

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

This morning, we have two rich lessons from Job and Mark. We can take something away from both readings: what do we want God to do for us? What *should* God do for us? All too often, those are not the same things, something we'll confront time and again in our lives. How do we know the difference? We can pray to God for the discernment to reach the right choice, and to be led along the path God wishes for us.

Hymn 68 (p. 6) *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

Ellacombe

Scripture Lessons

Job 38:1-7, 34-41. Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind: ²“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? ³Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

⁴“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. ⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone ⁷when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? [...]

³⁴“Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, so that a flood of waters may cover you? ³⁵Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go and say to you, ‘Here we are?’ ³⁶Who has put wisdom in the inward parts, or given understanding to the mind? ³⁷Who has the wisdom to number the clouds? Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens, ³⁸when the dust runs into a mass and the clods cling together?

³⁹“Can you hunt the prey for the lion, or satisfy the appetite of the young lions, ⁴⁰when they crouch in their dens, or lie in wait in their covert? ⁴¹Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God, and wander about for lack of food?”

Mark 10:35-45. ³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” ³⁶And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” ³⁷And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” ³⁸But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” ³⁹They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

Sermon

“Blowin’ in the Wind”

Stephen R. Silver

Hymn 413 (p. 7)

By Gracious Powers

Bonhoeffer

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.

O Holy God, we yearn to hear your voice from the whirlwind. We imagine your voice will boom like thunder; we hope that your words will hit us like an ocean wave. We so want your word. Or do we?

The truth is that, all too often, we want strength, we want surety, and we want to hear our own pre-existing opinions. We confess that we seek not a voice, but an echo. Instead of a word that is challenging, we seek words that reinforce our beliefs, our positions, our prejudices. We seek validation, confirmation, reassurance that all we want is what you will do, and too often we are like James and John, focused on our own positions.

Still, you kept faith with your disciples, as frustrating as they might have been. You loved them even as they stumbled. On this day, you speak to us through the Holy Spirit, with a still, small voice, one that has the power to move us. We pray that we have ears to hear and a will to listen.

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

Adagio, *Concerto for Oboe and Violin*, BWV 1060

J. S. Bach

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*)

Gracious God, we present this offering as a gift. Like your grace, it is freely given to be used in the service of your people. In the name of your Son, our Savior, we pray. Amen.

Hymn 17 (p. 8)

Sing Praise to God, You Heavens!

Wie lieblich ist der Maien

Benediction

Postlude

Allegro, *Concerto for Oboe and Violin*, BWV 1060

J. S. Bach

* * *

Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organ/Harpsichord • Jason Smoller, Oboe • Leslie Stroud, Flute
Corrine Erskine and Bob Ross, Ushers • Dawn Troutman, Zoom • Sue Pratt, 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.

What Is An Association? Why Should We Care?

Congregational Conversation Following Worship—This Sunday, October 20

These are two reasonable and timely questions. The **Grafton-Orange-Sullivan Association** of the NH Conference of the UCC—*a.k.a.* “The Association”—will discuss its future at its fall meeting on November 17 in Lyme. The Association will vote on whether to fold its operations into a new state-wide body, and our opinions matter. But just what is the Association? How does it differ from the NH Conference? **Please join us on Sunday for what promises to be a lively discussion.**

The Fall Meeting of the Grafton-Orange-Sullivan Association will take place on Sunday, November 17, at 2:00 pm at the Lyme Congregational Church. All are warmly invited.

Praise with Joy the World's Creator

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The Iona Community, 1985; alt.

