



The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

January 17th, 2021

The Order of Morning Worship

For assistance as we “gather” remotely and in-person to worship together.

January 17th, 2021

Ten-thirty

Welcome

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship

Psalm 19

Pastor: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim
the work of His hands.

**Congregation: Day after day they pour forth speech; night after
night they acknowledge His glory.**

Pastor: There is no land or nation where their voice is not heard.

**Congregation: Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to
the ends of the world.**

❖ Hymn of Exultation

Number 7

From All That Dwell below the Skies

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7

Praise the LORD, all you nations; extol him, all you peoples. Ps. 117:1

1. From all that dwell be - low the skies let the Cre -
2. In ev - ery land be - gin the song; to ev - ery
3. E - ter - nal are your mer - cies, Lord; e - ter - nal

a - tor's praise a - rise; let the Re - deem - er's name be
land the strains be - long. In cheer - ful sound all voic - es
truth at - tends your word. Your praise shall sound from shore to

sung through ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue.
raise and fill the world with joy - ful praise.
shore till suns shall rise and set no more.

Based on Psalm 117
Isaac Watts, 1719; mod.

DUKE STREET, L.M.
John Hatton, 1793

Scriptural Call to Repentance

Habakkuk 2: 14, 18 – 20

For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea... “Of what value is an idol, since a man has carved it? Or an image that teaches lies? For he who makes it trusts in his own creation; he makes idols that cannot speak. Woe to him who says to wood, ‘Come to life!’ Or to lifeless stone, ‘Wake up!’ Can it give guidance? It is covered with gold and silver; there is no breath in it. But the LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him.”

Collective Confession

Psalm 25

Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD! For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great. Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses. Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

Proclamation of Forgiveness

Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Scripture Reading

Romans 10: 14 – 17

¹⁴ How then are they to call on Him in whom they have not believed? How are they to believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how are they to hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ But how are they to preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written: “HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!”

¹⁶ However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, “LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?” ¹⁷ So faith *comes* from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,

Congregation: But the word of our God will stand forever.

Pastoral Prayer

Installation of Elder Tom Johnston
and Deacon Dan Bruce

Pastor Doug Warren

❖ Hymn of Reflection

Number 341

O Breath of Life, Come Sweeping through Us

Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you? Ps. 85:6

1. O Breath of life, come sweep - ing through us, re - vive your
 2. O Wind of God, come bend us, break us, till hum - bly
 3. O Breath of love, come breathe with - in us, re - new - ing
 4. O Heart of Christ, once bro - ken for us, 'tis there we
 5. Re - vive us, Lord! Is zeal a - bat - ing while har - vest

church with life and pow'r; O Breath of Life, come, cleanse, re -
 we con - fess our need; then in your ten - der - ness re -
 • thought and will and heart; come, Love of Christ, a - fresh to
 find our strength and rest; our bro - ken, con - trite hearts now
 fields are vast and white? Re - vive us, Lord, the world is

new us, and fit your church to meet this hour.
 make us, re - vive, re - store, for this we plead.
 • win us, re - vive your church in ev - ery part.
 so - lace, and let your wait - ing church be blest.
 wait - ing, e - quip your church to spread the light.

“The Word of God Reveals Division”

Acts 14: 1 – 7

In Iconium they entered the synagogue of the Jews together, and spoke in such a way that a large number of people believed, both of Jews and of Greeks. ² But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the minds of the Gentiles and embittered them against the brothers. ³ Therefore they spent a long time *there* speaking boldly *with reliance* upon the Lord, who was testifying to the word of His grace, granting that signs and wonders be performed by their hands. ⁴ But the people of the city were divided; and some sided with the Jews, while others, with the apostles. ⁵ And when an attempt was made by both the Gentiles and the Jews with their rulers, to treat them abusively and to stone them, ⁶ they became aware of it and fled to the cities of Lycaonia, Lystra and Derbe, and the surrounding region; ⁷ and there they continued to preach the gospel.

❖ Hymn of Response

Number 286

Worship Christ, the Risen King!

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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 murmur, 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 wonderful thought-ful 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

2 Corinthians 13: 14

Pastor: The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

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 ~~

Welcome Baby Joy

Jonathan and Annie Denham would like to announce the birth
of Joy Amanda! She weighs 7 pounds 8 oz. –
and her birthday is Wednesday, December 30th.

Young Adult Fellowship Group tonight at 6:00 pm.

Newsletter Submissions Due January 25

Installation Ceremony

Questions to Elder Tom Johnston and Deacon Dan Bruce for Installation:

1. Do you trust in Jesus Christ as your Savior from sin and acknowledge Him as Head of the Church?
2. Do you believe in one God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
3. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the very Word of God inspired by His Holy Spirit?
4. Do you accept the duties to the office to which you have been elected and pledge to fulfill them in obedience to Jesus Christ in keeping with the church's bylaws and under the authority of Scripture?
5. Will you be a faithful servant: practicing and teaching love, urging concern and directing the love of the saints in this place to help all people, especially the saints?
6. In your ministry will you attempt by His grace to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?
7. Do you promise to work charitably in mutual submission with your brother elders and deacons?

