



The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

March 6, 2022

The Order of Morning Worship

March 6th, 2022

Ten-thirty

Welcome

Elder Gil Emery

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship Isaiah 6 Congregation

Elder: I saw the Lord, seated on a throne, high and exalted,

Congregation: And the train of his robe filled the temple.

Elder: Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: with two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another:

Congregation: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.”

❖ Hymn of Exultation #44 *How Great Thou Art* Congregation

Scriptural Call to Repentance Isaiah 30: 15-18 Elder

Collective Confession Psalm 51 Congregation

Be gracious to us, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; according to the greatness of Your compassion blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin. For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Against You, You only, we have sinned, and done what is evil in Your sight, So that You are justified when You speak, and blameless when You judge.

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness Hebrews 2: 18 Elder

Offering (collected from back to front) Congregation

❖ Affirmation of Faith *The Apostles' Creed* Congregation

Elder: Christian, what do you believe concerning God, the Father?

Congregation: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

Elder: What do you believe concerning Jesus?

Congregation: I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

Elder: Christian, what do you believe concerning the Holy Spirit and His work?

Congregation: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic¹ church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

❖ Creedal Song #731 *Doxology* Congregation

❖ Scripture Reading John 14:1-7 Elder

Elder: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Pastoral Prayer Pastor

❖ Hymn of Reflection #688 *Have Thine Own Way, Lord* Congregation

The Sermon Philippians 1:12-14 Pastor Doug Warren
“Stay Mission-Focused”

❖ Hymn of Response #660 *O God Beyond All Praising* Congregation

Communion Congregation

❖ Communion Hymn *Behold the Lamb* Congregation

Benediction Hebrews 13: 20-21 Pastor

Pastor: Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord, equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that

¹ The term “catholic” is used here in its generic sense of the universal church, not to refer to a denomination.

which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

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 will meet tonight
at 6 pm in the church library.

Property Manager Position

FCCW is looking for a Property Manager. This part-time position requires the person or persons to work a flexible schedule, be able to handle a variety of tasks, and be a good steward of FCCW property. Please contact Karl Huck at 802-457-3072 or e-mail him at karlhuck@gmail.com for more details or to submit an application. Thank you.

Leadership Training

Our second leadership training session will be offered Saturday, March 12 and is open to anyone who would like to grow in their own walk with the Lord. Each session will run from 9:00 am until noon and will be available both in person and via Zoom. We will be studying *Shepherding with Compassion*. Hope to see you there! To register, please email Kristen at fccwinfo@gmail.com.

Deacons' Offering Next Sunday, March 13

Together in Differences -- CCEF NE Conference, April 2

The FCCW Board of Christian Education would like to invite you to attend a one-day conference put on by the Christian Counseling and Educational Foundation of New England. It will be held in Lebanon, NH on **April 2, 2022**. FCCW has a special group rate, and according to people's desires, we may have a watch group at the church as well as a group attending in person. You may also watch from home or another remote location.

The topic for the day is Together in Differences. Below is the brief description of the topic and the schedule for the day:

TOGETHER IN DIFFERENCES

Living Out Our Unity in Christ

Division and discord seem to surround us, even in the places where we most long for connection. Scripture recognizes this modern yet timeless problem and invites us into a new way of relating to others. We will press into the real problem of disunity and the real hope of the body of Christ, and examine strategies for engaging our differences in a way that builds up the church. Join CCEF New England and special guest Alasdair Groves for a day of teaching and encouragement.

Conference Schedule

8:00-9:00am | Registration

9:00-10:15am | Plenary 1 "We Really Have Differences" (Andy Engert)

10:15-10:30am | Stretch break

10:30-11:45am | Plenary 2 "We Really Have Unity" (Robyn Huck)

11:45-1:15pm | Lunch break (local restaurants or pre-purchased boxed lunch)

1:15-2:00pm | Breakout Sessions

2:00-2:15pm | Stretch break

2:15-3:00pm | Plenary 3 "We Really Can Overcome Divisions" (Alasdair Groves)

3:00-3:30pm | Book table open

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Breakout sessions will explore these ideas further in the context of marriage and family, church and more.

To register, first email Jeff DeDell at dedellcrew@gmail.com for the special FCCW group discount code. Registration costs will go up after Feb 15 and March 15. Conference cost to FCCW folks will be between \$34 and \$49 dollars per person, depending on when you register. (There is an optional lunch you can add to your registration cost when you sign up online.)

After contacting Jeff for the code, go to www.ccef.org/newengland to register. Jeff can assist anyone who has trouble with online registration, and the BCE would also like you to tell him if you wish for assistance in paying for the conference.

