

First Congregational Church
of Woodstock

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

June 6th, 2021

The Order of Morning Worship

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

June 6th, 2021

Ten-thirty

Welcome

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer

Call to Worship

Isaiah 6

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

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

Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: with two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered

Pastor:

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

Number 296

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name.

Phil. 2:9



5. Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe, on this terrestrial ball, to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all; to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all.

6. O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall; we'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all; we'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all.

Scriptural Call to Repentance

Isaiah 30: 15 - 18

In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it. Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; He rises to show you compassion. For the Lord is God of justice. Blessed are those who wait for Him!

Collective Confession

Psalm 51

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 Confession and Reflection

Proclamation of Forgiveness

Hebrews 2: 18

Because Jesus Himself suffered when He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted.

Scripture Reading

Hebrews 9: 11 – 14

¹¹ But when Christ appeared *as* a high priest of the good things to come, *He entered* through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; ¹² and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. ¹³ For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, ¹⁴ how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Pastoral Prayer

Behold the Lamb





The Sermon

Pastor Doug Warren

"Meanwhile, Back in Ephesus"

Acts 18: 22 - 28

²² When he had landed at Caesarea, he went up and greeted the church, and went down to Antioch.

²³ And having spent some time *there*, he left and passed successively through the Galatian region and Phrygia, strengthening all the disciples.

Now a Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus; and he was mighty in the Scriptures. ²⁵ This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he was speaking and teaching accurately the things concerning Jesus, being acquainted only with the baptism of John; ²⁶ and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. ²⁷ And when he wanted to go across to Achaia, the brethren encouraged him and wrote to the disciples to welcome him; and when he had arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace, ²⁸ for he powerfully refuted the Jews in public, demonstrating by the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.

Hymn of Response

Number 342

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

The Sovereign LORD says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation." Is. 28:16



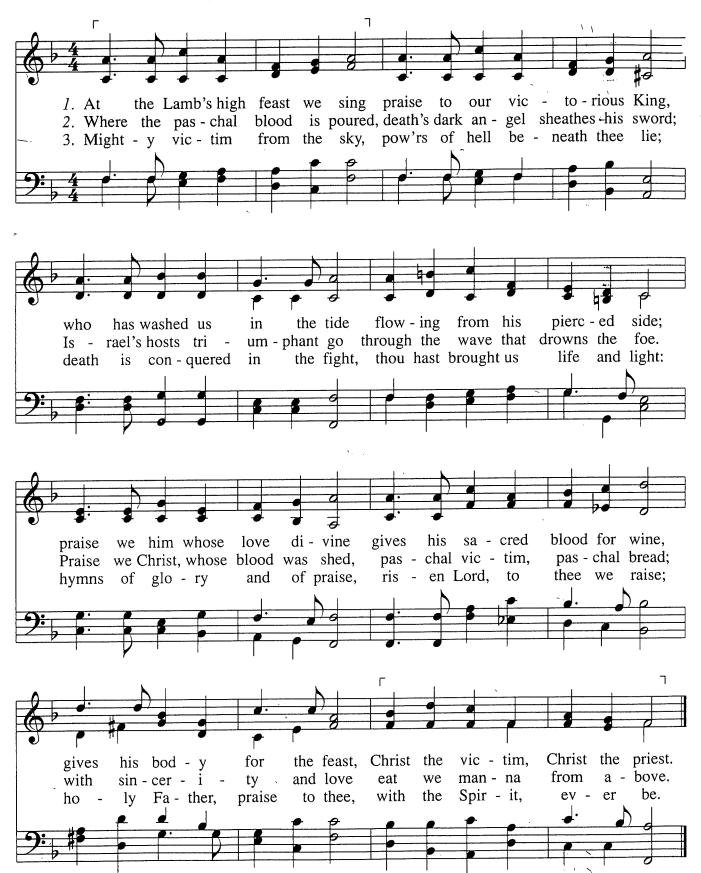
Latin, 7th cent. Tr. by John Mason Neale, 1851 Alt. in *Hymns Ancient and Modern,* 1861 REGENT SQUARE 8.7.8.7.8.7. Henry Smart, 1876 ❖ Communion Hymn

Number 420

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. 1 Cor. 5:7



Benediction

Hebrews 13: 20 - 21

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 which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom

be the glory forever and ever.