1 Praise with joy the world's Cre - a - tor, God of jus - tice,
2 Praise to Christ who feeds the hun - gry, frees the cap - tive,
3 Praise the Spir - it sent a - mong us, lib - er - a - ting
4 Praise the Mak - er, Christ, and Spir - it, one God in Com -

love, and peace, Source and end of hu - man knowl - edge,
finds the lost, Heals the sick, up - sets re - li - gion,
truth from pride, Forg - ing bonds where race or gen - der,
mu - ni - ty, Call - ing Christ - ians to em - bod - y

grace be - stow - ing with - out cease. Cel - e - brate the
fear - less both of fate and cost. Cel - e - brate Christ's
age or na - tion dare di - vide. Cel - e - brate the
one - ness and di - ver - si - ty. Thus the world shall

Ma - ker's glo - ry, power to res - cue and re - lease.
con - stant pres - ence— Friend and Strang - er, Guest and Host.
Spir - it's trea - sure— fool - ish - ness none dare de - ride.
yet be - lieve when shown Christ's vi - brant un - i - ty.

The Iona Community works and worships in a tenth-century abbey on the remote island of Iona, Scotland. Their output of hymns and songs includes this one written for the anniversary gathering of the World Student Christian Federation in Edinburgh in 1985.

Tune: LAUDA ANIMA (PRAISE MY SOUL)
8.7.8.7.8.7.

John Goss, 1869

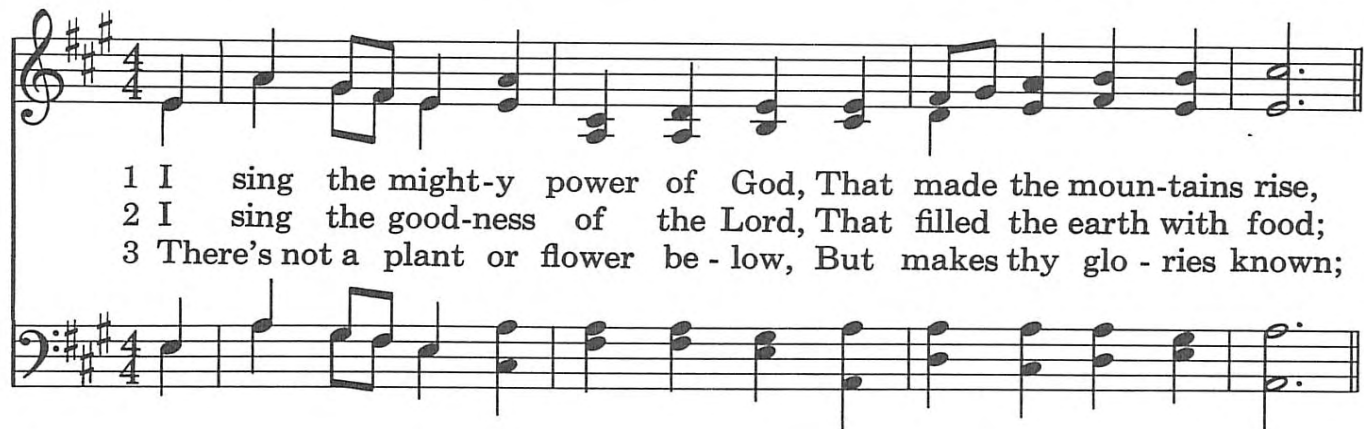
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I Sing the Mighty Power of God

