



## The Third Sunday after Pentecost

To be a Christian means to forgive the inexcusable  
because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you.

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

Call to Worship Psalm 77:1-2, 11-15

**All:** In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord.

One: In the night my hand is stretched out without wearying; my soul refuses to be comforted.

**All:** I will call to mind the deeds of the LORD; I will remember your wonders of old.

One: I will meditate on all your work, and muse on your mighty deeds.

**All:** Your way, O God, is holy. What god is so great as our God?

One: You are the God who works wonders; you have displayed your might among the peoples.

**All:** With your strong arm you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.

**Hymn 423** (p. 4)      *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life* (vv. 1-6)      Germany

## Prayer of Invocation

God, you join us all, whether young or old, near or far, in and through your Spirit. Lift up our worship, inspire our prayers, and infuse all we do and offer with your grace, your love, and your power. We pray all these things in the name of your Son. Amen.

## Words of Welcome; Our Ministry and Mission

## Children's Moment

Hymn 404 (p. 5)      *Take My Life and Let It Be*      Vienna

## Scripture Lessons

*Matthew 22:34-40.* <sup>34</sup>When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, <sup>35</sup>and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. <sup>36</sup>“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” <sup>37</sup>He said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” <sup>38</sup>This is the greatest and first commandment. <sup>39</sup>And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ <sup>40</sup>On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

*Matthew 25:31-40.* <sup>31</sup>“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup>All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup>and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ <sup>40</sup>And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’[...]”

**Sermon**

*“Love Thy Neighbor”*

Valerie Nevel

**Hymn 495** (p. 6)

*Called as Partners in Christ’s Service*

Beecher

## Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Pastoral Prayer

*As we hold community members in prayer, please exercise care and discretion when sharing.*

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, Mike, and Jeff.

Almighty God, we come before you this day, acknowledging your power, your grace, and your love. We seek your forgiveness for our rebellion and our ingratitude. We delude ourselves, thinking that we are in control of all, not seeing that we are part of something larger than ourselves. At the same time, we often spurn our independence, looking to others to deal with our problems. Help us, we pray, to follow in the path of Jesus, who served, who taught, who healed, who loved all your people.

We offer these prayers, with 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**                      Menuetto and Trio, *Sonata in E-flat*, Hob. XVI:23                      Franz Josef Haydn

## 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*)

Bountiful God, you have given us so much, and indeed, if we are honest, we will acknowledge that you are ultimately responsible for all the gifts in our lives. Help us to share some of your bounty with others, to be generous with our sisters and brothers, as you were with us in Jesus. In his name we pray, Amen.

**Hymn 766** (p. 7)                      *The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound*                      McKee

## Benediction

**Postlude**                      Presto, *Sonata in E-flat*, Hob. XVI:23                      Franz Josef Haydn

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## *Leading Worship This Week*

Valerie Nevel, Guest Preacher

Ernie Drown, Organ/Piano • Sue Pratt, Liturgist

Corrine Erskine and Stacey Steele, Ushers • Dominic Watson, Zoom Greeter

*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@fccleeb.org](mailto:prayer@fccleeb.org) or speak with the pastor directly.*

Frank Mason North, 1850-1935

GERMANY L.M.

Gardiner's "Sacred Melodies," 1815

1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, Where sound the  
 2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, On shad - owed  
 3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, From wom - an's  
 4 The cup of wa - ter given for thee Still holds the

cries of race and clan, A - bove the noise of self - ish  
 thresh-olds dark with fears, From paths where hide the lures of  
 grief, man's bur - dened toil, From fam - ished souls, from sor - rows'  
 fresh - ness of thy grace; Yet long these mul - ti - tudes to

strife, We hear thy voice, O Son of man.  
 greed, We catch the vi - sion of thy tears.  
 stress, Thy heart has nev - er known re - coil.  
 see The sweet com - pas - sion of thy face. A - men.

5 O Master, from the mountain side,  
 Make haste to heal these hearts of pain;  
 Among these restless throngs abide,  
 O tread the city's streets again,

6 Till sons of men shall learn thy love,  
 And follow where thy feet have trod,  
 Till glorious from thy heaven above,  
 Shall come the city of our God.

