

Scripture Lessons

Genesis 45:3-11, 15. ³Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. ⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’[...]” ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Luke 6:27-38. ²⁷[Jesus continued,] “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

Sermon *“All You Need...”*

Stephen R. Silver

Hymn 366 (pp. 6-7) *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Hyfrydol

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.

We offer our ongoing prayers for Pete, Marcia, Arlene, Evelyn, Greg, Jan, Edith, Eileen, Waneta, Terry, Juanita, Dan, Travis, Garrett, Sue, Rick, Edward, Priscilla, Ron, Lauren, Brian, Micah, Al, Steve, Denzil, Jacobe, Reg, Chris, Pam, Ellen, Tricia, Deserai, Jon, Elizabeth, and Dominic.

Reconciling, loving God, you have called us to love our enemies. We confess that reconciliation is hard work. Help us, we pray, to invest the energy we need in healing our relationships instead of nursing our resentments. Help us to love one another as Jesus taught us, to turn the other cheek, to share our cloak, to walk the extra mile, to know that in loving others, we can find healing and, in turn, we can be restored.

We pray this, and all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, in the name of your Son, Jesus 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 *Saints Bound for Heaven* Trad., arr. Alice Parker

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*)

Heavenly teacher, you have shown us in Jesus that a new way of living is possible. Help us to love, help us to understand, help us to be generous to others. This morning we present our gifts, a sign of our commitment to the way of reconciliation and service embodied by Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Hymn 459 (p. 8) *With Songs and Honors Sounding Loud* Ellacombe

Benediction

Postlude *Postlude-Cantique* Théodore Dubois

Frances W. Wile, 1878-1939

FOREST GREEN C.M.D.

Traditional English Melody

Arr. by R. Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

1 All beau - ti - ful the march of days, As sea - sons come and go;
 2 O'er white ex - pan - ses spark - ling pure The ra - diant morns un - fold;
 3 O thou from whose un - fath - omed law The year in beau - ty flows,

The hand that shaped the rose hath wrought The crys - tal of the snow,
 The sol - emn splen - dors of the night Burn bright - er through the cold.
 Thy - self the vi - sion pass - ing by In crys - tal and in rose,

Hath sent the hoar - y frost of heaven, The flow - ing wa - ters sealed,
 Life mounts in ev - ery throbbing vein, Love deep - ens round the hearth,
 Day un - to day doth ut - ter speech, And night to night pro - claim,

And laid a si - lent love - li - ness On hill and wood and field.
 And clear - er sounds the an - gel hymn, "Good will to men on earth."
 In ev - er - chang - ing words of light, The won - der of thy name. A - men.

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Be Thou My Vision

*Ancient Irish**Tr. by Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931**Versified by Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935*

SLANE 10.10.9.10.

*Traditional Irish Melody**Harm. by David Evans, 1874-1948**In unison*

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise,
 4 High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

Nought be all else to me save that thou art.
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 Thou mine in - her - it - ance, now and al - ways;
 May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav - en's Sun!

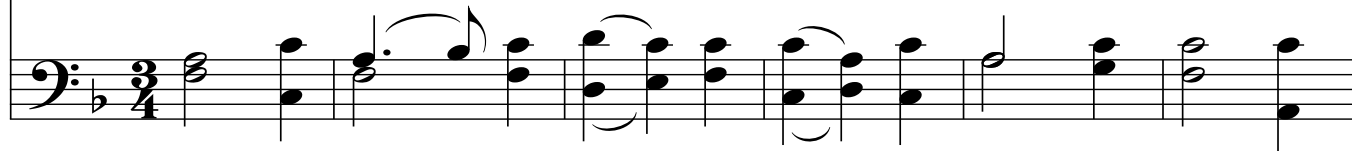
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 Thou my great Fa - ther, I thy true son;
 Thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

Wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 Thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
 High King of heav - en, my treas - ure thou art.
 Still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all. A - men.

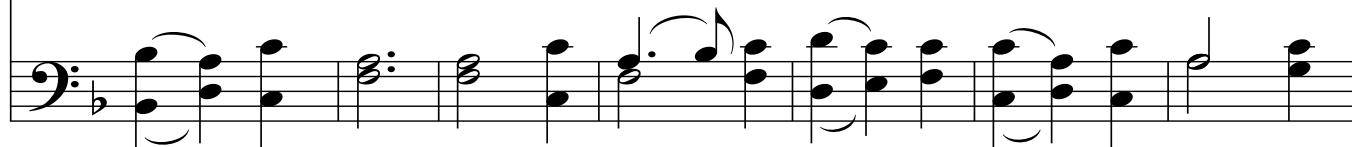
366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