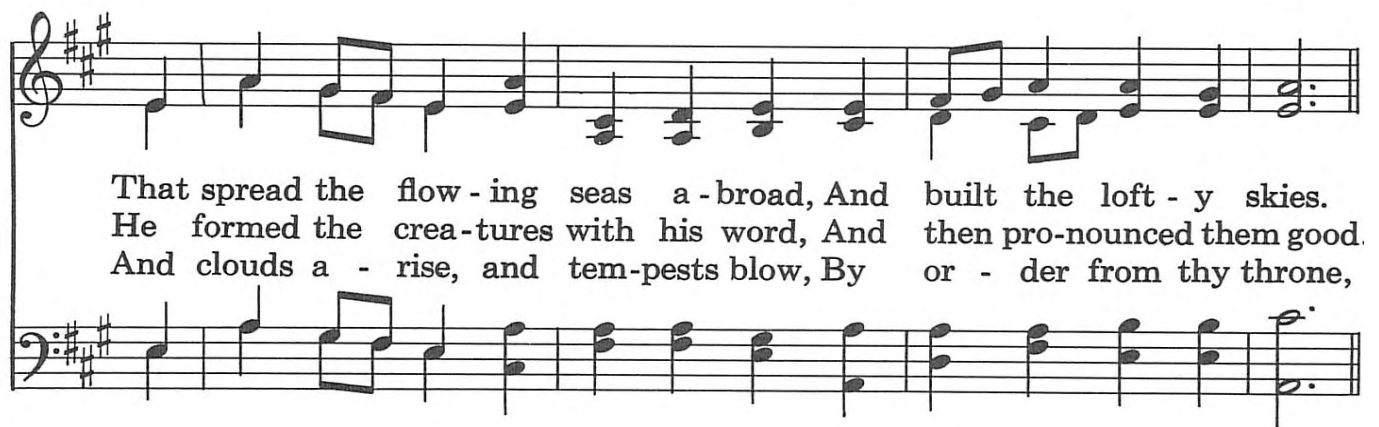
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Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, *all.*

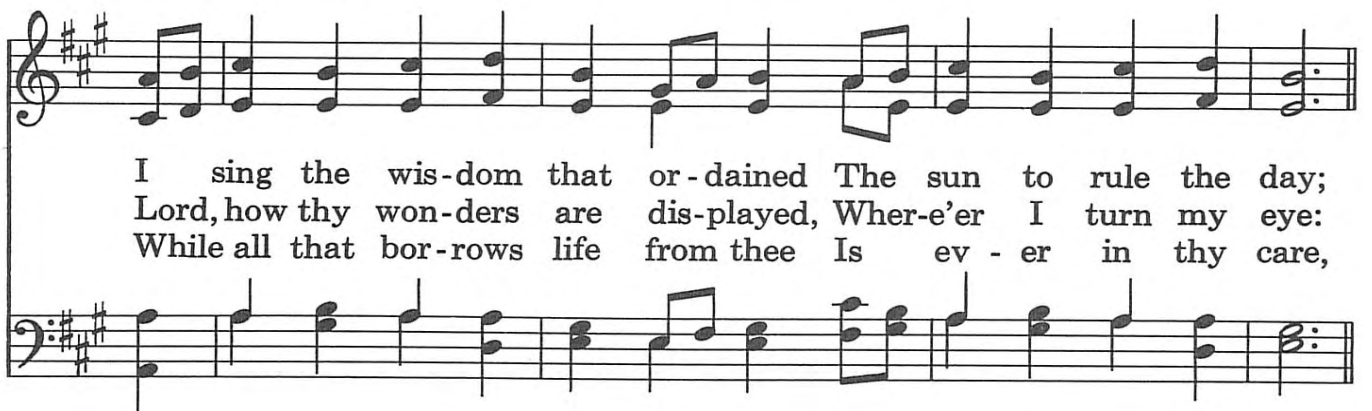
ELLACOMBE C.M.D.
"Gesangbuch," Wirttemberg, 1784



