



The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

February 28th, 2021

The Order of Morning Worship

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

February 28th, 2021

Ten-thirty

Welcome

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship

Psalm 95 – 96

Pastor: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Congregation: Let us come before Him with thanksgiving, and extol Him with music and song.

Pastor: Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord all the earth. Sing to the Lord, praise His name; proclaim His salvation day after day.

Congregation: For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods. Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for He is our God and we are the people of His pasture, the flock under His care.

❖ Hymn of Exultation

Number 101

Come, Thou Almighty King

Come, Thou Almighty King

101

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 2 Cor. 13:14

1. Come, thou Al - might - y King, help us thy name to sing,
 2. Come, thou In - car - nate Word, gird on thy might - y sword,
 3. Come, Ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred wit - ness bear
 4. To the great One in Three e - ter - nal prais - es be,

help us to praise. Fa - ther, all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic -
 our prayer at - tend. Come, and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy
 in this glad hour. Thou who al - might - y art, now rule in
 hence ev - er - more. His sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in

to - ri - ous, come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
 Word suc - cess; Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend.
 ev - ery heart, and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.
 glo - ry see, and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

Scriptural Call to Repentance

1 John 1: 8 – 9

God's Word warns us, "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." It also provides the wonderful truth found only in Christ saying, "If we confess our sins, He who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

Collective Confession

Luther's Prayer

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.

Proclamation of Forgiveness

Jeremiah 33: 8

I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me.

Scripture Reading

Romans 8: 12 – 17

¹² So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— ¹³ for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him* so that we may also be glorified with *Him*.

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

Pastoral Prayer

❖ Hymn of Reflection

Number 726

Spirit of the Living God

That you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Eph. 3:19

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me."

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

The second system of musical notation is identical to the first, featuring a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me."

Break me! Melt me! Mold me! Fill me!

The third system of musical notation features a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Break me! Melt me! Mold me! Fill me!"

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me.

The fourth system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall fresh on me."

“*The Holy Spirit Directs the Mission*”

Acts 15: 40 – 16: 12

⁴⁰ But Paul chose Silas and left, being committed by the brethren to the grace of the Lord. ⁴¹ And he was traveling through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

Chapter 16

Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra. And a disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek, ² and he was well spoken of by the brethren who were in Lystra and Iconium. ³ Paul wanted this man to go with him; and he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those parts, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. ⁴ Now while they were passing through the cities, they were delivering the decrees which had been decided upon by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem, for them to observe. ⁵ So the churches were being strengthened in the faith, and were increasing in number daily.

⁶ They passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia; ⁷ and after they came to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them; ⁸ and passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. ⁹ A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

¹¹ So putting out to sea from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and on the day following to Neapolis; ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia, a *Roman* colony; and we were staying in this city for some days.

Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Jas. 5:7

1. Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side;
 2. Be still, my soul: your God will un - der - take
 3. Be still, my soul: when dear - est friends de - part,
 4. Be still, my soul: the hour is has - t'ning on

bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain; leave to your
 to guide the fu - ture as he has the past. Your hope, your
 and all is dark - ened in the vale of tears, then shall you
 when we shall be for - ev - er with the Lord, when dis - ap -

God to or - der and pro - vide; in ev - 'ry change he
 con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake; all now mys - te - rious
 bet - ter know his love, his heart, who comes to soothe your
 point - ment, grief, and fear are gone, sor - row for - got, love's

faith - ful will re - main. Be still, my soul: your best, your heav'n - ly
 shall be bright at last. Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still
 sor - row and your fears. Be still, my soul: your Je - sus can re -
 pur - est joys re - stored. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are

Friend through thorn-y ways leads to a joy-ful 'end.
 know his voice who ruled them while he dwelt be-'low.
 pay from his own full-ness all he takes a-way.
 past, all safe and bless-ed we shall meet at last.

Katharina von Schlegel, 1752
 Tr. by Jane Borthwick, 1855; alt. 1990, mod.
 Tune © Breikopf & Härtel, Wiesbaden, Used by permission.

FINLANDIA. 10.10.10.10.10.10.
 Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr.

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.

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 ~

Young Adult Fellowship Group tonight at 6 pm.

Leadership Training March 13. See March
 Newsletter for Details.

Sunday School **ONLINE**

- Pre-k-K, 1st-3rd, 4th-6th
- Grade 7 through Adult

Classes start March 7, 2021



Learn about Jesus every Sunday at 9 am

- Bible lessons, story time, interactive videos.
- No pressure! Sit back and relax or ask questions and get answers.
- Connect from anywhere! Open to all.

*Let the little children
come to me, and do not
hinder them, for the
kingdom of heaven
belongs to such as these.*

Matthew 19:14

Learn more and register today at
fccw.net/sundayschool

First Congregational Church

W O O D S T O C K , V E R M O N T

36 Elm Street Woodstock, VT 05091 (802) 457-9818

Visit us online at fccw.net

Posters Available in the Narthex.

Drive By Food Drive

Food Drive sponsored by the Community Outreach Team on March 20, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. Help needed!

The Community Outreach Team is sponsoring another food drive to benefit the Food Shelves in our communities of Reading and Woodstock. We would love some help hanging up posters around Woodstock and the area, as well as working on the day of the event. And if you can't help that way, please come by and drop off some food!

The Food Drive is on March 20, collecting from 10:00am until 12:00 pm, then transporting the food to the Woodstock Food Shelf. Set up begins at 9:30. Drop off is TBD. If you can help that day, please call Keri Bristow at 603-359-3948 or email her at kerilynbristow@gmail.com.

