



The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

*Declaring, "Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today,
and forever." Hebrews 13:8*

October 10th, 2021

Thine Be the Glory

Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Cor. 15:57

1. Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con - qu'ring Son; end - less is the
 2. Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the tomb; lov - ing - ly he
 3. No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince-of life; life is naught with -

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won; an - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets us, scat - ters fear and gloom; let the church with glad - ness,
 out thee: aid us in our strife; make us more than con - qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes,
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for her Lord now liv - eth,
 thro' thy death - less love: bring us safe thro' Jor - dan

REFRAIN

where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting. Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con - qu'ring Son;
 to thy home a - bove.

end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won.

The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; He utters His voice, the earth melts. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.

Collective Confession

Congregation

Holy Father, we long to have You change our hearts. We confess to You that we do not obey You as we should. We don't think Your thoughts, speak Your truth, or do the good that You command. We do not love our neighbors as You have loved us. We bend the truth to our own purposes. We harbor bitterness when we don't get our own way. We neglect and leave the oppressed with no defender. We break Your holy law and delight in what You have forbidden. Merciful Lord, we humbly ask that You would forgive us and change our hearts. Conform us to the image of Your Son. Holy Spirit, work in us we pray, that we might be like You.

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness

Psalm 130

Pastor

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? O Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with Him is full redemption. He Himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

Offering

(collected from back to front)

Congregation

Affirmation of Faith

*The Westminster Shorter Catechism*¹

Congregation

Pastor: What is the chief end of man?

Congregation: Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

Pastor: What rule has God given to direct us in how to glorify and enjoy Him?

Congregation: The Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us as to how we may glorify and enjoy Him.

¹ A catechism is a question and answer format for teaching the truths contained in Scripture. The Westminster Shorter Catechism was written in 1647 in England primarily as an aid for teaching children. It has been used by congregations and families in both worship and instruction for the past 350 years.

735

Gloria Patri

*Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor
of his holiness. Ps. 29:2*

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in

the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er

shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

2nd cent.; tr.

GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)
Henry W. Greatorex, 1st

³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Deacons' Offering (collected from back to front) Congregation

Pastoral Prayer Pastor

❖ Hymn of Reflection #265

*Come, Ye Faithful,
Raise the Strain*

Congregation

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

I will sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted. Ex. 15:1

1. Come, ye faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness;
 2. 'Tis the spring of souls to - day; Christ hath burst his pris - on,
 3. Now the queen of sea - sons, bright with the day of splen - dor,
 4. Nei - ther might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark por - tal,

God hath brought his Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness;
 and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath ris - en;
 with the roy - al feast of feasts, comes its joy to ren - der;
 nor the watch - ers, nor the seal hold thee as a mor - tal:

loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;
 all the win - ter of our sins, long and dark, is fly - ing
 comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem, who with true af - fec - tion
 but to - day a - midst thine own thou didst stand, be - stow - ing

led them with un - moist - ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
 from his light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.
 wel - comes in un - wea - ried strains Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion.
 thine own peace, which ev - er - more pass - eth hu - man know - ing.

“Governor Festus and King Agrippa”

Acts 25:13-27

¹³ Now when some days had passed, Agrippa the king and Bernice arrived at Caesarea and greeted Festus. ¹⁴ And as they stayed there many days, Festus laid Paul's case before the king, saying, “There is a man left prisoner by Felix, ¹⁵ and when I was at Jerusalem, the chief priests and the elders of the Jews laid out their case against him, asking for a sentence of condemnation against him. ¹⁶ I answered them that it was not the custom of the Romans to give up anyone before the accused met the accusers face to face and had opportunity to make his defense concerning the charge laid against him. ¹⁷ So when they came together here, I made no delay, but on the next day took my seat on the tribunal and ordered the man to be brought. ¹⁸ When the accusers stood up, they brought no charge in his case of such evils as I supposed. ¹⁹ Rather they had certain points of dispute with him about their own religion and about a certain Jesus, who was dead, but whom Paul asserted to be alive. ²⁰ Being at a loss how to investigate these questions, I asked whether he wanted to go to Jerusalem and be tried there regarding them. ²¹ But when Paul had appealed to be kept in custody for the decision of the emperor, I ordered him to be held until I could send him to Caesar.” ²² Then Agrippa said to Festus, “I would like to hear the man myself.” “Tomorrow,” said he, “you will hear him.”

²³ So on the next day Agrippa and Bernice came with great pomp, and they entered the audience hall with the military tribunes and the prominent men of the city. Then, at the command of Festus, Paul was brought in. ²⁴ And Festus said, “King Agrippa and all who are present with us, you see this man about whom the whole Jewish people petitioned me, both in Jerusalem and here, shouting that he ought not to live any longer. ²⁵ But I found that he had done nothing deserving death. And as he himself appealed to the emperor, I decided to go ahead and send him. ²⁶ But I have nothing definite to write to my lord about him. Therefore I have brought him before you all, and especially before you, King Agrippa, so that, after we have examined him, I may have something to write. ²⁷ For it seems to me unreasonable, in sending a prisoner, not to indicate the charges against him.”