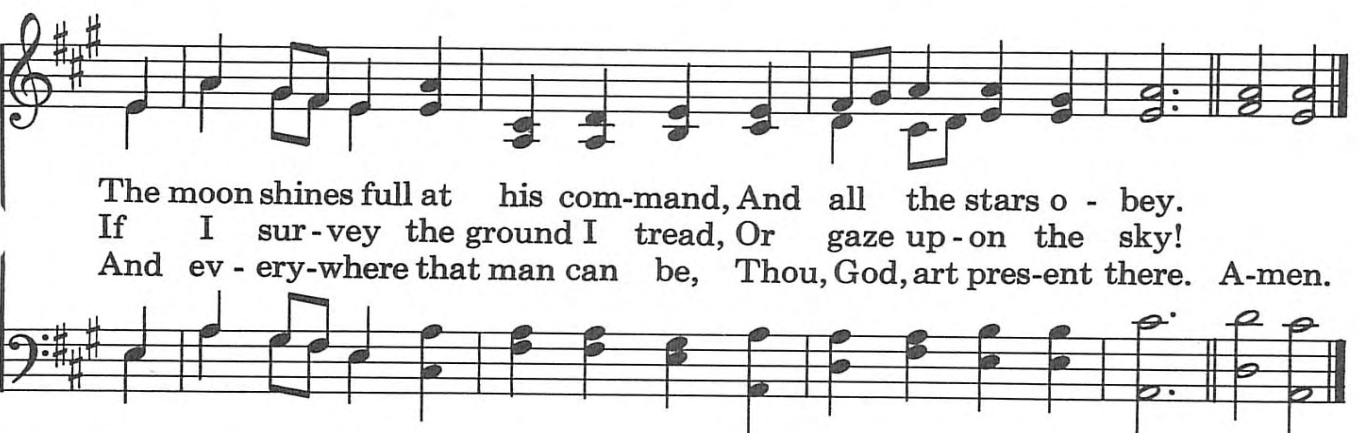
1 I sing the might-y power of God, That made the moun-tains rise,
2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord, That filled the earth with food;
3 There's not a plant or flower be - low, But makes thy glo - ries known;



That spread the flow - ing seas a - broad, And built the loft - y skies.
He formed the crea-tures with his word, And then pro-nounced them good.
And clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, By or - der from thy throne,



I sing the wis-dom that or-dained The sun to rule the day;
Lord, how thy won-ders are dis-played, Wher-e'er I turn my eye:
While all that bor-rows life from thee Is ev - er in thy care,



The moon shines full at his com-mand, And all the stars o - bey.
If I sur-vey the ground I tread, Or gaze up-on the sky!
And ev - ery-where that man can be, Thou, God, art pres-ent there. A-men.

By Gracious Powers

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 1944
 Transl. Fred Pratt Green, 1972

Unison

1 By gra-cious powers so won-der-ful-ly shel-tered,
 2 Yet is this heart by its old foe tor-ment-ed,
 3 And when this cup you give is filled to brim-ming
 4 Yet when a-gain in this same world you give us

and con-fi-dent-ly wait-ing, come what may,
 still e-vil days bring bur-dens hard to bear;
 with bit-ter sor-row, hard to un-der-stand,
 the joy we had, the bright-ness of your sun,

We know that God is with us night and morn-ing,
 O give our fright-ened souls the sure sal-va-tion
 We take it thank-ful-ly and with-out trem-bling,
 We shall re-mem-ber all the days we lived through,

and nev-er fails to greet us each new day.
 for which, O God, you taught us to pre-pare.
 out of so good and so be-loved a hand.
 and our whole life shall then be yours a-lone.

