



First Congregational Church of Lebanon

United Church of Christ – Open and Affirming

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY • The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 6, 2024

Start by doing what is necessary, then what is possible,
and suddenly you are doing the impossible.

–St. Francis of Assisi

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

Prelude *Fantasia in C, BWV 570* Johann Sebastian Bach

Call to Worship Adapted from Psalm 26

One: Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.

All: Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and mind.

One: For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you.

All: O LORD, I love the house in which you dwell, and the place where your glory abides.

One: I walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me.

All: My foot stands on level ground; in the great congregation I will bless the LORD.

Hymn 689 (*pp. 5-6*) *When the Morning Stars Together* Weisse Flaggen

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 *O Taste and See* John Goss

Children's Moment

Today we remember Francis of Assisi, whose feast day was on Friday. Feast days are observances on the traditional Catholic calendar when the faithful remember saints and events of importance to our faith. Francis was an important figure in the medieval church, a rich man who turned his back on the family business and position to serve

the poor and all creation. Traditionally, the church blesses animals on this day. So, let's now pray for our four-legged friends.

Hymn 503 (p. 7)

Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation

O Quanta Qualia

Scripture Lessons

Job 1:1, 2:1-10. ^{1:1}There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil. [...]

^{2:1}One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord. ²The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the Lord, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." ³The Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason." ⁴Then Satan answered the Lord, "Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. ⁵But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face." ⁶The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life."

⁷So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. ⁸Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes.

⁹Then his wife said to him, "Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die."

¹⁰But he said to her, "You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

Mark 10:2-16. ²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" ³He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" ⁴They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." ⁵But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' ⁷For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

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 also offer the following slightly modified prayer of Francis of Assisi:

Lord, make us an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

○ divine Master, grant that we may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

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

Deck Thyself, Beloved Soul, op. 122, no. 5

Johannes Brahms

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*)

Loving, constant, faithful God: with gratitude for all you have done in and through Jesus, for us and all Creation, we present our gifts, asking that you use them to spread your love, grace, and healing power. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

For communion, you are invited to have some bread and juice on hand. We will share in the bread and cup at the appointed time. If you would like to receive a blessing, please let the officiant know.

Invitation and Communion Prayer

Sanctus

Ho - ly, Ho - ly Ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts:
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Glo - ry be to you, O Lord most
High. Bless-ed is the one that comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho -
san - na in the high - est.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Oculi Omnium, Charles Wood

"The eyes of all wait upon thee, and thou givest them their food in due season."

Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving (*Unison*)

Because the broken bread has meant our healing, because the outpoured cup has meant our life, because our common sharing has meant the communion of our souls, and because we have here been graced by your presence, God, we give you thanks and pray that our lives may be renewed in the life and the love of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn 204 (p. 8)

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

Darwall's 148th

Benediction

Postlude

Rejoice Greatly, op. 59, no. 1

Marcel Dupré

* * *

Leading Worship This Week

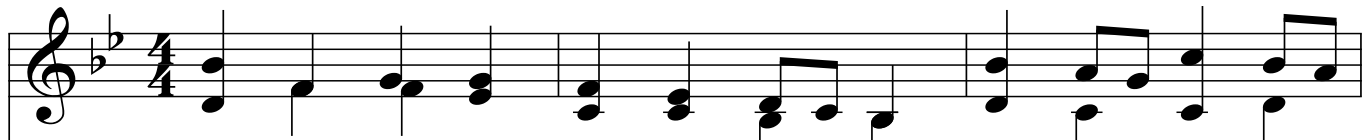
The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organ/Piano • The FCC Choir • Linda Jacobs, Liturgist

