

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LEBANON

LISTENING TO THE WORD: JONAH

The following questions are designed to enrich your reading of the text. They are, of course, not the only ones that can be posed when reading, reflecting upon, or interpreting this book of the Old Testament.

- What is your opinion of Jonah?
- When have you been like Jonah? Reflecting on this, how do you feel about those times?
- What does this text tell us about God? About the life of faith?
- What does this story say to you about prayer?
- There are a lot of “foreigners” in this story: the sailors, the Ninevites. How are they presented here? And what does that presentation tell us?
- Throughout the ages, people have focused intently on Jonah’s encounter with the fish but not so much on the incident with the tree. Why do you think this is the case?
- After reading or hearing this story, what thoughts or ideas arise about repentance and forgiveness?
- What do you think this story is *really* about?