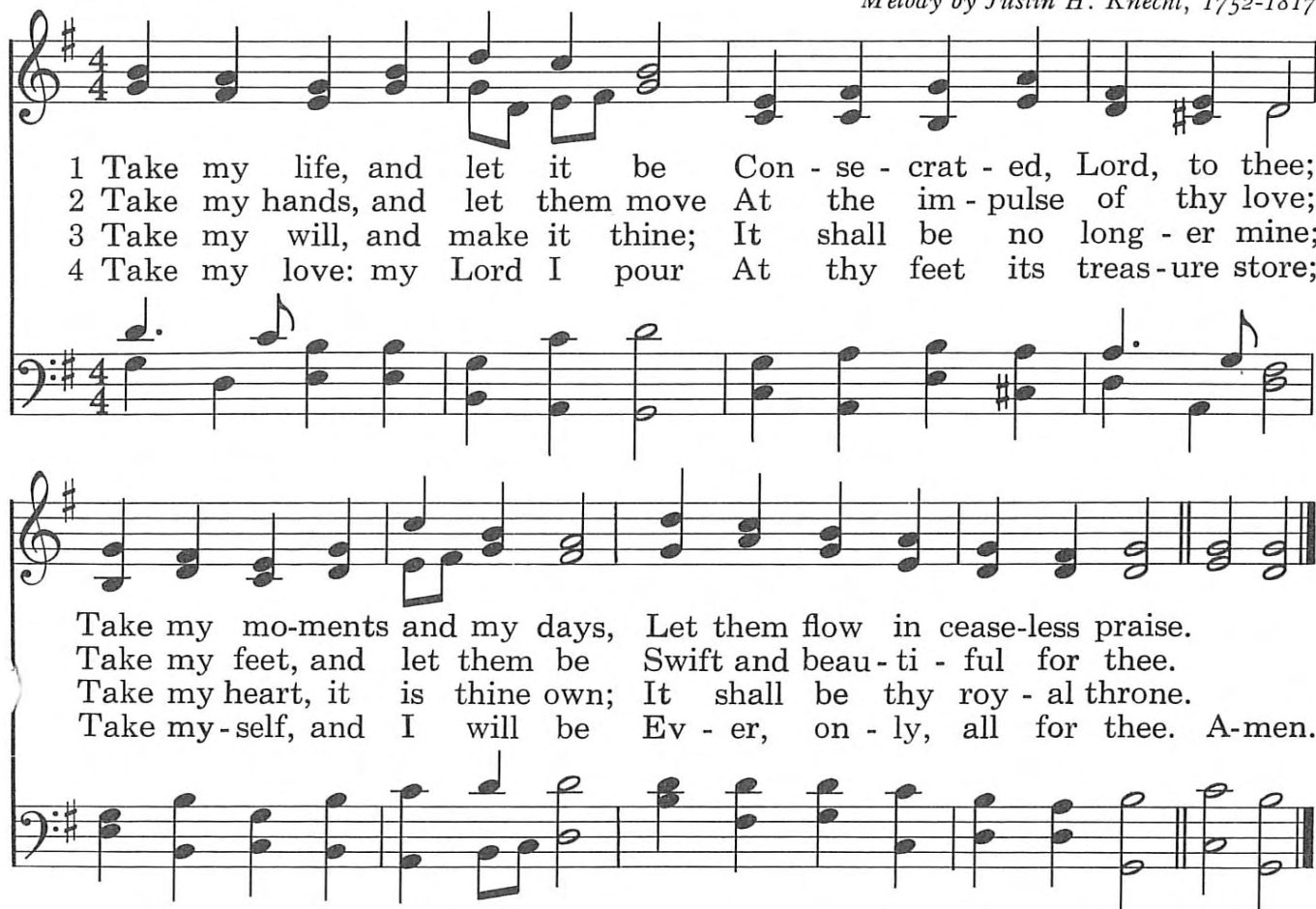
# Take My Life and Let It Be

404

Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879

VIENNA 7.7.7.7.

Melody by Justin H. Knecht, 1752-1817



1 Take my life, and let it be Con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;  
 2 Take my hands, and let them move At the im - pulse of thy love;  
 3 Take my will, and make it thine; It shall be no long - er mine;  
 4 Take my love: my Lord I pour At thy feet its treas - ure store;

Take my mo - ments and my days, Let them flow in cease - less praise.  
 Take my feet, and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
 Take my heart, it is thine own; It shall be thy roy - al throne.  
 Take my - self, and I will be Ev - er, on - ly, all for thee. A - men.

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

**This 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](mailto:church@fccleb.org); for more about the Black Heritage Trail of NH, visit [blackheritagetrailnh.org](http://blackheritagetrailnh.org).*

## Community Dinner Sunday, July 27, at 5:00—All Are Welcome!

Many thanks to Corrine Erskine and Linda Jacobs for leading our next monthly dinner! Let's support their efforts with food donations and serving/cleanup help. **Sign-ups coming soon.**


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

# Called as Partners in Christ's Service



495

Jane Parker Huber, 1981



John 15:12-17; Gal. 6:2; Eph. 2:14-22





1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,  
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,  
 4 So God grant us for to-mor-row ways to or-der hu-man life


We re-spond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
 Let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.  
 Help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.  
 That sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.