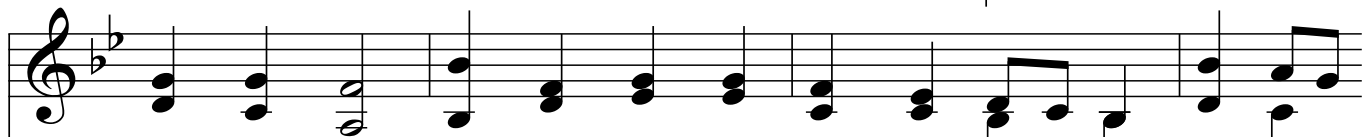
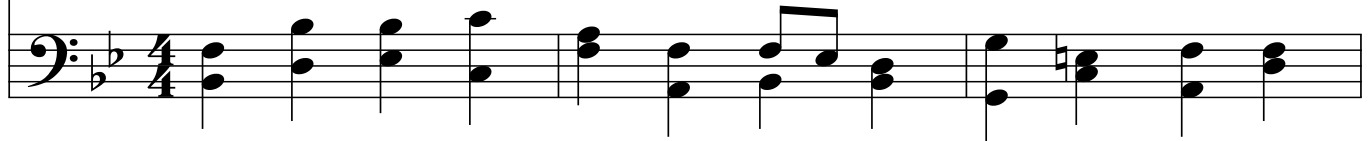
Bob Ross and Dawn Troutman, Ushers

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.

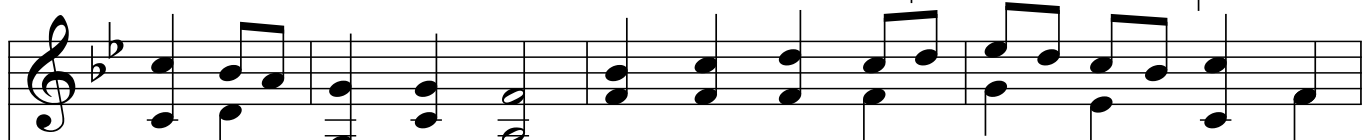
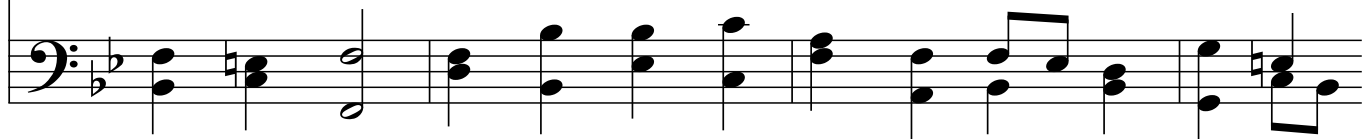
689 When the Morning Stars Together



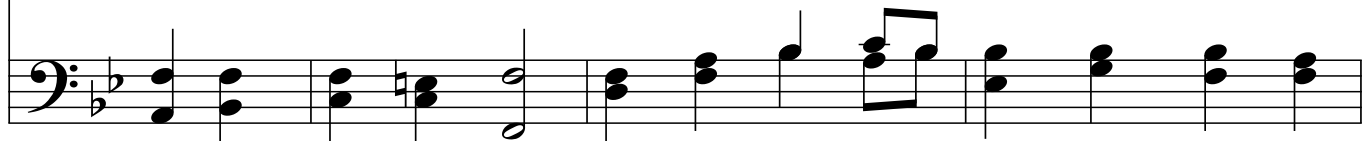
1 When the morn - ing stars to - geth - er their Cre - a - tor's
2 When in syn - a - gogue and tem - ple voic - es raised the
3 Voice and in - stru - ment in un - ion through the a - ges
4 Lord, we bring our gift of mu - sic; touch our lips and



glo - ry sang, and the an - gel host all shout - ed till with
psalm - ists' songs, of - fering up the ad - o - ra - tion which a -
spoke your praise. Plain - song, tune - ful hymns, and an - thems told your
fire our hearts. Teach our minds and train our sens - es; fit us

