



First Congregational Church of Lebanon

United Church of Christ – Open and Affirming

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 22, 2025

Breathe through the heats of our desire
Thy coolness and Thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,
O still small voice of calm!

–John Greenleaf Whittier

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

Prelude *Inventions in C and F Major, BWV 772/779* Johann Sebastian Bach

Call to Worship Inspired by Psalms 42 and 43

One: As a deer longs for flowing streams, so we long for you, O God.

As the plants turn toward the sun, so we turn to you, O God.

As the tide ebbs and flows, so we move with you, O God.

All: Hope in God! Again, we worship the Holy One, our help and our God.

One: When tears are our constant companion, when our souls become weary, when we feel forgotten or alone, we may ask the question, “Where is God?”

All: Trust in God! Again, we honor the Present One, our strength and our God.

One: Deep calls to deep. The steadfast love of God surrounds us. The Spirit of Truth leads us to everlasting joy!

All: Rejoice in God! Again, we praise the Living One, our source and our God.

Hymn 260 (p. 4) *The Church’s One Foundation* Aurelia

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

Children’s Moment

Hymn 232 (p. 5) *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart* Morecambe

Scripture Lessons

1 Kings 19:1-15a. Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. ²Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." ³Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

⁴But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die, "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." ⁵Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat."

⁶He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. He ate and drank and lay down again. ⁷The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, or the journey will be too much for you." ⁸He got up and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. ⁹At that place he came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

¹¹He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake, ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

^{15a}Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus[...]."

Galatians 3:23-29. ²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

Sermon

"Now That Faith Has Come"

Gail T. Dimick

Hymn 414 (p. 6)

In Christ There Is No East or West

St. Peter

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 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, Dominic, Stacey, Juliet, Alicia, Terri, and Mike.

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 *Romanze*, op. 28, no. 2 Robert Schumann

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 and transforming God, you clothe us in grace and love. Receive these gifts as signs of our desire to live into Christ's vision of your beloved community. Use these offerings to build bridges, mend hearts, and proclaim that in Christ, all are one—equal, cherished, and free. May our giving reflect the boundless love you pour into us. We pray this in the name of the one who makes us whole. Amen.

Hymn 493 (p. 7) *Now There Is No Male or Female* Omni Die

Benediction

Postlude *Golliwog's Cake Walk* Claude Debussy

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Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Gail Temperley Dimick, Guest Pastor
Ernie Drown, Organ/Piano • Jamyang Dorell, Piano • Barb Jones, Liturgist
Linda Gerlach and Sue Pratt, Ushers • Bob Gerlach, Zoom Greeter

The Church's One Foundation

260

Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900

AURELIA 7.6.7.6.D.
Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth,
3 'Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, And tu - mult of her war,
4 Yet she on earth hath un - ion With God, the Three in One,



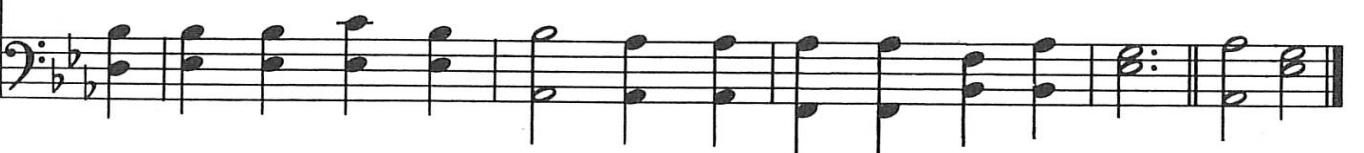
She is his new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the word;
Her char - ter of sal - va - tion, One Lord, one faith, one birth,
She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for ev - er - more;
And mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion With those whose rest is won.



From heaven he came and sought her To be his ho - ly bride;
One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
Till with the vi - sion glo - rious, Her long - ing eyes are blest,
O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we



With his own blood he bought her, And for her life he died.
And to one hope she press - es, With ev - ery grace en - dued.
And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.
Like them, the meek and low - ly, On high may dwell with thee. A-men.



Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

232

Attr. to George Croy, 1780-1860

MORECAMBE 10.10.10.
Frederick C. Atkinson, 1841-1897

1 Spir - it of God, de-scend up - on my heart; Wean it from earth, through
 2 I ask no dream, no proph-et ec - sta - sies, No sud-den rend - ing
 3 Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King? All, all thine own: soul,
 4 Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh; Teach me the strug - gles
 5 Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love, One ho - ly pas - sion

all its puls - es move; Stoop to my weak - ness, might-y as thou art,
 of the veil of clay, No an - gel vis - it - ant, no o - pening skies,
 heart, and strength, and mind; I see thy cross—there teach my heart to cling;
 of the soul to bear: To check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh;
 fill - ing all my frame; The bap-tism of the heaven-de-scend-ed Dove.

And make me love thee as I ought to love.
 But take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 O let me seek thee, and O let me find!
 Teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
 My heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame. A - men.

Community Dinner This Sunday, June 22, at 5:00—All Are Welcome!

Many thanks to Dawn Troutman for leading another of our monthly dinners! Let's support her efforts with food donations and help with serving and cleanup. **Sign-ups coming soon.**

As always, all are welcome to come, eat, and enjoy fellowship—regardless of need or affiliation.