Thanks be to God. Amen. **Congregation:**

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

Postlude

~~ Organist: Jonathan Denham ~~ ~~ Please ensure cell phones are off ~~

Deacons' Offering - Next Sunday, June 13

Our church receives many requests for help from not just within our church body but the community at large. The Deacons' have a great many opportunities to share God's love with folks in need, whether it is paying a bill for them or buying them a pair of glasses. This is a vital ministry that our church has to reach into our communities and share the gospel in a loving, gracious way. If you are in need or know someone who is, please contact Dan Bruce, the Deacons' Mercy Minister at 802 - 457 - 3975 or email him at rhondan 08@ my fairpoint.net.

Leadership Training – Note Topic Change

Our leadership training sessions will be open to anyone who would like to grow in their own walk with the Lord. This year these sessions will be held on the second Saturday of the month starting in March and running through October. Each one will run from 9:00 am until noon and will be available both in person and via Zoom. We will be studying Family Life on June 12. Hope to see you there!

To register, please email Terri at fccwinfo@gmail.com.

Summer Services

Sunday School will come to a close on June 13. During the morning Worship Service, we will recognize graduates and teachers.

BEGINNING Sunday, June 20, we will revert to our Summer schedule. NO Sunday School. The Morning Worship Service will begin at 9:30 am.

Administrative Assistant Position

We are looking for an Administrative Assistant for FCCW. Terri has done a fantastic job and is now going to be transitioning into a teaching position at Woodstock Christian Child Care Center. This is answered prayer because we have had a desperate need for teachers. None-the-less it leaves us in need for someone with excellent organizational skills to step into the vacancy that will begin in July. Please contact Steve Selbo at 802-299-6446 or e-mail him at steve.selbo@outlook.com for more details or to submit an application. Thank you.

Teachers Needed

WCCC is in need of **Teachers**, **Assistants**, and **Substitutes**. We have one teacher retiring, one who will be delivering a new son soon, and we are looking for a licensed teacher to work at least 10 hours a week in the Fall Session.

This vital ministry in our community allows our light to shine, as we serve our neighbors and friends. Please pray for staff to be found because WCCC is almost completely full with children at this time, and projections are the same throughout Summer and Fall sessions!

Please contact Ruth Brisson at <u>brissonwccc@comcast.net</u> or 410-925-7959, if you are interested in serving in any of these roles.

Nursery Staff Position

We are looking for someone to serve as a Nursery Staff Person. Please join us in praying for the Lord to raise up someone who loves Jesus and children and who would be the anchor for caring for the little ones assisted by volunteers from the congregation. For more information, please contact Steve Selbo at 802-299-6446 or e-mail him at steve.selbo@outlook.com for more details or to submit an application. Thank you.

Congratulations Graduates

It's Spring and time for graduation! We, at FCCW, are happy to have several graduates in our midst. They have worked hard, and we want to honor them and their accomplishments. Let's shower them with congratulations by sending them a card, a note, or a message to let them know that we are celebrating with them. The graduates are listed below. Addresses may be found in the Membership list.

Law School - Steven Bauer

College - Abby Kaija, Lauren Kaija, Karis Warren

High School - Ashley Carroll, Colby Warren

~ From The Deaconesses

Mask Requirements Lifted

Dear First Congregational Church Family,

This Sunday, June 6, we look forward to worshipping together with no mask requirements. Those who prefer to wear a mask are still welcome to do so.

We plan to continue providing a "contactless" worship setting and to that end orders of worship, communion elements, and offering boxes will remain at the back table. Hand sanitizer stations will continue to be available throughout the building for your use. As always, if you have symptoms of COVID, we ask that you join us from home via livestream.

We are grateful for your help and cooperation these many months, and look forward to seeing you on Sunday!

In Christ,

Your First Congregational Church Woodstock Elders

Young Adult Fellowship Group tonight at 6 pm.

