



The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

October 23rd, 2022

The Order of Morning Worship

October 23rd, 2022

Ten-thirty

Welcome

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship Psalm 67 and 1 Chronicles 16 Pastor

❖ Hymn of Exultation #115 *All Creatures of Our
God and King* Congregation

Scriptural Call to Repentance 1 John 1:8-9 Pastor

Collective Confession Luther's Prayer Congregation

O Lord, merciful and mighty, we unworthy sinners, come to You in humble repentance and confess how we have transgressed Your holy Law. We are guilty of sins of omission and commission, evil thoughts, improper words, and wrong deeds. Forgive our iniquity and short-comings for the sake of the suffering and death of our Savior Jesus Christ. Let His obedience cover our disobedience, let His righteousness atone for our unrighteousness. Great God and Helper, You alone can forgive. With all our hearts we thank You for Your boundless mercy. Grant us grace with which we might accept Your gift of forgiveness with true faith and look upon the word of pardon as a message coming from You, assuring us and consoling our hearts before You. Let us treasure Your forgiveness and freely extend it to others by the power of Your resurrection. We pray in the name of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness Jeremiah 33:8 Pastor

Pastoral Prayer Pastor

Offering (collected from back to front) Congregation

Affirmation of Faith *The Heidelberg Catechism*¹ Congregation

Pastor: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

¹ Catechisms are a question and answer format used for teaching in the church. The Heidelberg Catechism was written in 1563 and approved by the Church at the Synod of Dort (1618-1619).

Congregation: That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to Him, Christ, by His Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

Pastor: What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

Congregation: Three things: first, how great my sin and misery are; second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery; third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.

❖ Creedal Song #731	<i>Doxology</i>	Congregation
❖ Scripture Reading	1 Peter 2:20-25	Pastor
❖ Hymn of Reflection #604	<i>Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart</i>	Congregation
The Sermon	Philippians 4:10-12 “Gospel Contentment”	Pastor
❖ Hymn of Response # 320	<i>Rejoice, All Ye Believers</i>	Congregation
❖ Benediction	John 14:27	Pastor

Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives, do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.

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

Postlude

~~ Organist: Anne Hablitzel ~~
~~ Please ensure cell phones are off ~~

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The flowers have been donated by Jerry and Christine  
Morton in memory of their beloved parents.  
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Young Adult Fellowship Group will meet tonight  
at 6 pm in the church library.  
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True Woman Bible Study

This Bible study is geared toward young moms although all women are welcome. The study meets on Thursday mornings from 10-11:30 am in the FCCW nursery; there is no childcare, but children ages infant to preschool are welcome to come along and play while the ladies meet. Contact Christine Morton at christinefmorton@gmail.com or (802) 591-1511 for more information.
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Tuesday Morning Ladies' Bible Study

The Ladies' Bible Study meets in person at 10:00 am each Tuesday at the Thompson Senior Center and via Zoom. Contact Bonnie Atwood at (802) 457-4120 or [bonhope2@gmail.com](mailto:bonhope2@gmail.com) for more information.  
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The October Prayer letter is available in the narthex.
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Concert of Prayer

Calling all members and regular attenders of FCCW! We will be gathering Friday night, November 4, at 7 pm for a concert of prayer. Our focus will be asking the Lord to guide us as we reach out together by faith in Christ. We want to faithfully love our neighbors in word and deed to the honor of Jesus. This evening of prayer should be a great time in God's presence together with praise music and prayer.  
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## An Evening of Encouragement

BCE Supper Talk: October 29, 2022

“The Glorious Church”

Have you noticed? Being a dedicated member of a church is no longer a normal part of American culture. “Church people” stand out now more than ever before. Of course, standing out can be a very good thing, but in some ways, it makes being a member of a church more difficult. The culture no longer supports us or the time we commit to church activities, because it no longer sees church as a meaningful, important part of life.

On October 29, the Board of Christian Education invites you to a supper talk that intends to rekindle our love of church. We've titled it, "The Glorious Church." It's for all of us - those who need a reminder of why church is so important, those who are a bit tired of the commitment, and those who love church and just want to hear more ways to describe it to others.

After sharing dinner at 5:30 pm, we'll watch a video and engage in discussion. The video is of a plenary talk given this past spring at the CCEF New England conference. The conference was about living effectively as the body of Christ. In this plenary, Robyn Huck describes the beauty of the church that God has given us. In this talk we hear that God has required that we be unified to act as Christ's ambassadors, He has provided that unity for us, and He glories in our church unity. This is an uplifting, no-guilt-trip, 40-minute video of pure encouragement.

The Board of Christian Ed will provide ham and drinks. You, the church, will provide the rest. We have assigned dishes by last name. Please bring the following dish based upon the first letter of your last name A - L: Vegetables, Potatoes, or Salad, M – S: Bread or Fruit, T – Z: Dessert. Please sign – up on the bulletin board in the Billings Room so we can plan how much meat to purchase.

If you have any questions, please contact a BCE member – Ruth Brisson, Preston Bristow, Jeff DeDell, Terri DeDell, Robyn Huck, or Cora Koop. We could all use a bit more uplifting encouragement. We hope you'll join us on Saturday, October 29 at 5:30 pm.