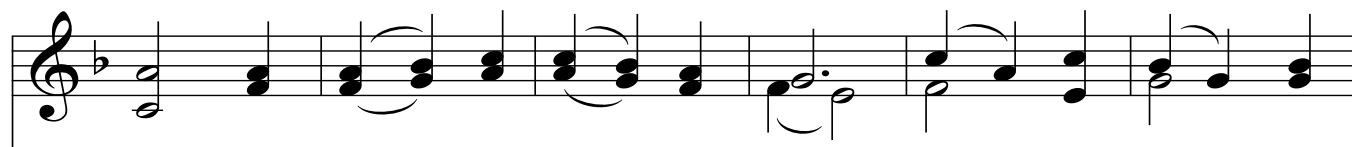
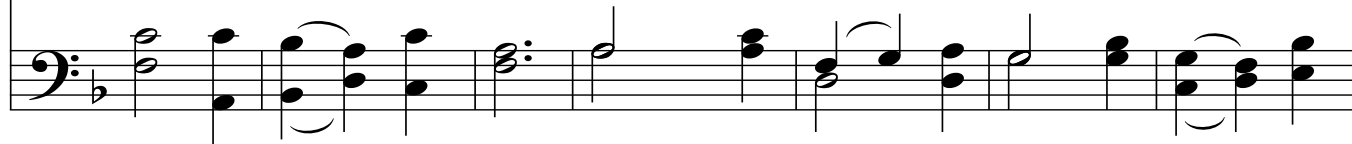
1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



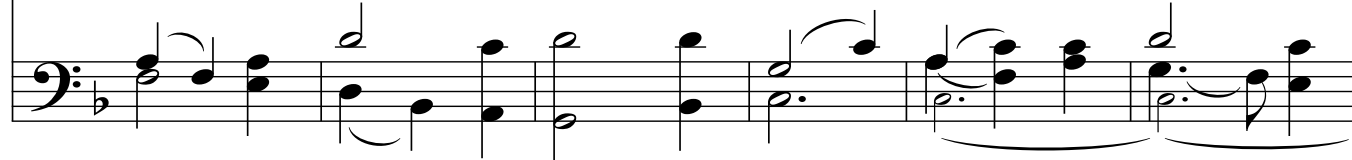
earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means “delightful”) gives us a foretaste of endless song.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1747, alt.
 MUSIC: Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831, alt.

HYFRYDOL
 8.7.8.7.D

* * *

Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organ/Piano • FCC Choir • Betsy Alexander, Soprano • Laurel Stavis, Alto
 Ann Gartner, Liturgist • Barb Jones and Nan Parsons, Ushers • Dawn Troutman, 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.

Potluck Lunch Theater: *The Chosen*—Next Sunday, March 2, at 11:30

All are invited to Potluck Lunch Theater after church on March 2! While enjoying a delicious meal, we’ll watch the first episode of the acclaimed series *The Chosen*. A groundbreaking historical drama based on the life of Jesus as seen through the eyes of those who knew him, it’s set against the backdrop of Roman oppression in first-century Palestine. *The episode lasts approximately one hour.*

We hope you will join us for this time of food, fellowship, and film!

Lent Begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5 – Service at 7:00 pm (Location TBD)

All are welcome to gather as a community to initiate the holy season of Lent, with our friends from other Upper Valley churches. *If you are unable to attend in person, Zoom will be available.*

If you would like to receive daily devotional reflections from Rev. Steve Silver during Lent, please contact the church office or email him directly at silver@fccleb.org.

* * * **HOLY WEEK IS APRIL 13-20, 2025** * * *

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With Songs and Honors Sounding Loud

Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

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

1 With songs and hon-ors sound-ing loud, Ad - dress the Lord on high;
2 His stead - y coun-sels change the face Of the de - clin - ing year;
3 He sends his word and melts the snow, The fields no long - er mourn;

O - ver the heavens he spreads his clouds, And wa - ters veil the sky.
He bids the sun cut short his race, And win - try days ap - pear.
He calls the warm - er gales to blow, And bids the spring re - turn.

He sends his showers of bless - ing down To cheer the plains be - low;
His hoar - y frost, his flee - cy snow, De - scend and clothe the ground;
The chang-ing wind, the fly - ing cloud, O - bey his might - y word;

He makes the grass the moun-tains crown, And corn in val - leys grow.
The liq - uid streams for-bear to flow, In i - cy fet - ters bound.
With songs and hon-ors sound-ing loud, Praise ye the sov-ereign Lord. A-men.



First Congregational Church of Lebanon

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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