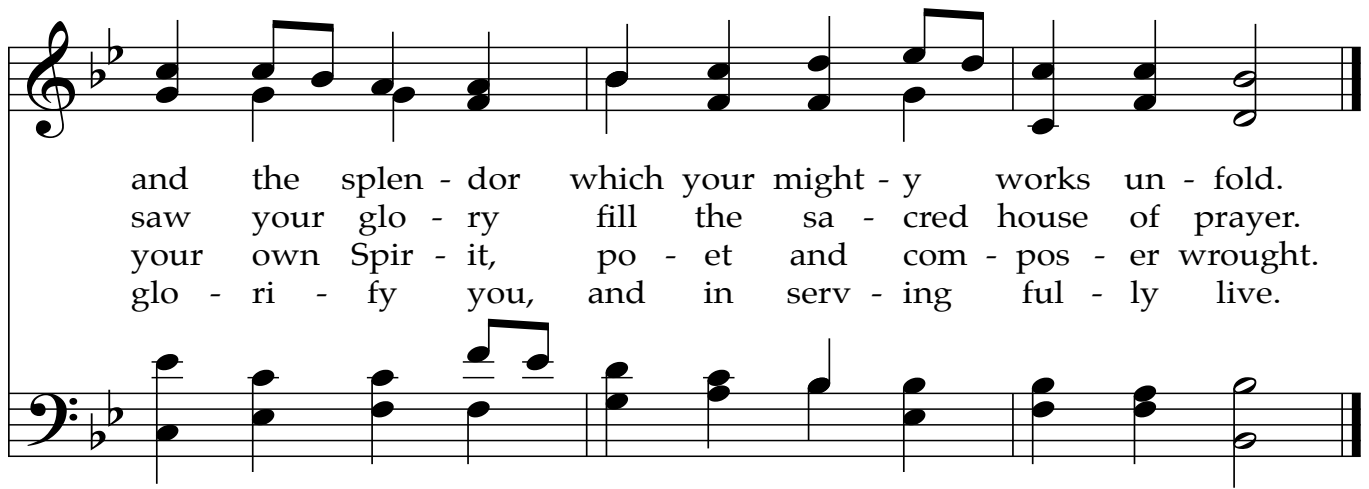


joy the heav - ens rang, then your wis - dom and your great - ness
lone to you be - longs; when the sing - ers, trum - pets, cym - bals
faith - ful, gra - cious ways. Choir and or - ches - tra and or - gan
for these sa - cred arts. Then with skill and con - se - cra - tion



their ex - ul - tant mu - sic told, all the beau - ty
all com - bined, your praise to share, awe - struck peo - ple
each a sa - cred of - fering brought, while, in - spired by
we would serve you, Lord, and give all our powers to





and the splen - dor which your might - y works un - fold.
 saw your glo - ry fill the sa - cred house of prayer.
 your own Spir - it, po - et and com - pos - er wrought.
 glo - ri - fy you, and in serv - ing ful - ly live.

Opening with imagery from Job 38:7, this text celebrates the role of music in worship from earliest times to the present. It is set to a German tune that may have originated as a folk melody. The tune name, German for “white flags,” comes from one of the early texts set to it.

TEXT: Albert F. Bayly, 1966, alt.
 MUSIC: German melody; harm. *Tochter Sion*, 1741
 Text © 1966 Oxford University Press

WEISSE FLAGGEN
 8.7.8.7.D

The 2024 Lebanon CROP Walk—Next Sunday, October 13

Every year thousands across the country join the **CROP Hunger Walk**, organized by Church World Service to fight hunger, food insecurity, and poverty worldwide. First held in Bismarck, ND, in October 1969, the walk has become a community event in over 2000 towns, as local organizations advocate for hunger relief and share fellowship on a crisp fall afternoon.

All are welcome to participate in this year’s walk—in any or all of these ways:

- WALK!**—Whether on your own or as a group of family and friends, register online at events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/event/hanovernh. Then, invite donations in your name.
- SERVE!**—FCC will offer light food and refreshments on the front lawn, renewing a long tradition of post-walk hospitality. Volunteers may contribute food and/or help with set-up (*details TBD*).
- DONATE!**—Sponsor a walker or give at events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/event/hanovernh. Please note that all contributions should be made online (not through FCC).

Neighbors in Need Special UCC Offering—Mental-Health Justice for All!

The UCC’s Neighbors in Need program supports ministries of justice and compassion across the country. Two-thirds of the collection funds the UCC’s **Justice and Witness Ministries** in local and national initiatives, advocacy efforts, and the fight against systemic injustice. The rest goes to the **Council for American Indian Ministry**, a voice for Native Americans in the UCC, sustaining a proud denominational tradition of support. **This year, NIN focuses on mental-health justice, treating mental health as a God-given right and dismantling the shame and stigma around it.**

Please contribute as you’re able to this vital mission program, by cash or check (payable to FCC, memo “Neighbors in Need”) or online at www.ucc.org/nin. Thank you!

Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation

503

1 Lord, we have come at your own in - vi - ta - tion,
2 Here, at your ta - ble, con - firm our in - ten - tion;
3 When, at your ta - ble, each time of re - turn - ing,

cho - sen by you, to be count - ed your friends;
give it your seal of for - give - ness and grace;
vows are re - newed and our cour - age re - stored,

yours is the strength that sus - tains ded - i - ca - tion;
teach us to serve with - out pride or pre - ten - sion,
may we in - creas - ing - ly glo - ry in learn - ing

ours, a com - mit - ment we know nev - er ends.
Lord, in your king - dom, what - ev - er our place.
all that it means to ac - cept you as Lord.

St. Augustine spoke of eucharist as “the repeatable part of baptism,” and this hymn reminds us that each time we share in the Lord’s Supper we are renewing our baptismal vows. The text is set to a tune that dates to the transition between plainchant and modern tonalities.

TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, 1977, alt.
MUSIC: Paris Antiphoner, 1681; harm. La Feillée’s *Méthode du plain-chant*, 1808
Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company

O QUANTA QUALIA
11.10.11.10
(this tune in a higher key, 369)

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

DARWALL'S 148th 6.6.6.6.8.8.

John Darwall, 1731-1789

1 Re - joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!
 2 The Lord, our Sav - ior, reigns, The God of truth and love;
 3 His king - dom can - not fail, He rules o'er earth and heaven;

Re - joice, give thanks, and sing, And tri - umph ev - er -
 When he had purged our stains, He took his seat a -
 The keys of death and hell Are to our Je - sus

more:
 above: Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re -
 given:

joice, a - gain I say, re - joice! A - men.



Jacqueline Schwab, Piano: Tunes for Troubled Times—Sunday, October 6, at 4:30 pm

Known for playing exquisitely on over a dozen of Ken Burns' acclaimed documentaries, Jacqueline Schwab offers a program to soothe souls, inspire reflection, and encourage agency and action in a challenging world. She'll share vintage music from American, Celtic, Ukrainian, and Latin traditions. *Adults \$20 suggested donation; more on Jacqueline Schwab at www.jacquelineschwab.com.*

The Anonymous Coffeehouse—Fridays, Oct. 11 and 25, Nov. 8 and 22, Dec. 6, all 7:30 pm

Our comfy community venue for live folk music continues its fifth season! Come and go as you please; food and drink available. *Free admission. For performers and more, visit anoncoffee.org.*

Classicopia: Fabulous Four-Hand Frolic—Saturday, October 12, at 7:30 pm

Pianists Dan Weiser and Elizabeth Borowsky share the keyboard for this thrilling four-hand program of French and American composers. Music of Georges Bizet, Gabriel Fauré, and NH's own Amy Beach, along with George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*, which celebrates its centennial this year. *Adults \$20, FCC members \$15, children free; more at classicopia.org.*

Do Your Part to Fill the Cart!

Currently, we are collecting non-perishable food and personal-care items on behalf of:

THE UPPER VALLEY HAVEN

For a list of current and ongoing needs, please visit uppervalleyhaven.org/current-wish-lists/ 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!

“Into the Potter’s Hands” NHC-UCC Annual Meeting, October 26

All are invited—lay or ordained leaders, congregation members, friends, and visitors—to participate in the **223rd Annual Meeting** of the NH Conference of the UCC, at Geneva Point Center in Moultonborough. This year's theme, **“Into the Potter’s Hands: Regeneration and Renewal,”** draws inspiration from Jeremiah 18:6, and the keynote speaker is Rev. Darrell Goodwin, who has served the UCC in various roles in conferences across the country.

In addition to worship, the business meeting, and other plenary events on October 26, several optional connecting sessions are available online October 15-29.

FCC will pay for up to four delegates to attend (in person or online); contact the church office if you're interested. Online registration open through Tuesday, October 8. For full schedule and more details, please visit www.nhcucc.org/events/am-2024.



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@fcclleb.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@fcclleb.org • prayer@fcclleb.org • music@fcclleb.org • www.fcclleb.org