Worship Christ, the Risen King!

He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Matt. 28:6

1. Rise, O church, and lift your voices, Christ has conquered death and hell.
 2. See the tomb where death had laid him, empty now, its mouth declares:
 3. Hear the earth protest and tremble, see the stone removed with power;
 4. Doubt may lift its head to murder, scoffers mock and sinners jeer;
 5. We acclaim your life, O Jesus, now we sing your victory;

Sing as all the earth rejoices; resurrection anthems swell.
 "Death and I could not contain him, for the throne of life he shares."
 • all hell's minions may assemble, but cannot withstand his hour.
 but the truth proclaims a wonder, thoughtful hearts receive with cheer.
 sin or hell may seek to seize us, but your conquest keeps us free.

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the risen King!
 Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the risen King!
 • He has conquered, he has conquered, Christ the Lord, the risen King!
 He is risen, he is risen, now receive the risen King!
 Stand in triumph, stand in triumph, worship Christ, the risen King!

Benediction

Jude 24-25

Pastor

Pastor: To Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forever more.

Congregation: Thanks be to God. Amen.

The Congregation may be seated after the Benediction for silent prayer.

Postlude

*~~ Organist: Jonathan Denham ~~
~~ Please ensure cell phones are off ~~*

Deacons' Offering – Today, October 10

Our church receives many requests for help from not just within our church body but the community at large. The deacons have a great many opportunities to share God's love with folks in need, whether it is paying a bill for them or buying them a pair of glasses. This is a vital ministry that our church has to reach into our communities and share the gospel in a loving, gracious way. If you are in need or know someone who is, please contact Dan Bruce, the Deacons' Mercy Minister at 802 – 457 – 3975 or email him at rhondan08@myfairpoint.net.

Young Adult Fellowship Group will meet tonight
at 6 pm in the church library.

Congregational Family Meeting

There will be a special Congregational Family Meeting on Sunday, October 17, immediately following the worship service.

The elders and deacons will present the budget process for 2022 and there will be time for Questions & Answers as well as discussion.

Intro to FCCW Workshop

Interested in knowing more about FCCW? Want to explore questions about the Bible in a small group? What does it mean to be a member? What opportunities are there to serve at FCCW? Consider attending the *Intro to FCCW Workshop* being offered Friday night, October 15 and Saturday morning, October 16. This two-part workshop will give insight into how FCCW functions and the importance of membership. Please contact Kristen at fccwinfo@gmail.com to register.

Session One—Worship

- a. Wired for Worship
- b. Gathered Worship

Session Two—Joyous Knowledge

- a. Knowing The Redeemer Within His Church
- b. Our Catholic Beliefs
- c. Our Historic Practices
- d. Our Evangelical Convictions
- e. Our Reformed Beliefs
- f. Our Congregational Heritage

Session Three—Radical Love for One Another

- a. Charity Born of Character
- b. Christian Sanctification
- c. Living Together with Differences

Session Four— Extending His Grace

- a. Two Parables and A Command
- b. You Can't Serve What You Ain't Cookin'
- c. What Does It Mean To Extend Christ's Grace?

Session Five— Belonging to His Community

- a. Understanding the Church
 - b. The Church as a Worshipping Community
 - c. The Church as a Worshipping Community
 - d. The Biblical Concept of Church Membership
 - e. Membership & Stewardship
 - f. Summary
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Women's Ministry Survey

Ladies, if you haven't yet filled out a Women's Ministry survey they are available on the back table. Please take a few minutes to let us know how our FCCW Women's Ministry can best serve you. Return completed surveys to Annie Denham. Thank you!

FCCW Library is Online!

The library committee is pleased to announce the new online access to the FCCW library catalog. You will find the link at the bottom of the library page on the church website <https://fccw.net/church-library/>

The service can be used on a smartphone or computer.

Type in a name or topic.

Presently the online catalog can only tell you if we own an item- it will not tell you if the item has been checked out. You will have to come to the library to check the shelf.

Click on “grid” to see a screen showing of all the items we have that match you search. The “list” choice gives a one item at a time view.

You will have to cut and paste a subject heading from a particular item into the search box if you want to find out if we have other items that share the subject.

When you do check out an item, please include the year in the date column of the card at the back of the item. A calendar is found at the checkout area. Please also include either a phone number or email address in the appropriate column of the card. You will see a basket in which to leave the completed card.

Questions? fccwoodstocklibrary@gmail.com

Market on the Green

The last day for Market on the Green this season will be this Wednesday, October 13! This has been such a great opportunity to reach out to children and families in our community. Haven't had a chance to be a part of the fun yet? Come join us this week! We'll be there from 3-6 pm and we'd love to see you. Contact Hayley for more information at (785) 727-0756 or hayleylgriffith@gmail.com.

