



The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

April 19th, 2020

The Order of Morning Worship

For assistance as we “gather” remotely for the live streaming worship service.

April 19th, 2020

Ten-thirty

Welcome

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship Psalm 19: 1 – 4 Pastor Doug Warren

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 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* Number 345

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Glorious things are said of you, O city of God. Ps. 87:3

1. Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God;
 2. See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,
 3. Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring, see the cloud and fire ap - pear
 4. Sav - ior, if of Zi - on's cit - y I, through grace, a mem - ber am,

he whose word can - not be bro - ken formed thee for his own a - bode:
 well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters, and all fear of want re - move:
 for a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring, show - ing that the Lord is near:
 let the world de - ride or pit - y, I will glo - ry in thy name:

on the Rock of A - ges found - ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose?
 who can faint, while such a riv - er ev - er flows their thirst t'as - suage?—
 thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,
 fad - ing is the world - ling's plea - sure, all his boast - ed pomp and show;

With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
 grace which, like the Lord, the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.
 safe they feed up - on the man - na which he gives them when they pray.
 sol - id joys and last - ing trea - sure none but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

⁹ Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, “Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.” ¹⁰ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, ¹¹ having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal.

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Doug Warren

Children’s Message

Pastor Doug Warren

The Sermon

“Enemies Within the Church”

Pastor Doug Warren

Acts 4: 32 – 5: 11 (ESV)

³² Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. ³³ And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴ There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold ³⁵ and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. ³⁶ Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, ³⁷ sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Chapter 5

But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, ² and with his wife's knowledge he kept back for himself some of the proceeds and brought only a part of it and laid it at the apostles' feet. ³ But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land? ⁴ While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to man but to God.” ⁵ When Ananias heard these words, he fell down and breathed his last. And great fear came upon all who heard of it. ⁶ The young men rose and wrapped him up and carried him out and buried him.

⁷ After an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. ⁸ And Peter said to her, “Tell me whether you sold the land for so much.” And she said, “Yes, for so much.” ⁹ But Peter said to her, “How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Behold, the feet of those

who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out.”¹⁰ Immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. When the young men came in they found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her beside her husband.¹¹ And great fear came upon the whole church and upon all who heard of these things.

❖ Hymn of Commitment

O Church Arise

O Church Arise

Words and Music by
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

$\text{♩} = 68$

VERSE

A^{7sus} D G/B A/C#

1. O Church, a - rise, and put your ar - mour on; Hear the
2. Our call to war, to love the cap - tive soul, but to
3. Come see the cross, where love and mer - cy meet, as the
4. So Spir - it, come, put strength in ev - 'ry stride, give

3 D/F# G A^{sus} A D A^{7sus} D G/B A/C#

call of Christ our Cap - tain. For now the weak can say that they are strong, in the
rage a - gainst the cap - tor; And with the sword that makes the wound - ed whole, we will
Son of God is strick - en; Then see His foes lic crushed be - neath His feet, for the
grace for ev - 'ry hur - dle; That we may run with faith, to - win the prize of a

7 D/F# G A^{sus} A D D/F# G D/F# A D/F#

strength that God has giv - en. With shield of faith and belt of truth, we'll stand a -
fight with faith and val - our. When faced with trials on ev - 'ry side, we know the
Con - quer - or has ris - en. And as the stone is rolled a - way and Christ e -
serv - ant, good and faith - ful. As saints of old still line the way, re - tell - ing

11 G D/F# Bm A A^{7sus} D

-gainst the dev - il's lies; An ar - my bold, whose bat - tle
out - come is se - cure. And Christ will have the prize for
-merg - es from the grave, this vic - t'ry march con - tin - ues
tri - umphs of His grace, we hear their calls, and hun - ger

14 G/B A/C# D/F# G A^{sus} A D D^{sus} D

cry is Love, reach - ing out to those in dark - ness.
which He died, an in - her - it - ance of na - tions.
till the day ev - 'ry eye and heart shall see Him.
for the day when, with Christ, we stand in glo - ry.

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

Pastor Doug Warren

¹⁴ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

The Congregation may be seated after the Benediction for silent prayer

Postlude

~~ Organist: Anne Hablitzel ~~

Easter Offering

This year's Easter Offering recipient will be Brian and Cathy Birdsall. They have been affiliated with First Congregational Church of Woodstock since 1988 when they served with Campus Crusade for Christ (Cru) at Dartmouth College. It was Brian and Cathy who started the connection with Dartmouth students and FCCW by loading them in their Volkswagen van and driving them over on Sunday mornings.

In 1991, God called Brian and Cathy to serve in the former Soviet Union. They moved to Moscow, Russia in February 1992 and then to Kiev, Ukraine in 1993. They served in a variety of roles with Cru in that part of the world for over twenty years.

Brian and Cathy currently lead the Christian Embassy ministry at the United Nations in New York City where they serve the spiritual needs of over 4,000 diplomats from 193 countries around the world. They do this via large events such as The International Prayer Breakfast and small groups such as Bible studies, English classes and personal appointments. Brian and Cathy have five children and two grandchildren, with a third due the end of April.

Please watch the video attached to the newsletter or on FCCW's YouTube channel that the Birdsalls have put together to explain their work and the challenges that they are facing. You will have a chance to bless them through the Easter sacrificial offering.

If you are giving online at <https://www.fccw.net/donate/>, please be sure to choose the Easter Offering Donate button. If you are mailing your gift, please be sure to put in the memo line Easter Offering. You may still contribute to the Easter Offering through April 28, 2020.