In Christ There Is No East or West

First Tune

John Oxenham, 1852-1941

ST. PETER C.M.
Alexander R. Reinagle, 1799-1877

1 In Christ there is no East or West, In him no South or North;
 2 In him shall true hearts ev - ery-where Their high com-mun-ion find;
 3 Join hands, then, broth-ers of the faith, What-e'er your race may be!
 4 In Christ now meet both East and West, In him meet South and North;

But one great fel-low-ship of love Through-out the whole wide earth.
 His serv-ice is the gold-en cord Close-bind-ing all man-kind.
 Who serves my Fa-ther as a son Is sure-ly kin to me.
 All Christ-ly souls are one in him Through-out the whole wide earth. A-men.

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 the pastor directly.

Frederick Douglass: What to the Slave Is Your Fourth of July?

Saturday, June 28, at 12:00 pm—Colburn Park (Rain Location: FCC Sanctuary)

All are welcome to participate in this community reading of Frederick Douglass' 1852 speech, a collaboration with the Black Heritage Trail of NH and part of Lebanon's Independence Day festivities. Members of the public are invited to take turns reading parts of the speech or just to come listen. Douglass' impassioned, provocative words broaden understanding of our nation's history and enter directly into our contemporary conversations about race and citizenship.

To volunteer to read (regardless of Lebanon residency), contact Brian at church@fccleb.org; for more about the Black Heritage Trail of NH, visit blackheritagetrailnh.org.

493 Now There Is No Male or Female

1 Now there is no male or fe-male; now there is no free or slave;
2 Cru - ci - fied with Christ the Sav-ior, bap-tized in his ho - ly death,
3 Death has no do - min-ion o'er him, so for us death holds no power;

now there is no Jew or Gen-tile in the earth Christ died to save.
and as Christ was raised to glo - ry we have new life on this earth.
life's own wa-ters now have marked us, born to God this ver - y hour.

Christ has set us free for free-dom: we no more sing slav-ery's creed;
Power of wa-ter and God's nam-ing, turn-ing us from dark to light,
From this mo-ment and for - ev - er dead to sin, a - live in Christ,

old sub - mis-sions can - not claim us; Christ has set us free in - deed.
joins us to those who, be - fore us, ran the race and fought the fight.
born of wa - ter and the Spir-it, now in Christ we find our life.

Opening with an allusion to Galatians 3:28 and closing with one to John 3:5, this text is filled with specific scriptural phrases related to baptism. It also includes larger themes like the parallels with the deliverance of Israel from slavery through the waters of the Red Sea.



Classicopia: Four Seasons Remix (Conversing with Vivaldi)—Sunday, June 22, at 2:00 pm

Dan Weiser joins violinist Veronika Sveshnikova and cellist Jacques-Pierre Malan for an intriguing juxtaposition of trios by Max Richter and Astor Piazzolla, each of which responds in distinct ways to Antonio Vivaldi's best-known work. *Adults \$20, FCC mems \$15, children free; more at classicopia.org.*

Oak Hill Music Festival: Season Four!—Week of June 23 (Three Concerts)

Hanover-born bassoonist Leah Kohn and violinist husband Niv Ashkenazi return with a coterie of other accomplished musicians for a week in residence. They'll play three wonderful programs: **Brahms Piano Quintet** (at FCC, June 25, 7p), **Around the World** (Norwich, June 28, 7p), and **Schubert Octet** (Hanover, June 29, 2p). *Tickets and full details at oakhillmusicfestival.org*

Classicopia: Mendelssohn Mania—Friday, July 18, at 7:30 pm

Dan Weiser welcomes violinist Andréa Picard Boecker and cellist Alicia Ward to play piano trios by Felix and Fanny Mendelssohn. Limited in their time by anti-semitism and sexism, these siblings survive in their powerful music. *Adults \$20, FCC mems \$15, children free; more at classicopia.org.*

Counterpoint Vocal Ensemble: In the Good Old Summertime—Saturday, July 19, at 7:00 pm

Director Nat Lew brings Vermont's professional choral ensemble back to FCC with a delightful selection of popular songs of the Gilded Age, from "Beautiful Dreamer" and "Sweet Adeline" to "Take Me Out to the Ballgame." *Adults \$20, seniors \$15, limited means \$5; more at counterpointchorus.org.*

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH—SPECIAL UCC OFFERING

This offering supports the growth of ministry and local congregations across the country. This year's theme—"Great and Wide"—suggests the diversified 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. Thanks!

Do Your Part to Fill the Cart!

Join the fight against local poverty and food insecurity with contributions to our shopping cart in the Parish Hall. We're currently collecting non-perishable food and personal-care items for:

LISTEN COMMUNITY SERVICES

For a list of current and ongoing needs, please visit listencommunity.org/food-pantry#itemsweneedthemost 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@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: Monday-Friday, 9:00-2:00 (or by appointment as needed)

603-448-4281 • church@fcclieb.org • prayer@fcclieb.org • music@fcclieb.org • www.fcclieb.org