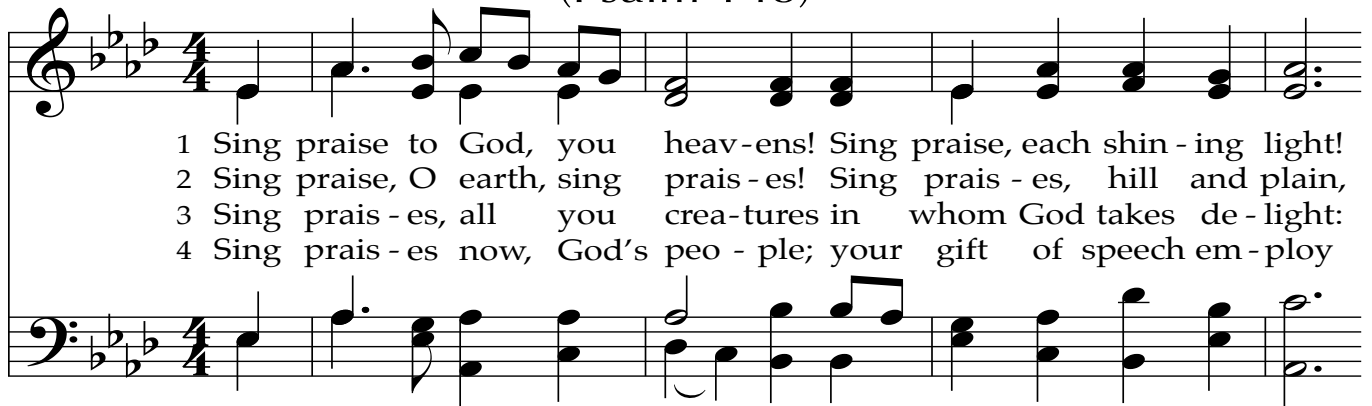
Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian, professor, and leader of the German Opposition, composed the poem on which this hymn is based, "New Year 1945," while imprisoned by the Gestapo in Berlin. Four months later, Bonhoeffer was executed by special order of Himmler.

Tune: BONHOEFFER 11.10.11.10.
 Herbert G. Hobbs, 1976
 Harm. Jan Helmut Wubbena, 1976

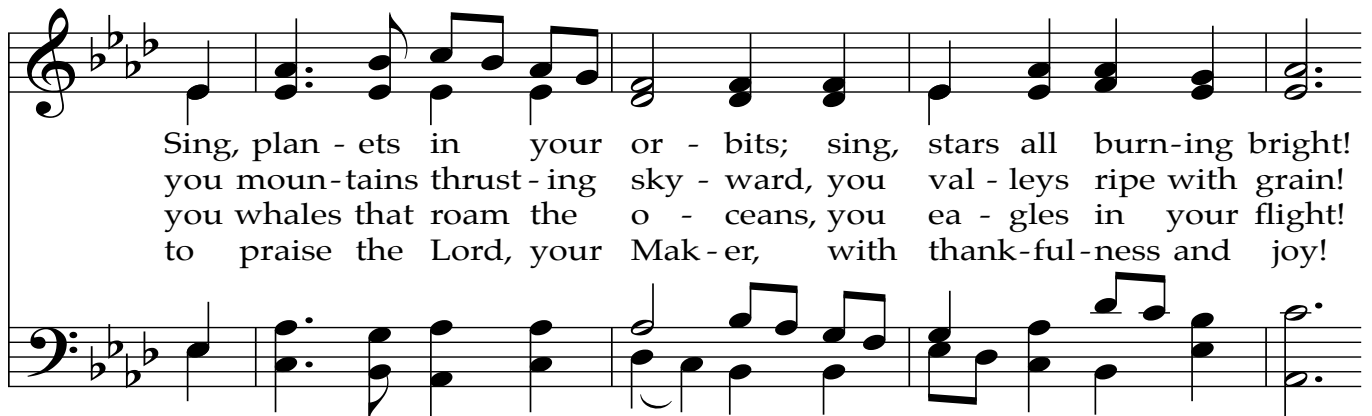
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Sing Praise to God, You Heavens! 17