Sunday School Teachers Needed

We are still in need of Sunday School teachers for the elementary age class. Please prayerfully consider committing to teach one 4-6 week unit and investing in the young lives of our church and community. For more information, please contact Terri DeDell at dedellcrew@gmail.com.

Governor Festus and King Agrippa

1. Festus Seeks Agrippa's Help (13-22).

2. Agrippa and Bernice Add Pomp to the Show (23-27).

3. We Are *Ill-Equipped* for the Truth of Christ's Resurrection.

CONCLUSION: Festus had a problem. His prisoner, Paul, had appealed to Ceasar, but Festus didn't know what to list as charges. He knew the high priest's charges were bogus, but he didn't know how to even talk about things like resurrection from the dead. Agrippa was very familiar with Jewish customs, but that didn't prepare him for these weighty discussions either. King Jesus, on the other hand, not only knows what to do with His resurrection, but is the One who is alive forevermore. And He is coming for His people. Are we ready?

First Corinthians 15:3-19

³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For *I am the least of the apostles ...*

¹² Now if *Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead*, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ But *if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised*. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷ And *if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins*. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

Luke 20:27-38

²⁷ There came to him some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection, ²⁸ and they asked him a question, saying, “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies, having a wife but no children, the man must take the widow and raise up offspring for his brother. ²⁹ Now there were seven brothers. The first took a wife, and died without children. ³⁰ And the second ³¹ and the third took her, and likewise all seven left no children and died. ³² Afterward the woman also died. ³³ In *the resurrection*, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had her as wife.”

³⁴ And Jesus said to them, “The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, ³⁵ but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and to the *resurrection from the dead* neither marry nor are given in marriage, ³⁶ for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection. ³⁷ But that *the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob*. ³⁸ Now he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for all live to him.”

Taking Gathered Worship Home

“For want of a nail ... the kingdom was lost.” This old proverb gets at the big consequences of seemingly little details. This week we are looking at the inabilities of kings and governors to do even the simplest things that children in the Kingdom of Jesus can do.

Please use the devotional material below each day this week to praise Christ. Ask Jesus to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.

Sunday Morning

READ **Acts 25:12-27; First Corinthians 15:3-19; Galatians 1:11-17; Luke 20:27-38; Romans 8:31-39.** DISCUSS How is Jesus’ Kingdom different from all others? How are you depending on Him alone? MEDITATE on **John 11:23-27.** PRAY “Lord Jesus, You alone are King of Kings and Lord of Lords.”

Sunday Evening

Come join the *Young Adults’ Fellowship* tonight at 6pm. Pray for them!

Monday

READ **Acts 25:12-27; First Corinthians 15:3-19; First Thessalonians 4:13-18.** DISCUSS Why is the resurrection of Jesus so central to Christianity? Is it the basis for your hope? Why or why not? MEDITATE on **John 11:23-27.** PRAY “Lord Jesus, reveal to me how Your victory over death is my only hope.”

Tuesday

READ **Acts 25:12-27; Galatians 1:11-17; Ephesians 3:1-7; Hebrews 1:1-2:4.** DISCUSS Why was Festus ill-equipped to deal with questions of Christ’s resurrection? Why does Paul make a point of how the gospel he preached was “not according to man” in his testimony? How is the supernatural gospel of Jesus changing your life? MEDITATE on **John 11:23-27.** PRAY “Lord, keep us from bowing to idols. Embolden us we ask You. Strengthen us each day to trust You.”

Wednesday

READ **Acts 25:12-27; Luke 20:27-38; Exodus 3:1-15**. DISCUSS How does God identify Himself? Why? What is the significance of the resurrection of the dead? Of Jesus specifically? MEDITATE on **John 11:23-27**. PRAY “Lord, You have promised to be with Your people and to give us life. Thank You for securing that in Your resurrection, Jesus.”

Thursday

READ **Acts 25:12-27; Romans 6:1-14; Hebrews 11:1-40**. DISCUSS How are Christ’s death and resurrection the entire basis for our living now? How are you putting sin to death? How are you living in resurrection power? MEDITATE on **John 11:23-27**. PRAY “Jesus, help us to trust You in in life and death.”

Friday

READ **Acts 25:12-27; First Corinthians 15:3-19; Galatians 1:11-17; Luke 20:27-38; Romans 8:31-39**. DISCUSS, What have you been learning from these passages this week? REPENT of whatever the Holy Spirit is pointing out in your life! MEDITATE on **John 11:23-27**. PRAY for FCCW.

Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow. READ **Acts 26:1-32**. Invite others to join you for either *in-person or live-stream service* tomorrow. Ask Jesus to empower us with His resurrection.

John 11:23-27

Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again *in the resurrection on the last day*.”²⁵ Jesus said to her, “**I am the resurrection and the life**. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”²⁷ She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”