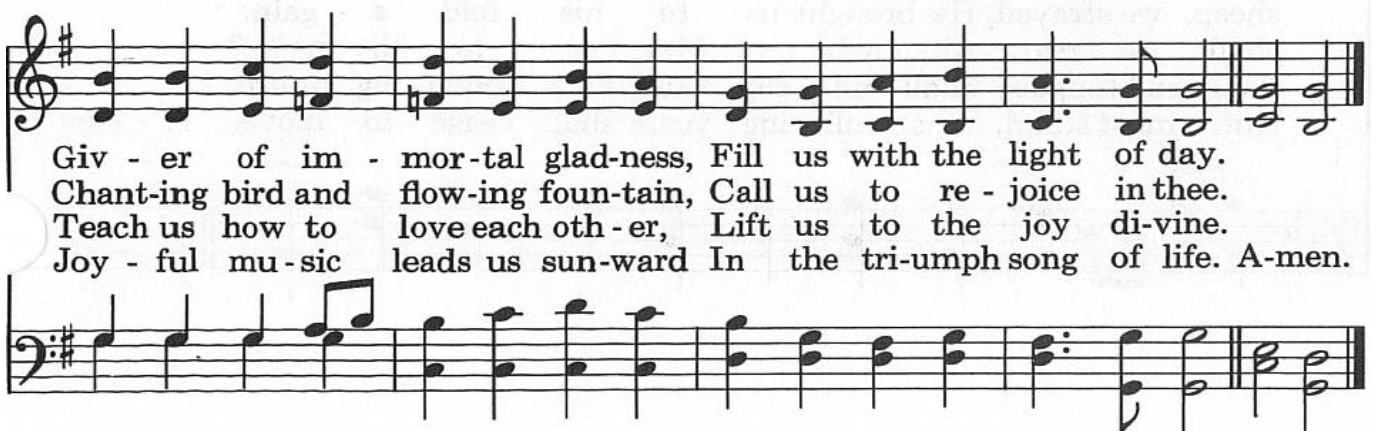
1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, Earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,
4 Mor-tals, join the hap - py cho - rus Which the morn-ing stars be - gan;



Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, Open - ing to the sun a - bove.
Stars and an - gels sing a-round thee, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean depth of hap - py rest!
Fa - ther love is reign-ing o'er us, Broth - er love binds man to man.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness, Drive the dark of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - ery mead-ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Broth - er, All who live in love are thine;
Ev - er sing-ing, march we on-ward, Vic - tors in the midst of strife,



Giv - er of im - mor-tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.
Chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, Call us to re - joice in thee.
Teach us how to love each oth - er, Lift us to the joy di-vine.
Joy - ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward In the tri-umph song of life. A-men.

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly 509

1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man-na is our bread.
2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers, seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er; Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.

Come from wil-der-ness and wan-dering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here, in peace, we have been led.

You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat-i - tude.

Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

The United Church of Canada minister who wrote this text was introduced to shape note tunes at the 1990 Hymn Society conference in Charleston, South Carolina. Afterwards she vacationed with friends nearby and worked out this text while humming this tune as she walked up and down the beach.

TEXT: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1990

MUSIC: William Moore's *Columbian Harmony*, 1825

Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.

HOLY MANNA

8.7.8.7.D

(alternate harmonization, 396)

For the Fruit of All Creation

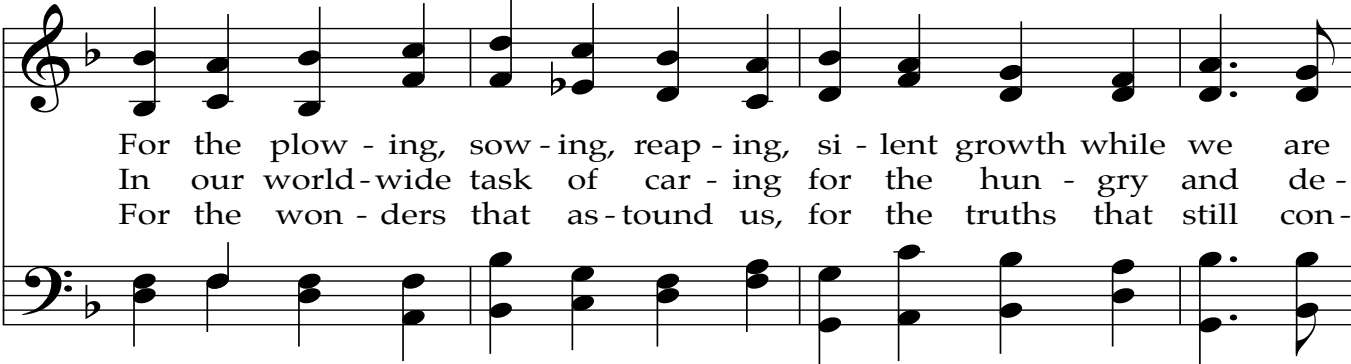
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1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For the gifts to ev - ery na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will be done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de -
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con -



sleep - ing, fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 spair - ing, in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will be done.
 found us, most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Originally called "Harvest Hymn," this text is much more comprehensive than that title implies. It also deals with stewardship, thanksgiving, and God's endless gifts that continue to astound us. It is set to a familiar Welsh tune whose name means "throughout the night."

TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, 1970, alt.
 MUSIC: Welsh melody, c. 1784
 Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company

AR HYDY NOS
 8.4.8.4.8.8.8.4

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

290

Latin: 12th century
Tr. Ray Palmer, 1808-1887

FEDERAL STREET L.M.
Henry K. Oliver, 1800-1885

1 Je - sus, thou joy of lov - ing hearts, Thou fount of
 2 Thy truth un - changed hath ev - er stood; Thou sav - est
 3 Our rest - less spir - its yearn for thee, Wher - e'er our
 4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay; Make all our

life, thou light of men, From the best bliss that
 those that on thee call; To them that seek thee,
 change - ful lot is cast: Glad when thy gra - cious
 mo - ments calm and bright; Chase the dark night of

earth im - parts We turn un - filled to thee a - gain.
 thou art good; To them that find thee, all in all.
 smile we see; Blest when our faith can hold thee fast.
 sin a - way; Shed o'er the world thy ho - ly light. A - men.

Church Street to Be Partially Closed Starting August 13

Please note that the construction of the new Lebanon fire station, beginning next month with the demolition of the current one, requires the **closure of the northern end of Church Street, between Colburn Park and the entrance to FCC's parking lot.** Access to FCC's lot and lower Church St will be possible *only* via detours along Water and Valley Sts or from Spring St.

Upon completion of the new station, the City of Lebanon intends to permanently convert that northern segment of Church St to one-way, northbound traffic.

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@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