Question to Congregation

Do you, the members of this church, acknowledge and receive these brothers in their offices, and do you promise to yield them all that honor, encouragement and obedience in the Lord to which their office, according to the Word of God and the Constitution of this Church, entitles them?

Intro to FCCW Workshop

Want to understand FCCW's Statement of Faith? What does it mean to be a member? What opportunities are there to serve at FCCW? Looking for the answers to these questions and more. Consider attending the Intro to FCCW workshop being offered Friday night, February 19 and Saturday morning, February 20. This two-part workshop will give an insight into how FCCW functions and the importance of membership. Please contact Terri 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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The Word of God Reveals Division

1. God Uses the Proclamation of His Word.

2. This Proclamation Necessarily Brings Division.

3. We Are All Called to Proclaim His Word.

Conclusion: As Christ's Word continues to spread, it not only encounters resistance, but also reveals great division. This shouldn't be avoided or used as an excuse for being jerks. We are called to proclaim His Word and trust Christ who uses it to accomplish His purposes—*calling His people, hardening His enemies, and magnifying His glory*. We are greatly blessed to join with the apostles in expressing our loyalty to Christ and trusting Him to accomplish His purposes through us.

“Grace means God moving Heaven and Earth to save sinners who could not lift a finger to save themselves.”

J.I. Packer

1 Peter 1: 3 – 9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Romans 10: 14 – 17

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Acts—Series Overview

The Expansion of the Gospel Witness with Power

Acts records God’s faithful accomplishment of all that He promised in taking the gospel to the nations. It lays the groundwork for all that will take place as His Church awaits His return. Just as Jesus lived and spoke as the Father commanded, we now are called to do in the power of His Holy Spirit. While Jesus did this perfectly, we will strive imperfectly, constantly in need of the Holy Spirit’s direction, power, and correction. Nevertheless, our faithful God will work even through our failing efforts and His gospel witness through us will prevail and penetrate every nation, tribe, & territory. For the praise of our King!

Taking Gathered Worship Home

This week we return to our study of the book of Acts. As we pick up in the fourteenth chapter we read of the continuing expansion of Christ's Kingdom through the proclamation of His Word. How would the Lord have you speak of Him to those He has brought in your world?

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 14:1-7; First Peter 1:3-9; Romans 10:14-17**. DISCUSS, How does God use the proclamation of His Word? What does His Word reveal? Why? How are you submitting to His lordship today? Be specific. PRAY "Sovereign Lord, thank You for how You use Your Word for Your purposes. Help us to trust You and delight in Your purposes!"

Sunday Evening

Young Adults Fellowship at **6:00** pm. *Please join in-person or on-line!*

Monday

READ **Acts 14:1-7; Zechariah 1:1-6; Psalm 139:1-24**. DISCUSS, What did God use to bring their fathers to repentance? How are you responding to the Word of God? Does it puff you up or bring you to repentance? Of what specifically have you repented in the past few days? Ask the Lord to search you and know your heart. MEDITATE on **Zechariah 1:6**. PRAY, "Jesus, as Your Kingdom expands according to Your proclamation, teach us to acknowledge You as the Sovereign over all things!"

Tuesday

READ **Acts 14:1-7; Romans 15:4-7**. DISCUSS, What does this passage list as the reason God has given us the Scriptures? For what purpose? How are you yielding to Him in this? MEDITATE on **Zechariah 1:6**. PRAY, "Jesus, thank You for dealing with us not according to what we deserve, but in mercy and grace. Teach us to extend that mercy to others for Your glory."

Wednesday

READ **Acts 14:1-7; Second Timothy 3:10-17**. DISCUSS, What is the teaching and sacred writings which Timothy knew? For what purpose God give them? What can they accomplish? Why? MEDITATE on **Zechariah 1:6**. PRAY, “Lord Jesus, we thank You for Your precious Word. Enable us to hide it in our hearts and proclaim it far and wide.”

Thursday

READ **Acts 14:1-7; Second Peter 1:16-21; Psalm 119:1-8**. DISCUSS, How does God use His Word? What are you doing to respond to His Word? How does His Word light your path? MEDITATE on **Zechariah 1:6**. PRAY, “Jesus, You are the blameless One. You have led us in Your ways. Teach us to obey You by faith! Enable us to follow You and do as You command.”

Friday

READ **Acts 14:1-7; First Peter 1:3-9; Romans 10:14-17**. DISCUSS, How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? MEDITATE on **Zechariah 1:6**. PRAY for renewal and revival across our land.

Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow. *Both live-stream & in-person services are available.*

READ **Acts 14:1-28**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for either the *live-stream or in-person service*. Ask Jesus to help us love our neighbors well.

Zechariah 1:6

“But my words and my statutes, which I commanded my servants the prophets, did they not overtake your fathers? So they repented and said, ‘As the Lord of hosts purposed to deal with us for our ways and deeds, so has he dealt with us.’”