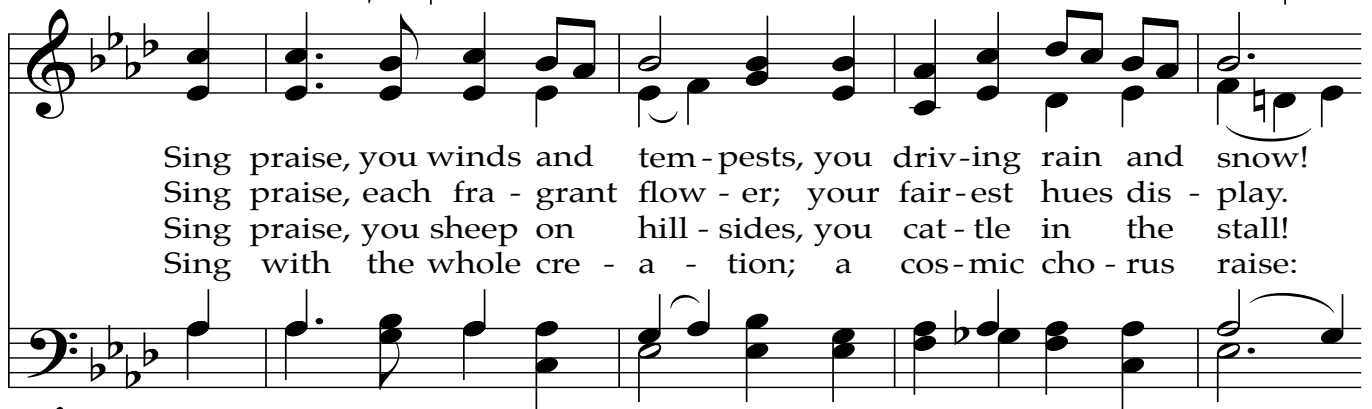
(Psalm 148)



1 Sing praise to God, you heav-ens! Sing praise, each shin-ing light!
2 Sing praise, O earth, sing prais-es! Sing prais-es, hill and plain,
3 Sing prais-es, all you crea-tures in whom God takes de-light:
4 Sing prais-es now, God's peo-ple; your gift of speech em-ploy



Sing, plan-ets in your or-bits; sing, stars all burn-ing bright!
you moun-tains thrust-ing sky-ward, you val-leys ripe with grain!
you whales that roam the o-ceans, you ea-gles in your flight!
to praise the Lord, your Mak-er, with thank-ful-ness and joy!



Sing praise, you winds and tem-pests, you driv-ing rain and snow!
Sing praise, each fra-grant flow-er; your fair-est hues dis-play.
Sing praise, you sheep on hill-sides, you cat-tle in the stall!
Sing with the whole cre-a-tion; a cos-mic cho-rus raise:



Sing, clouds that race and bil-low and shad-ow earth be-low!
Sing praise, you trees of au-tumn in glow-ing, glad ar-ray!
Though word-less, sing your prais-es to God who made you all!
"To God a-lone be glo-ry and ev-er-last-ing praise!"

This paraphrase of Psalm 148 reflects the spirit of praise linking Psalms 146–150. Of the two great themes found in these final five psalms—creation and deliverance—this psalm focuses on the former. The opening praise “from the heavens” is matched by praise “from the earth.”



The Anonymous Coffeehouse—Fridays, Oct. 25, Nov. 8 and 22, Dec. 6, all at 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.*

Cameo Baroque: An All-Bach Benefit for the Open Door—Sunday, October 27, at 2:00 pm

Four superb musicians (Ernie Drown, Beth Hilgartner, Leslie Stroud, and Laurie Rabut) celebrate the music of Johann Sebastian Bach in this fall program. *Free-will donation to benefit FCC's Open Door Ministry for community assistance. More on Cameo Baroque at cameoarts.org.*

Sunflower Woodwind Quintet (Presented by UVMC)—Sunday, November 10, at 1:00 pm

This excellent wind ensemble offers musical variety from classical showpieces to dance tunes and a new commission, "Turning Toward." *Free-will donation benefits UVMC tuition assistance; more at uvmusic.org.*

Classicopia: Jewish Jazz—Saturday, November 16, at 7:30 pm

Dan Weiser presents a new iteration of one of Classicopia's most popular programs, exploring the fascinating early-20th-century synthesis of Klezmer, classical, and jazz influences. *Adults \$20, FCC members \$15, children free; more at classicopia.org.*

UVMC Community Chorus—Saturday, November 23, at 4:00 pm

Henry Danaher, Organ—Saturday, November 23, at 7:00 pm

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!

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!



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