

A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF  
EDWARD L. “LARRY” DOYLE

March 24, 1950 – January 21, 2022

“Have courage for the great sorrows of life,  
and patience for the small ones. And when you  
have laboriously accomplished your daily task,  
go to sleep in peace. God is awake.”

–Victor Hugo

*Please silence cell phones and other devices. Masks are required throughout the service.*

*\*Those who are able are invited to stand. The single hymn is included below.*

# Prelude

*Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*

# Johann Sebastian Bach

# Words of Welcome

## Call to Worship

Adapted from Psalm 100

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

**All:** Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

One: Know that the Lord is God. It is God that made us, and we are his.

**All:** We are God's people, and the sheep of his pasture.

One: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless God's name.

**All:** For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

## Prayer of Invocation

One: The peace of God be with you.

**All:** And also with you.

One: Let us pray.

**All:** God of grace and glory, in your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## A Reading from the Psalter (*Unison*)

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

## Musical Offering      “The Call” (*Five Mystical Songs*)

Ralph Vaughan Williams

## Affirmation of Faith (*Unison*)

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, and we know that in everything God works for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

## A Lesson from Scripture

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

<sup>1</sup>For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: <sup>2</sup>a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; <sup>3</sup>a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; <sup>4</sup>a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; <sup>5</sup>a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; <sup>6</sup>a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; <sup>7</sup>a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; <sup>8</sup>a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

<sup>9</sup>What gain have the workers from their toil? <sup>10</sup>I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. <sup>11</sup>He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. <sup>12</sup>I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; <sup>13</sup>moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. <sup>14</sup>I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him. <sup>15</sup>That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already is; and God seeks out what has gone by.

## Meditation

Stephen R. Silver

### **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

Almighty God, in Jesus Christ you promised many rooms within your house. Give us faith to see, beyond touch and sight, some sure sign of your kingdom, and, where vision fails, to trust your love which never fails. Lift heavy sorrow and give us good hope in Jesus, so we may bravely walk our earthly way, and look forward to glad reunion in the life to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Loving God, you are nearest to us when we need you most. In this hour of sorrow we turn to you, trusting in your loving mercy. We bless you for the gift of Larry, for the joy he gave all who knew him, for the precious memories that will abide with us, and for the assurance that he lives forever in the joy and peace of your presence. 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.

**Musical Offering**    "Bright is the Ring of Words" (*Songs of Travel*)    R. Vaughan Williams

### **Words of Commendation**

We seem to give him back to thee, dear God, who gavest him to us. Yet, as thou didst not lose him in giving, so we have not lost him by his return. Not as the world giveth, givest thou, O Lover of Souls! What thou givest, thou takest not away. For what is thine is ours always, if we are thine. Life is eternal; and love is immortal; and death is only a horizon; and a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight.

Lift us up, strong Son of God, that we may see further; cleanse our eyes that we may see more clearly; draw us closer to thyself that we may know ourselves nearer to our beloved who are with thee. And while thou dost prepare a place for us, prepare us for that happy place, that where they are, and thou art, we too may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Benediction**

Loving God, your beloved Son took children into his arms and blessed them. Give us grace, that we may entrust Larry to your never-failing care and love, and bring us all to your heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Postlude**

*Solemn Processional*

George Frideric Handel

**Witness to the Life of Larry Doyle**

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*Leading This Morning's Service*

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor  
Ernie Drown, Organist • Brian Clancy, Tenor

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*All are warmly invited to gather for a reception in the Parish Hall following the service.  
Many thanks to the Diaconate for organizing the reception, in loving commemoration of  
Larry's faithful spirit of hospitality.*

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***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 • **Nancy Parsons**, Children's Community Corner  
**Jon Scott**, Chair of Church Council • **Linda Gerlach**, Chair of Deacons • **Barbara Jones**, Moderator  
**Brian Clancy**, Church Administrator


*Church Office Hours: Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9:00-12:00 (or by appointment as needed)*  
**603-448-4281 • church@fccleb.org • prayer@fccleb.org • music@fccleb.org • www.fccleb.org**

# Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

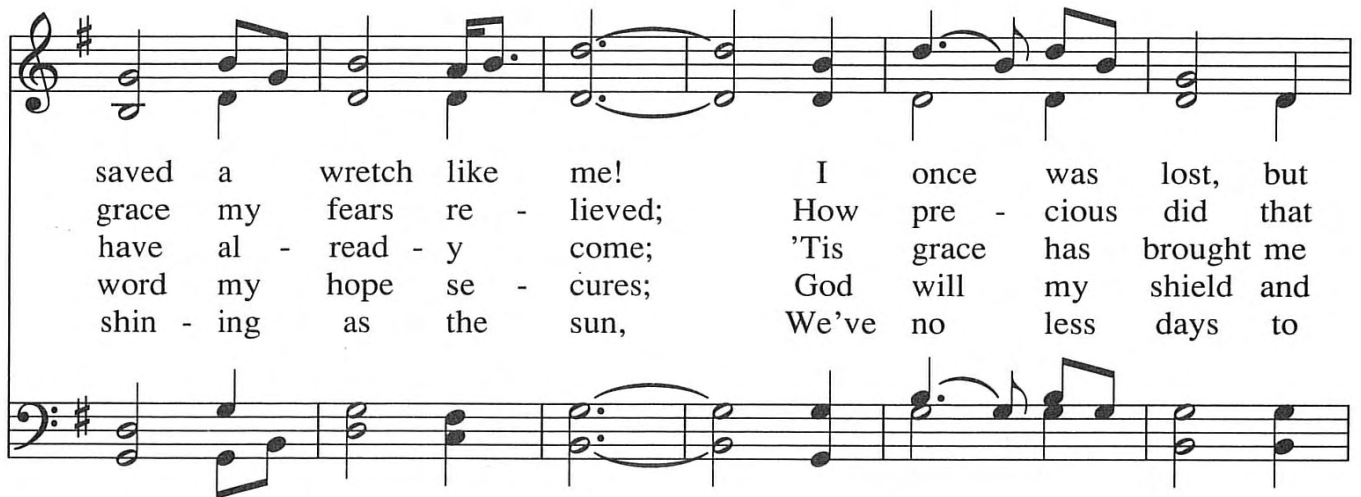
547

St. 1-4, John Newton, 1779; alt.

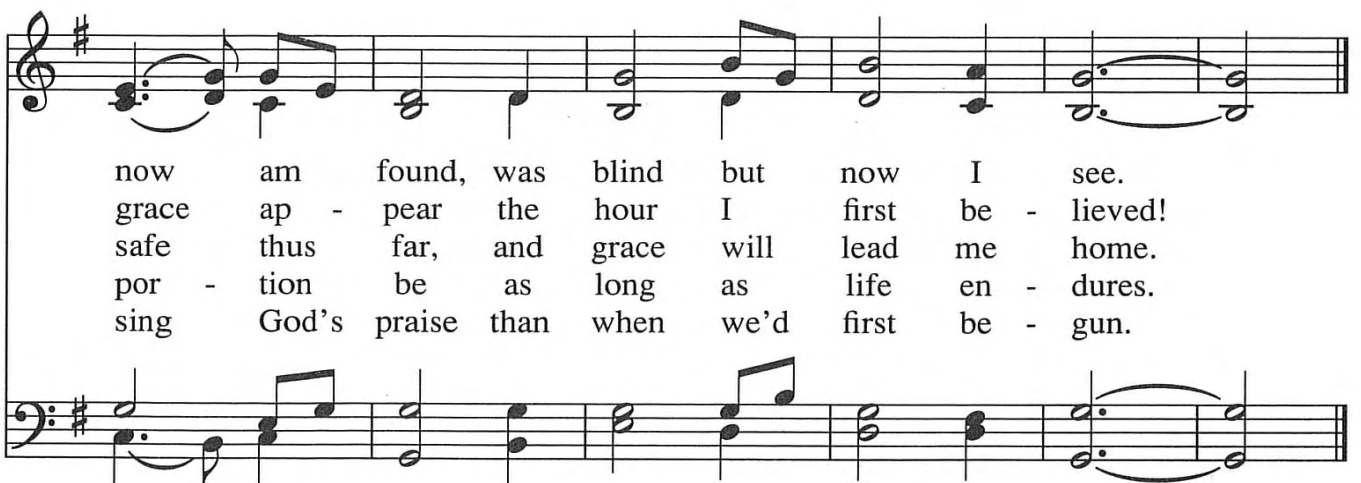
St. 5, A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790



1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I  
 4 My God has prom - ised good to me, whose  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; How pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures; God will my shield and  
 shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, was blind but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

John Newton's autobiographical hymn reflects his conversion from his earlier existence as a slave trader. While serving as curate in the English village of Olney, Newton met William Cowper, and together they published Olney Hymns, which included this hymn.

Tune: AMAZING GRACE C.M.  
 (NEW BRITAIN)  
 Columbia Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829  
 Arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1900