

Children's Moment

Do you ever wish you were the fastest, strongest, brightest, richest kid at school?

Let me ask you: why? Why do you wish these things? Because you want them? Or because everybody else says they're important?

None of these things is inherently good or bad. You are worth just the same to God regardless of your athletic prowess or the money you have saved. All God cares about is what's in your heart. Which, honestly, is not a bad way to judge your potential friends.

Hymn 397 (p. 6) *Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak*

Canonbury

Scripture Lessons

1 Kings 17:8-16. ⁸Then the word of the Lord came to [Elijah], saying, ⁹“Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” ¹⁰So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.” ¹¹As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” ¹²But she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” ¹³Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.” ¹⁵She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. ¹⁶The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

Mark 12:38-44. ³⁸As [Jesus] taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, ³⁹and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! ⁴⁰They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

⁴¹He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴²A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. ⁴³Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. ⁴⁴For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

Sermon *“Every Little Bit”*

Stephen R. Silver

Hymn 716 (p. 7) *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

Beach Spring

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, Jacobe, Chris, and Betsy.

Holy God, we turn to you on this day unsure of the future and what is to come. We seek reassurance during troubled times, some of us hoping for something better. We also hold our past in mind, recalling those who have dutifully served this nation in years gone by. Let us never take the service of those who protect us—or care for us, or make sure our communities are safe—for granted. And as we look to the future, let us remember that the road ahead is not guaranteed to be safe or easy, and we can only reach the destination to which we are called if we travel the path set before us by Jesus.

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 Rest in the Lord,” from *Elijah* Felix Mendelssohn

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*)

Steadfast, eternal God, who is with us through changing times: Although the future may be uncertain, although we may have our doubts, we offer these gifts as our pledge to stand with our brothers and sisters as Jesus stood—and stands—with your people, with us. In his name we pray. Amen.

Hymn 355 (p. 8) *Who Trusts in God, a Strong Abode*

Bishopgarth

Benediction

Postlude

My Heart Is Filled with Grieving, BWV 727

Johann Sebastian Bach

* * *

Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organ/Piano • Betsy Alexander, Soprano • Laurel Stavis, Alto
Barb Jones, Liturgist • Corrine Erskine and Chip Silver, Ushers • Linda Jacobs, Zoom

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.

Doing What Is Right and Just—Stewardship Sunday is November 17

“To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.” —Proverbs 21:3

Scripture teaches us that God is more pleased by what we *do*, rather than by what we give up. Gifts of money are important and needed, but if we are looking to please God, we must do more. During what is traditionally seen as a season of giving, we’ll explore the concepts of righteousness and justice, and what those concepts mean for our church and for us individually.

Our annual stewardship appeal will be mailed this week, and you are invited to prayerfully consider your commitment to the mission and ministry of First Congregational Church in the coming year. Next Sunday we will gratefully dedicate our 2025 pledges in worship.

Grafton-Orange-Sullivan Association Fall Meeting—Sunday, Nov. 17, at 2:00 (Lyme UCC)

The **Grafton-Orange-Sullivan Association** of the NH Conference (UCC) will discuss its future at its fall meeting at Lyme Congregational Church. The Association will vote on whether to fold its operations into a new state-wide body, and all are invited to attend and participate.

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service—Tuesday, November 26, at 7:00

West Lebanon Congregational Church, 18 Maple Street, West Lebanon

All are invited to gather on Maple Street across town for grateful worship with our friends from the Lebanon United Methodist and West Lebanon Congregational Churches, in this faithful, annual observation of Thanksgiving with our wider community. *(Zoom option also available.)*

O Be Joyful in the Lord!

First Tune

Based on Psalm 100
Curtis Beach, 1914-

ROCK OF AGES 7.7.7.7.5.7.6.7.
Traditional Hebrew Melody

1 O be joy - ful in the Lord! Sing be - fore him, all the earth!
2 Know ye that the Lord is King! All his works his wis - dom prove!
3 En - ter now his ho - ly gate; Let our bur - dened hearts be still;
4 For the Lord our God is kind, And his love shall con - stant be;

Praise him with a glad ac - cord And with lives of no - blest worth.
By his might the heav - ens ring; In his love we live and move.
In the sa - cred si - lence wait, As we seek to know his will.
In his will our peace we find; In his serv - ice, lib - er - ty.

Sons of ev - ery land, Hum - bly now be - fore him stand!
By him we are made, So we trust him un - a - fraid.
Let our lives ex - press Our a - bun - dant thank - ful - ness;
Yea, his law is sure; In his light we walk se - cure;

Raise your voice and re - joice In the boun - ty of his hand.
Stand - ing fast to the last, By his hand our lives are stayed.
All our days, all our ways, Shall our Fa - ther's love con - fess.
Ev - er - more, as of yore, Shall his change - less truth en - dure. A - men.

Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

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Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879

CANONBURY L.M.

Arr. from Robert A. Schumann, 1810-1856

1 Lord, speak to me, that I may speak In
2 O strength - en me, that while I stand Firm
3 O teach me, Lord, that I may teach The
4 O fill me with thy full - ness, Lord, Un -

liv - ing ech - oes of thy tone; As thou hast sought, so
on the rock, and strong in thee, I may stretch out a
pre - cious things thou dost im - part; And wing my words, that
til my ver - y heart o'er - flow In kin - dling thought and

let me seek Thy err - ing chil - dren lost and lone.
lov - ing hand To wres - tlers with the trou - bled sea!
they may reach The hid - den depths of man - y a heart!
glow - ing word, Thy love to tell, thy praise to show! A - men.