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Thanksgiving Fellowship

Sunday, November 20th will mark the return of our Thanksgiving Fellowship Meal and special Service of Thanksgiving. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for details.

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## Winter Coat and Food Drive

Your help is needed!

COT is still in need of volunteers to help with FCCW's Winter Coat & Food Drive, Sat. Nov 5th from 9am-12pm at FCCW.

- Helpers to assist outdoors collecting items from vehicles at curbside 9a-12p
- Helpers to assist indoors sorting coats, gloves, hats 9a-12p
- Driver to drop off food items to Woodstock Food Shelf after the event. Ideally with truck or trailer.

For volunteer sign up, please call or email Hayley Bauer 785-727-0756 [hayleyLgriffith@gmail.com](mailto:hayleyLgriffith@gmail.com).



## **Second Corinthians 12:7-10**

<sup>8</sup> Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this [thorn in the flesh], that it should leave me. <sup>9</sup> But he said to me, “*My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.*” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. <sup>10</sup> *For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*

## **Mark 12:41-44**

<sup>41</sup> And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many *rich* people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup> And a *poor* widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. <sup>43</sup> And he called his disciples to him and said to them, “Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. <sup>44</sup> For they all contributed *out of their abundance*, but she *out of her poverty* has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.” (See also Luke 21:1-4.)

## **Matthew 14:13-21**

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. <sup>14</sup> When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. <sup>15</sup> Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” <sup>16</sup> But Jesus said, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” <sup>17</sup> They said to him, “We have only five loaves here and two fish.” <sup>18</sup> And he said, “Bring them here to me.” <sup>19</sup> Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. <sup>20</sup> And they all ate and were *satisfied*. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken *pieces left over* (abundance). <sup>21</sup> And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. (See also Luke 9:10-17.)

## **First Timothy 6:6-10**

<sup>6</sup> But *godliness with contentment is great gain*, <sup>7</sup> for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. <sup>8</sup> But if we have food and clothing, *with these we will be content*. <sup>9</sup> But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.



# Taking Gathered Worship Home

Biblical *contentment* is not stoicism or indifference. It comes from rejoicing in Christ. It is a product of faith in our King who is in command of all our circumstances. We are freed to receive from Him all that He brings for our benefit, whether abundance or poverty, feasting or hunger, because we know that He is good and in control.

*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 **Philippians 4:10-12; 1 Peter 2:20-25; Second Corinthians 12:7-10; Mark 12:41-44; Matthew 14:13-21; First Timothy 6:6-10; Psalm 33:1-3.** DISCUSS What are you doing to nurture biblical contentment in your life? How do your daily patterns or habits reflect this? How does God's sovereignty delight you? MEDITATE on **Psalm 5:11.** PRAY "Jesus, enable us to be content in You."

## Sunday Evening

The *Young Adults' Fellowship* will meet at **6pm** in the FCCW Library.

## Monday

READ **Philippians 4:10-12; Second Corinthians 11:24-28; 12:7-10; Psalm 33:1-3.** DISCUSS How was Paul able to be content? What enabled him to see these hardships as good? How do our circumstances testify to God's goodness? SERVE by putting someone else's interests *above your own!* MEDITATE on **Psalm 5:11.** PRAY, "Lord, use whatever You will to conform us to Christ."

## Tuesday

READ **Philippians 4:10-12; Mark 12:41-44; 1 Peter 2:20-25; Psalm 81:1-2.** DISCUSS How does Jesus use this contrast between abundance and poverty? Which is easier for you? Which makes you trust Christ more? MEDITATE on **Psalm 5:11.** PRAY, "Jesus, we love comfort. Forgive us! Transform us to love You more. Make us more and more like You, so that we might be satisfied in You alone."

### Wednesday

READ **Philippians 4:10-12; Matthew 14:13-21; Psalm 90:13-17; 95:1-7.** DISCUSS How does Christ use hunger and abundance here to teach us about contentment with Him? How do singing God's praises warm our hearts to this? MEDITATE on **Psalm 5:11.** PRAY, "Lord, *forgive us for being dissatisfied with You.* Make our hearts delight in You above all else."

### Thursday

READ **Philippians 4:10-12; First Timothy 6:6-10; Psalm 92:1-4; Psalm 145:1-7.** DISCUSS What is the relationship between godliness and contentment? What do they bring? How? MEDITATE on **Psalm 5:11.** PRAY, "Lord, we long to have You make us as *godly in our lives* as You have *made us positionally on the cross.*"

### Friday

READ **Philippians 4:10-12; Second Corinthians 12:7-10; Mark 12:41-44; Matthew 14:13-21; First Timothy 6:6-10; Psalm 33:1-3.** DISCUSS, What have you been learning from these passages? How has God been encouraging you in His Word this week? What do you need to change as a result? MEDITATE on **Psalm 5:11.** PRAY that we at FCCW would *honor Christ in all that we think, say, and do.*

### Saturday

PREPARE *today* for the service *tomorrow.* READ **Philippians 4:1-23.** Invite others to join you tomorrow for *Sunday School at 9:00* and the *service @ 10:30.* Ask Jesus to *gather us together* to praise Him joyfully.

## Psalm 5:11

But let all who take refuge in you rejoice;  
let them ever sing for joy,  
and spread your protection over them,  
that those who love your name may exult in you.