Tithing

Through the hard work of the Deacons and Michael Byrne, the church now has the ability to accept online donations. Here is the link for making an online donation: <https://www.fccw.net/donate/>. You will be able to tithe to the general fund, give to the Easter Offering, etc. If you want to use your mobile phone, set your mobile phone browser to <https://www.fccw.net/donate/>, it will automatically format the page to your phone screen. This is a very safe and secure way for you to be able to give to the church.

If you are uncomfortable with online giving and prefer to mail your tithe, please don't hesitate to continue to mail your checks to FCCW, ATTN: Treasurer, 36 Elm Street, Woodstock, VT 05091.

If you have any questions or prayer requests, please email them to me at fccwinfo@gmail.com.

Testimonies Requested

The Elders believe that the congregation would be blessed to hear the testimonies of God's people as another way to encourage and sustain everyone during this season of trial and perseverance. To that end we would invite you to send your testimony of praise to Terri who will collect them and periodically publish for everyone to read.

The prophet Jeremiah declared in Chapter 51:10 that we should "announce everything that God has done" and the book of 1 Chronicles 16: 8, 9 that "we should proclaim God's greatness." Psalm 9:11 implores believers to "tell the world about God's unforgettable deeds." Certainly we have much to tell and so much to be grateful for. God bless you all as we travel this road in faith and adoration to the Lord's greatness and provision for his people.

The Elders

If you have not filled out the Elders' questionnaire, please do so and return to me via email or snail mail (FCCW, 36 Elm Street, Woodstock, VT 05091). The questionnaire is on the next page. Please fill out a questionnaire for each person in your household. Every person has different health needs, contact information, and concerns. Thank you for helping the leadership stay connected with the needs of the body.

Elders' Questionnaire

If you have not sent the answers to the questions below via email, please answer the questions and return via email or snail mail.

From the Elders:

With the Coronavirus outbreak we want to make sure that everyone at First Congregational Church of Woodstock is receiving loving care physically and spiritually.

Name: _____

- Do you have any symptoms such as a cough or fever?
- Do you have any complicating health concerns such as respiratory issues or a compromised immune system?
- Are you under medical quarantine or social isolation?
- Do you have enough food and medicine for the next month?
- Are you under a doctor's care?
- What is the most concerning part of this current outbreak for you?
- What needs do you have?
- How can the Elders best pray for you?
- Do you have access to FaceTime, Skype, Zoom, or some other means of video conferencing? If so, what is your contact information?
- What Bible verse or passage has been the most helpful for you in the past week?

Additionally,

- Are you available to help drive people to the doctor?
- Would you be able to transport groceries or other essentials to those homebound?
- What time of the day/week are you most available?

By Christ's Grace,

Pastor Doug

Ephesians 5: 25 – 32

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

Taken from *The Westminster Shorter Catechism*.

Question #26: How does Christ rule as king?

Answer: Christ rules as king, in subduing us to himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all his and our enemies.

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

Wouldn't it be great to be a part of the first century Church when everyone loved one another perfectly? Well, being in a church that loves perfectly will be wonderful, but it will take place in the New Jerusalem. We should long for that day and begin right now loving one another through faith in Christ. Let us love in His Spirit.

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

READ Acts 4:32-5:11; Revelation 21:9-11; Ephesians 5:25-32. **DISCUSS**, What is Jesus doing with His Church? How do we see it being prepared in Acts to accomplish His purposes? How is it still far from what it will be when He returns? **PRAY** for God to enable us to be both generous and truthful to His glory.

Monday

READ Acts 4:32-37; Joshua 6:1-27; Ephesians 5:25-32. **DISCUSS**, How did God's people demonstrate faithfulness in Acts and Joshua? Is glorification of Joshua or Barnabas the point of these passages? Why or why not? What is the point? How are you applying that truth? **PRAY** for the congregation of FCCW that we might yearn to be faithful in Christ. Ask Him to make us more resemble Him in our devotion to the Father and care for one another.

Tuesday

READ Acts 5:1-11; Joshua 7:1-26; Revelation 21:9-11. **DISCUSS**, How did God's people demonstrate faithlessness in Acts and Joshua? What is the result in each? What similarities and differences do you see? **GRIEVE** the ways we have continued to dishonor God! **PRAY**, "Lord Jesus, You are the risen King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Help us to be truthful as You are the TRUTH. Enable us to walk in this truth as love one another and honor You."

Wednesday

READ Acts 5:1-11; Isaiah 33:22; Ephesians 5:25-32. **DISCUSS**, What does it mean that the Lord is our Judge and King? How should that affect the way we live? Why? **PRAY**, "Lord, You are our Judge and King. Teach us be faithful."

Thursday

READ Acts 5:1-11; First Corinthians 15:25; Westminster Shorter Catechism # 26. **DISCUSS**, Who are His and our enemies? How does He subdue them? **PRAY**, "Lord, teach us to love You and our neighbors as You would have us to do."

Friday

READ Acts 4:32-5:11; Revelation 21:9-11; Ephesians 5:25-32. How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? **REJOICE**, for Christ will make us gloriously pure! **PRAY** for renewal in the Church and revival in our land.

Saturday

PREPARE today for the gathered worship service tomorrow. **READ Acts 5:1-42.** Invite others to watch the *live-stream service* with you tomorrow. **Pray** for Christ to care for us as His Bride.

Revelation 21: 9 – 11

Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, "Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb." And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed— on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.