May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,  
 Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,  
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,  
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,

E-equal part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.  
 Blend-ing hu-man skills to-geth-er gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.  
 Bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.  
 Mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.



One of Jane Parker Huber's most widely sung texts, this hymn was originally written for a women's breakfast at the 1981 Presbyterian General Assembly meeting to celebrate the partnership of women and men in service of the church.

Tune: BEECHER 8.7.8.7.D.  
 John Zundel, 1855  
 For another key, see 43, 368

766

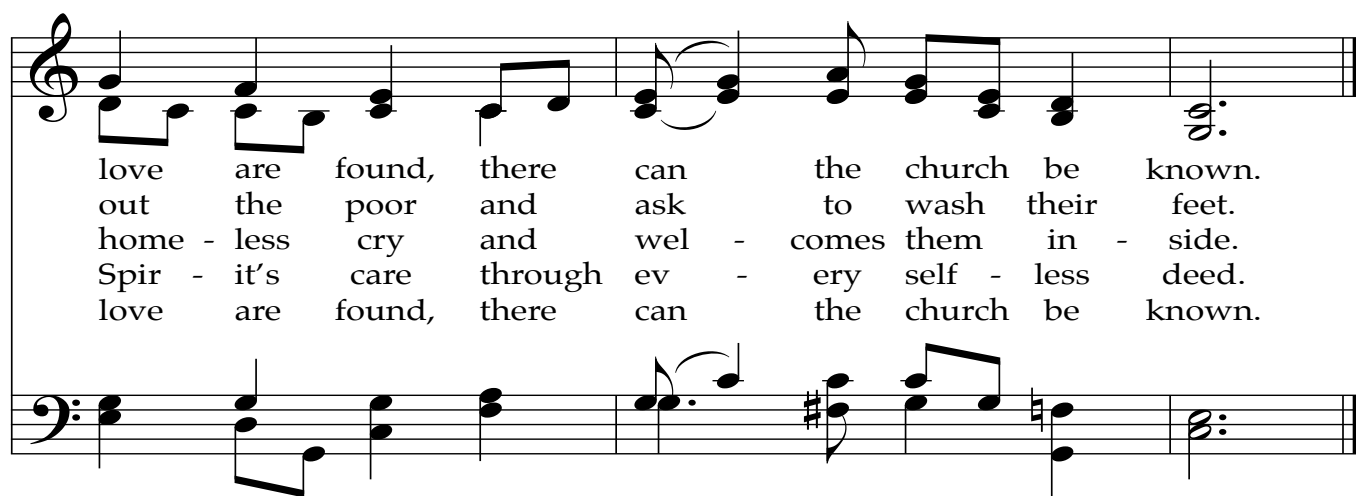
# The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound



1 The church of Christ can - not be bound by  
 2 True faith will o - pen up the door and  
 3 True love will not sit i - dly by when  
 4 If what we have we free - ly share to  
 5 The church of Christ can - not be bound by



walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and  
 step in - to the street. True ser - vice will seek  
 jus - tice is de - nied. True mer - cy hears the  
 meet our neigh - bor's need, then we ex - tend the  
 walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and



love are found, there can the church be known.  
 out the poor and ask to wash their feet.  
 home - less cry and wel - comes them in - side.  
 Spir - it's care through ev - ery self - less deed.  
 love are found, there can the church be known.

This text was the winning entry in a hymnwriting competition seeking new texts dealing with poverty and homelessness, but as the stanza sung at the beginning and end of the hymn makes clear, such specific ministries grow out of an understanding of the church as love in action.

TEXT: Adam M. L. Tice, 2005

MUSIC: African American spiritual; *Jubilee Songs*, 1884; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1940

Text © 2005 GIA Publications, Inc.

MC KEE  
CM





***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](http://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](http://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](http://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 [listencs.org/food-pantry#itemsweneedthemost](http://listencs.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@fcclleb.org](mailto: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: Monday-Friday, 9:00-2:00 (or by appointment as needed)*

**603-448-4281 • [church@fcclleb.org](mailto:church@fcclleb.org) • [prayer@fcclleb.org](mailto:prayer@fcclleb.org) • [music@fcclleb.org](mailto:music@fcclleb.org) • [www.fcclleb.org](http://www.fcclleb.org)**