CHRISTMAS COMES TO ALL—LISTEN'S HOLIDAY BASKETS

For years FCC has participated in the Holiday Basket Program organized by LISTEN Community Services. Requests for baskets are always high, as families struggle to provide warm clothing for children and food for holiday meals. LISTEN gathers donations of new items and gift cards for these families, and FCC joins many other partners to support this vital project with donations.

Please help us fill our baskets by covering a gift for one of our families! Gift wish lists will be available in the Parish Hall (and also updated by email in the coming weeks).

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716

Capo 3: (D)

(Bm)

(G)

F

Dm

B^b



1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and
 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your

(D)

(Bm)

F

Dm



end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly
 Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es
 grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to

(G)

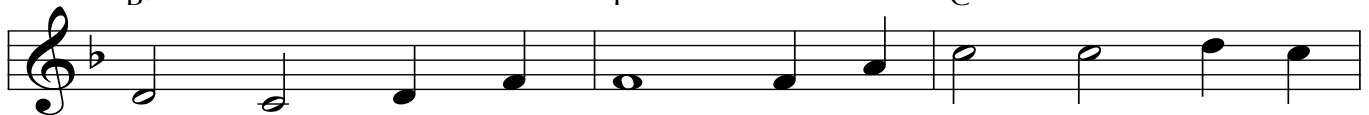
(D)

(A)

B^b

F

C



cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn
 joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly
 spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in

(Bm)

(F[#]m)

(Bm)

(G)

(A)

(D)

Dm

Am

Dm

B^b

C

F



to you, of - fer - ing up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall
 la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,
 shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,

(Bm)

(G)

(D)

Dm

B^b

F



rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
 make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
 and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.

TEXT: Robert L. Edwards, 1961, alt.
 MUSIC: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. James H. Wood, 1958
 Text © 1961, ren. 1989 *The Hymn Society* (admin. Hope Publishing Company)
 Music Harm. © 1958, ren. 1986 Broadman Press (admin. Music Services)

BEACH SPRING
 8.7.8.7.D

Who Trusts in God, a Strong Abode

355

Second Tune

Joachim Magdeburg, c.1525-?
Tr. B. H. Kennedy, 1804-1889
Alt. by William W. How, 1823-1897

BISHOPGARTH 8.7.8.7.D.
Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842-1900

1 Who trusts in God, a strong a-bode In heaven and earth pos - sess - es;
2 Though Sa-tan's wrath be - set our path And world - ly scorn as - sail us,
3 In all the strife of mor - tal life Our feet shall stand se - cure - ly;

Who looks in love to Christ a-bove, No fear his heart op - press - es.
While thou art near we will not fear, Thy strength shall nev - er fail us.
Temp - ta - tion's hour shall lose its power, For thou shalt guard us sure - ly.

In thee a-lone, dear Lord, we own Sweet hope and con - so - la - tion:
Thy rod and staff shall keep us safe, And guide our steps for - ev - er,
O God, re-new with heaven - ly dew Our bod - y, soul, and spir - it

Our shield from foes, our balm for woes, Our great and sure sal - va - tion.
Nor shades of death, nor hell be-neath, Our souls from thee shall sev - er.
Un - til we stand at thy right hand, Through Je - sus' sav - ing mer - it. A - men.



The Anonymous Coffeehouse—Fridays, 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.*

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

Pianist Dan Weiser and clarinetist Seth Kibel present a new iteration of one of Classicopia’s most popular programs, exploring the exciting early-20th-century interconnections among Klezmer, classical, and jazz influences. *Adults \$20, FCC members \$15, children free; more at classicopia.org.*

Upper Valley Music Center Community Chorus—Saturday, November 23, at 4:00 pm

Directed by Annie Arrington and accompanied by Will Ögmundson, the Community Chorus at UVMC offers a fun, joyous celebration of song! The program includes a mix of popular songs, folk music, and contemporary compositions. *Free-will donation; more at uvmusic.org.*

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

Former FCC organist Henry Danaher, now at the Church of Christ at Dartmouth, returns for a fall evening of organ music by German composers of the 19th century. *Free-will donation.*

Cameo Baroque: Benefit for the Haven’s 19 Days—Saturday, November 30, at 7:00 pm

Ernie Drown’s superb period-instrument ensemble offers its annual benefit for the UV Haven’s 19 Days of the Valley campaign. *Free-will donation; more at cameoarts.org or uppervalleyhaven.org.*

Do Your Part to Fill the Cart!

We’re currently 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.

Support the United Church of Christ’s 2024 Hurricane Fund

Following staggering storm devastation across the Southeast, the United Church of Christ’s Global HOPE team has appealed for help in addressing the needs of the many affected families and communities. The Global HOPE effort serves both urgent relief and long-term recovery.

Donating online is the fastest and most effective way to help—support.ucc.org/hurricane-helene-relief. You may also mail a check, payable to United Church of Christ (memo “Hurricanes 2024”), to PO Box 71957, Cleveland, OH 44194.



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