Needed items include:

Soups of all kinds, low sodium if possible.

Canned protein- salmon, chicken, tuna, beans, baked beans, nuts, nut butters.

Rice, Pasta sauce, canned vegetables, canned fruit,

Baking Staples- evaporated milk, cooking oil, muffin mixes, boxes or bags of flour, brown sugar, molasses, honey.

Hot or cold cereal, crackers, pancake mix,

Jams or preserves

Olive oil, salad dressing, mayonnaise, and other condiments.

Juice boxes

Personal items: shampoo, conditioner, deodorant single wrapped toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrushes.

Cat and dog food in smaller sizes.

PLEASE NO PASTA AT THIS TIME!!!

Pasta meal kits are welcome.

Posters Available in the Narthex.

From the Flower Committee

It's always nice to see fresh flowers or a flowering plant in the front of the church on Sundays. If you would like to place memorial flowers during these winter months or late fall, please contact one of the flower committee members or sign up on the Flower calendar in the Billings Room. You can provide flowers by yourself or join with a friend.

Committee Member	Month's Responsible for	Contact Information
Carol Powell	January, March	carolruthpowell@hotmail.com
Alison Briggs	May, December	briggsboat@gmail.com
Rhonda Bruce	February, August, November 21 & 28	rhondan08@myfairpoint.net
Christine Morton	April, October	cstine3@aol.com
Harriet Stehouwer	July, November 7 & 14	harrietstehouwer@gmail.com
Marilyn Sutherland	June, September	marilynsutherland@comcast.net



Mid Vermont Christian School

Educating for Impact

We are seeking qualified and enthusiastic individuals
who have a passion for Christian education!

MVCS has full-time and part-time positions available:

Junior/Senior High Science and Elementary School Teacher,

Part-time Art and Foreign Language, Administrative Assistant, Bookkeeper.

Please inquire through the school office ~ mvcs@mvcs.info or 802-295-6800.

The March Newsletter is available
on the table in the Narthex.

The Holy Spirit Directs the Mission

1. God Directs Which *People* Go on the Missionary Trip (40-3).

2. The Holy Spirit Guides Which *Positions* to Hold (4-5).

3. He Sets the Course for Which *Places* to Visit (6-12).

CONCLUSION: Christ had sent them as His witnesses to Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. But specifically where? When, and in what order? Who should go where? What of all that He taught them should they teach first and how? There are so many questions. And that's why He didn't send them alone. He sent His Holy Spirit to guide them. But what does that look like when you can't see Him? This beginning of the Second Missionary journey helps us to see how that gets worked out. Let us trust Him and follow the Holy Spirit's lead.

Acts 1: 8

“But you will receive power when the **Holy Spirit** has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Romans 8: 12 – 17

¹² So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are **led by the Spirit** of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Galatians 5: 16 – 26

¹⁶ But I say, **walk by the Spirit**, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are **led by the Spirit**, you are not under the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the **fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we **live by the Spirit**, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

Taking Gathered Worship Home

What does it mean to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit? How do we follow someone we cannot see? What about people who claim the Holy Spirit has led them to do things that go against God's Word? How do we sort these things out?

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 15:40-16:12; Romans 8:12-17; Galatians 5:16-26.** DISCUSS, How does the Holy Spirit direct the people, positions, and places of this missionary trip? How does that help us submit to His leading? What do you do when you are not sure what the Holy Spirit is leading you to do? PRAY "Jesus, Thank You for giving us Your Spirit to lead and strengthen us as we seek to follow You."

Sunday Evening

Young Adults Fellowship at **6:00** pm. *Please come to FCCW's Library!*

Monday

READ **Acts 15:40-16:12; First Thessalonians 1:5-8; Romans 14:13-19.** DISCUSS, How did this team of Paul, Silas, and Timothy model being led by the Holy Spirit? How are we to model this? How are we to follow their example? MEDITATE on **Jude 1:20-23.** PRAY, "Father, help us to rejoice in Your Word with the joy of the Holy Spirit. Sound forth from us all throughout the Upper Valley the power You have over the dead through the resurrection of Jesus."

Tuesday

READ **Acts 15:40-16:12; First Corinthians 9:19-23.** DISCUSS, How does the gospel free Paul to be all things to all people? How are we to emulate Paul in this regard? How is Christ leading you to identify with your neighbors to impart the gospel? MEDITATE on **Jude 1:20-23.** PRAY, "Jesus, thank You for loving us enough to give us opportunities to point others to You."

Wednesday

READ **Acts 15:40-16:12; Romans 15:22-25**. DISCUSS, Why was Paul hindered from going to Rome? What is he doing as of this writing? Why? Have you been kept from plans that you had to serve Christ? MEDITATE on **Jude 1:20-23**. PRAY, “Lord Jesus, forgive us for the many times we just don’t get it. Teach us to trust You!”

Thursday

READ **Acts 15:40-16:12; Galatians 2:1-5**. DISCUSS, Why does Paul have Timothy circumcised yet refused to do the same with Titus? What differences were there between Timothy and Titus? What specific ways are you standing for the truth of the gospel today? MEDITATE on **Jude 1:20-23**. PRAY, “Jesus, enable us to walk in Your ways. Guide us in Your truth.”

Friday

READ **Acts 15:40-16:12; Romans 8:12-17; Galatians 5:16-26**. DISCUSS, How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? MEDITATE on **Jude 1:20-23**. 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 15:40-16:40**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for either the *live-stream or in-person service*. Ask Jesus to help us love our neighbors well.

Jude 1: 20 – 23

“But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. And have mercy on those who doubt; save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.”