The BCE is looking forward to this day of learning alongside other Christians about a struggle that is found in all our churches. Please save the date of Saturday, April 2, 2022.

New Members and Friends Lists are on the
Table in the Billings Room.

Walking Wednesday

If you would like to walk inside for some exercise and fellowship, meet the Pastor at FCCW at 1:00 pm on Wednesday to go together to the Powerhouse Mall.

Teachers Needed

WCCC is in need of **Teachers/Assistants**, and **Substitutes**. Please contact Ruth Brisson at rbrissonwccc@gmail.com or 410-925-7959, if you are interested in serving in any of these roles.

Fall Back, Spring Ahead – Don't forget to set your
clocks ahead next Saturday night

Stay Mission-Focused

1. The Advancement of the Gospel Is What Matters (12)

2. Paul Shares Two Visible Results of His Imprisonment (13-14)

3. God Is Faithfully Accomplishing Exactly What He Promised.

CONCLUSION: Often we can become disheartened by the discouraging circumstances we encounter in this broken world and miss indicators of God's steady progress in making His name glorious in all the earth. Paul pointed out two examples of how the very thing we see as hard (his chains) was actually the means God was using to advance His Kingdom. Jesus has not only counted the cost for building His Church, but He has paid the price fully on the cross. So let us rejoice in what we can see and understand as well as what we cannot. Our King is faithful and is steadfastly doing just what He told us He would.

Ephesians 2:19-22

¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but *you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,* ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²² *In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.*

First Peter 2:4-10

⁴ As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵ *you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house,* to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷ So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,”

⁸ and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, *that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.* ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but *now you are God’s people*; once you had not received mercy, but *now you have received mercy.*

Luke 14:25-33

²⁵ Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ *For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?* ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹ Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

Taking Gathered Worship Home

Jesus has not only forgiven us of our sin, but called us into His family and the mission of redemption in praise of His Father. The Lord deserves all praise, glory and honor. As we trust Him to lead us in the fulfillment of that mission everything else falls into place. We can rejoice no matter what happens as we rest in the Father's good plan and His faithfulness in accomplishing it.

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 1:12-14; John 14:1-7; Ephesians 2:19-22; First Peter 2:4-10; Luke 14:25-33; First Corinthians 12:27-31; Second Timothy 2:19-26.** DISCUSS Jesus has promised to return for us. How do we know He will? How does that hope free us to focus on our mission? What is the hardest part of waiting for you? PRAY "Lord Christ, focus our attention on You. Help the certainty of Your return drive everything that we do."

Sunday Evening

Come join the *Young Adults' Fellowship* at 6pm in the FCCW library!

Monday

READ **Philippians 1:12-14; Ephesians 2:19-22; Luke 14:25-33.** DISCUSS What is God's plan for His household? Did the Lord make this plan without counting the cost? MEDITATE on **Matthew 16:18b.** PRAY, "Lord Jesus, *teach us to trust You* in all Your ways. You are faithful to complete Your household exactly as You planned."

Tuesday

READ **Philippians 1:12-14; First Peter 2:4-10; Luke 14:25-33.** DISCUSS What is the spiritual house Christ is building? Did the Lord plan this house without counting the cost? MEDITATE on **Matthew 16:18b.** PRAY, "Lord, help us to delight in being Your possession. Teach us to proclaim Your excellencies with whomever You send us."

Wednesday

READ **Philippians 1:12-14; Second Timothy 2:19-26; Second Corinthians 1:20-22**. DISCUSS, What does it mean to be a part of a “great house”? Why does the Master have the say over which vessels are used for honor or dishonor? Why is this so difficult for us? MEDITATE on **Matthew 16:18b**. PRAY, “Lord, use us as You will and teach us to rejoice in You.”

Thursday

READ **Philippians 1:12-14; John 14:1-7; First Corinthians 12:27-31**. DISCUSS, Jesus promised that He has gone to prepare a place for us. In the meantime He has given us gifts. How does our trust in Him enable us to be satisfied with the gifts He has given us as we await His return? In what ways are you struggling with the wait? MEDITATE on **Matthew 16:18b**. PRAY, Lord, You are more than enough for us. Teach us to be satisfied in You.”

Friday

READ **Philippians 1:12-14; John 14:1-7; Ephesians 2:19-22; First Peter 2:4-10; Luke 14:25-33; First Corinthians 12:27-31; Second Timothy 2:19-26**. DISCUSS, How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? DELIGHT in Christ with all your heart and love His people with joy! MEDITATE on **Matthew 16:18b**. PRAY for unity and joyful care for one another at FCCW.

Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow. *Both in-person and live-stream services are available.* READ **Philippians 1:1-30**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for the service. Ask Jesus to gather us together joyfully to praise Him.

Matthew 16:18b

*“I will build my church,
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”*