

United Church of Christ - Open and Affirming

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost August 11, 2024

> Rats and roaches live by competition under the laws of supply and demand; it is the privilege of human beings to live under the laws of justice and mercy. —Wendell Berry

Kindly silence cell phones and other devices during worship. All hymns are included on pages 4-7.

Prelude Chorale Prelude on "Rockingham"

Call to Worship

One: I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

- All: My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.
- One: O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- All: I sought the LORD, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

One: Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.

All: This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD, and was saved from every trouble.

One: The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

All: O taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

Hymn 7 (p. 4)Immortal, Invisible, God Only WiseSt. Denio

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

Musical Offering	"O Rest in the Lord" (Elijah)	Felix Mendelssohn
Children's Moment		
Hymn 79 (p. 5)	The King of Love My Shepherd Is (vv.1-6)	Dominus Regit Me

C.H.H. Parry

Psalm 34:1-8

Scripture Lessons

Ephesians 4:25-5:2. ²⁵So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. ²⁶Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷and do not make room for the devil. ²⁸Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. ²⁹Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, ³²and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

^{5:1}Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ²and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

John 6:35, 41-51. ³⁵Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. [...]"

⁴¹Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." ⁴²They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" ⁴³Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. ⁴⁶Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

Sermon	"Comfort Food"	Gail T. Dimick

Hymn 341 (p. 6) Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

Rest

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 Jacobe.

We pray this, and all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ, 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 O Saving Victim

Alexandre Guilmant

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)

Holy God, thank you for the gift of generosity. Make us bold stewards of the resources you provide. Increase our offerings, expand our territory, and let our ministry testify to your goodness, nurture, and care for all. Amen.

Hymn 93 (p. 7)	Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah	Cwm Rhondda
Benediction		
Postlude	The Priest's Hymn	Franz Liszt

* * *

Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Gail Temperley Dimick, Guest Pastor Ernie Drown, Organ/Harpsichord • Laurel Stavis, Alto • Chris Chase, 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.

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Walter C. Smith, 1824-1908, alt.

ST. DENIO 11.11.11.11. Welsh Hymn Melody



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The King of Love My Shepherd Is

First Tune



Thy unction grace bestoweth, And O what transport of delight From thy pure chalice floweth!

79

 And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise Within thy house forever.

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

341



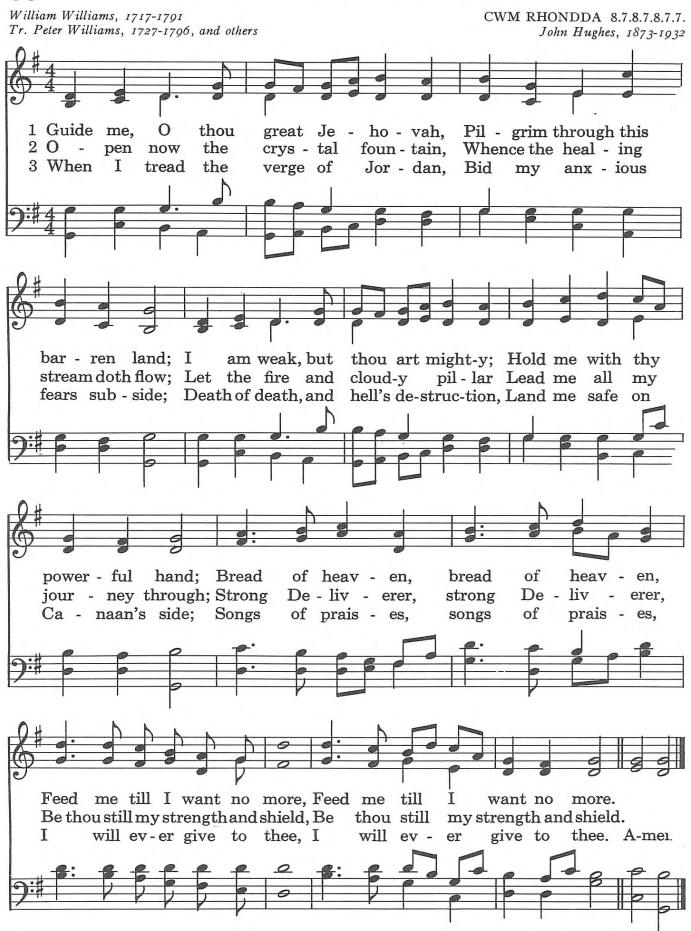
STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH—SPECIAL UCC OFFERING

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!

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

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Church Street to Be Partially Closed Starting August 12

Please note that construction of the new Lebanon fire station, beginning next month with the demolition of the current station, 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.

*NOTE: While attending Sunday morning worship, you may park in the UVMC parking lot, adjacent to FCC and accessed from the mid-block driveway on South Park St. Please park on the gravel portion of the lot **only**; the paved portion belongs to the neighboring business.

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



Late Summer Concerts

All in the FCC Sanctuary

Classicopia Summer Music Camp This Week!

Faculty Concert—Friday, August 9, 7:00 pm / Student Concert—Saturday, August 10, 10:00 am Join us for these special performances by the distinguished faculty and young student musicians at Classicopia's wonderful summer camp. *Friday admission* \$15-20, *Saturday free; more at classicopia.org.*

Classicopia: Four-Hand Dance—Saturday, August 17, at 7:30 pm Dan Weiser and good friend Philip Liston-Kraft offer a delightful program for four-hand piano, with energizing music by Edvard Grieg, Johannes Brahms, Moritz Moszkowski, Franz Lizst, Antonin Dvorak, and more. Adults \$20, FCC members \$15; more at classicopia.org.

The Anonymous Coffeehouse—Friday, Sept. 13, and Saturday, Sept. 28, all at 7:30 pm Our comfy community venue for live folk music opens its fifth season! Come and go as you please; food and drink available. *Free admission. For performers and more, visit anoncoffee.org.*

Upper Valley Baroque: Le Vent Français—Saturday, September 14, at 2:00 and 7:00 Known for superb performances on period instruments, Upper Valley Baroque brings its chamber series to FCC. "Winds Across Europe" showcases 17th-century woodwind innovations in music of François Couperin, Jean-Baptiste Lully, Georg Philipp Telemann, and more. Adults \$35 and up; ticket options, performer listings, and full program information at uppervalleybaroque.org/concerts.



First Congregational Church of Lebanon PO Box 230 10 South Park St Lebanon NH 03766

Weekly Worship Resources Enclosed!DATED MATERIAL-Please Deliver PromptlyDo 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