Pastor Doug Warren June 6th, 2021

Morning Worship Service:

Acts 18: 22 - 28

Meanwhile, Back in Ephesus

1. F	Paul	Co	ntinues	on	His	Mis	siona	rv	Journey	(22)	-23).
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2. We Get This Peek at King Jesus' Work in Ephesus (24-28).

3. All Points to Central Message—Jesus Is the Christ (28).

CONCLUSION: While the focus of this part of Acts is on the missionary activity of Paul and His teammates, we get a behind the scenes glance at how God is using others in establishing His Kingdom in Ephesus. What we find consistently throughout all of King Jesus' work is the emphasis on the Scriptures as God's authoritative Word, His employment of His people working together for His glory, and the centrality of Jesus presented as the promised Christ. How are you celebrating our King's advancing Kingdom? How are you joyfully submitting to His rule and reign using all that He has entrusted to your care?

Luke 9: 1 - 6

And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. And he said to them, "Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not have two tunics. And whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart. And wherever they do not receive you, when you leave that town shake off the dust from your feet as a testimony against them." And they departed and went through the villages, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.

First Corinthians 14: 26 - 33

What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up. If any speak in a tongue, let there be only two or at most three, and each in turn, and let someone interpret. But if there is no one to interpret, let each of them keep silent in church and speak to himself and to God. Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others weigh what is said. If a revelation is made to another sitting there, let the first be silent. For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged, and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets. For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.

Hebrews 9: 11 - 12

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

Taking Gathered Worship Home

Usually when we get a peek behind the curtain we find someone trying to hoodwink us. When the curtain gets pulled back in the Kingdom of Heaven, we find that Jesus is exactly what He claims that He is—the sovereign King of all things. Come take a closer look this week!

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 18:22-28; Ephesians 4:15-16; First Corinthians 12:12-31; Hebrews 9:11-28. DISCUSS, Who is the primary builder of Christ's Church? Is it Paul, Silas, Apollos, Augustine, Calvin, Billy Graham? How does He employ us in that task? Why? How does that bring you comfort? PRAY "Lord Jesus, You alone are faithful. Thank You for faithfully building Your Church."

Sunday Evening

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

Monday

READ Acts 18:22-28; Ephesians 4:15-16; Hebrews 9:11-12. DISCUSS, How did Apollos speak the truth in love? How did Aquila and Priscilla? How do you? How do you communicate what we learn in this passage in Hebrews? To whom? Why? MEDITATE on **Ephesians 2:8-10**. PRAY "Lord, thank You for being our perfect High Priest."

Tuesday

READ Acts 18:22-28; First Corinthians 12:12-20. DISCUSS: Who is the most important? Who is the least important? What does this mean: "If all were a single member, where would the body be?" MEDITATE on Ephesians 2:8-10. PRAY "Lord, forgive us for ways that neglect to share the gifts You have entrusted to us and for ways we covet the gifts You give to our brothers and sisters in Christ."

Wednesday

READ Acts 18:22-28; First Corinthians 12:21-26. DISCUSS, How do you tend to think you don't need others? Why is healthy interdependence impossible without faith in Jesus? MEDITATE on Ephesians 2:8-10. PRAY "King Jesus, make us grateful for one another. Forgive us for ways we disregard others. Teach us to walk together in Your ways."

Thursday

READ Acts 18:22-28; Ephesians 4:17-24; First Corinthians 12:27-31. DISCUSS, How are our being renewed in the Spirit and working together as Christ's body related? How are you encouraging others in Christ to make use of the gifts God has entrusted to them? MEDITATE on Ephesians 2:8-10. PRAY "Jesus, You are so good to us. Help us to work together for Your glory."

Friday

READ Acts 18:22-28; Ephesians 4:15-16; First Corinthians 12:12-31; Hebrews 9:11-28. DISCUSS, How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? MEDITATE on Ephesians 2:8-10. PRAY "Lord King, we worship Your name, Jesus, for You alone reign supreme. Thank You for loving us and building Your Church through us."

Saturday

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

READ **Acts 19:1-41**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for the *live-stream* or in-person service. Ask Jesus to help us love our neighbors well.

Ephesians 2: 8 - 10

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.