



The \_\_\_\_\_  
**First Congregational Church**  
of Woodstock \_\_\_\_\_

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

*August 15th, 2021*

# *The Order of Morning Worship*

August 15, 2021

Nine-thirty

Welcome

Pastor Doug Warren

- ❖ Call to Worship                                      Psalm 19                                      Congregation  
    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 #355      *We Are God's People*                                      Congregation

# We Are God's People

355

*We are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Ps. 100:3*

Unison

1. We are God's peo - ple, the cho - sen of the Lord, born of his  
 2. We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord, for we have  
 3. We are the Bod - y of which the Lord is - Head, called to o -  
 4. We are a tem - ple, the Spir - it's dwell - ing place, formed in great

Spir - it, es - tab - lished by his Word; our cor - ner - stone is  
 known it, the love of God out - poured; now let us learn how  
 bey him, now ris - en from the dead; he wills us be a  
 weak - ness, a cup to hold God's grace; we die a - lone, for

Christ a - lone, and strong in him we stand: O let us live trans -  
 to re - turn the gift of love once giv'n: O let us share each  
 fam - i - ly, di - verse yet tru - ly one: O let us give our  
 on its own each mem - ber los - es fire: yet joined in one the

par - ent - ly, and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.  
 joy and care, and live with a zeal that pleas - es heav'n.  
 gifts to God, and so shall his work on earth be done.  
 flame burns on to give warmth and light, and to in - spire.

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

Congregation

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.

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness

Romans 8:1

Pastor

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

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Pastor

<sup>18</sup>For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,  
**Congregation: but the Word of our God will stand forever.**

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor

❖ Hymn of Reflection #481

*Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus*

Congregation

## Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus

*Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth. Is. 45:22*

1. O soul, are you wea - ry and trou - bled? No light in the  
 2. Through death in - to life ev - er - last - ing he passed, and we  
 3. His Word shall not fail you—he prom - ised; be - lieve him and

Chords: F, B $\flat$ , F $^7$ , B $\flat$ , Gm, B $\flat$ , F, C

dark - ness you see? There's light for a look at the  
 fol - low him there; o - ver us sin no more hath do -  
 all will be well: then go to a world that is

Chords: Am, C $^7$ , F, B $\flat$ , F

Sav - ior, and life more a - bun - dant and free!  
 min - ion— for more than con - qu'rors we are!  
 dy - ing, his per - fect sal - va - tion to tell!

Chords: G $^7$ , C, F, G $^7$ , B $^7$ , C, G $^7$ , C

## *“Uproar at the Temple”*

Acts 21: 17 – 39

<sup>17</sup> When we had come to Jerusalem, the brothers received us gladly. <sup>18</sup> On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present. <sup>19</sup> After greeting them, he related one by one the things that God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. <sup>20</sup> And when they heard it, they glorified God. And they said to him, “You see, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews of those who have believed. They are all zealous for the law, <sup>21</sup> and they have been told about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or walk according to our customs. <sup>22</sup> What then is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come. <sup>23</sup> Do therefore what we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow; <sup>24</sup> take these men and purify yourself along with them and pay their expenses, so that they may shave their heads. Thus all will know that there is nothing in what they have been told about you, but that you yourself also live in observance of the law. <sup>25</sup> But as for the Gentiles who have believed, we have sent a letter with our judgment that they should abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality.” <sup>26</sup> Then Paul took the men, and the next day he purified himself along with them and went into the temple, giving notice when the days of purification would be fulfilled and the offering presented for each one of them.

<sup>27</sup> When the seven days were almost completed, the Jews from Asia, seeing him in the temple, stirred up the whole crowd and laid hands on him, <sup>28</sup> crying out, “Men of Israel, help! This is the man who is teaching everyone everywhere against the people and the law and this place. Moreover, he even brought Greeks into the temple and has defiled this holy place.” <sup>29</sup> For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian with him in the city, and they supposed that Paul had brought him into the temple. <sup>30</sup> Then all the city was stirred up, and the people ran together. They seized Paul and dragged him out of the temple, and at once the gates were shut. <sup>31</sup> And as they were seeking to kill him, word came to the tribune of the cohort that all Jerusalem was in confusion. <sup>32</sup> He at once took soldiers and centurions and ran down to them. And when they saw the tribune and the soldiers, they stopped beating Paul. <sup>33</sup> Then the tribune came up and arrested him and ordered him to be bound with two chains. He inquired

who he was and what he had done. <sup>34</sup> Some in the crowd were shouting one thing, some another. And as he could not learn the facts because of the uproar, he ordered him to be brought into the barracks. <sup>35</sup> And when he came to the steps, he was actually carried by the soldiers because of the violence of the crowd, <sup>36</sup> for the mob of the people followed, crying out, “Away with him!”

<sup>37</sup> As Paul was about to be brought into the barracks, he said to the tribune, “May I say something to you?” And he said, “Do you know Greek? <sup>38</sup> Are you not the Egyptian, then, who recently stirred up a revolt and led the four thousand men of the Assassins out into the wilderness?” <sup>39</sup> Paul replied, “I am a Jew, from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no obscure city. I beg you, permit me to speak to the people.”

❖ Hymn of Response #508

*Jesus, Lover of My Soul*

Congregation



## Jesus, Lover of My Soul

*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? Rom. 8:35*

Dm A<sup>7</sup> Dm A Dm A<sup>7</sup> Dm A

1. Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, let me to thy bo - som fly,  
 2. Oth - er ref - uge have I none, hangs my help - less soul on thee;  
 3. Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find:  
 4. Plen - teous grace with thee is found, grace to cov - er all my sin;

Dm A<sup>7</sup> Dm A Dm C F C<sup>7</sup> Dm A<sup>7</sup> Dm

while the near - er wa - ters roll, while the tem - pest still is high:  
 leave, ah! leave me not a - lone, still sup - port and com - fort me!  
 raise the fall - en, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.  
 let the heal - ing streams a - bound; make and keep me pure with - in:

F B<sup>b</sup> F B<sup>b</sup> C<sup>7</sup> F C<sup>7</sup> F Dm A Dm C F E<sup>7</sup> Am

hide me, O my Sav - ior, hide, till the storm of life is past;  
 All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;  
 Just and ho - ly is thy name; I am all un - righ - teous - ness;  
 thou of life the foun - tain art, free - ly let me take of thee;

B<sup>b</sup> F Dm Gm A Dm A<sup>7</sup> Dm 7

safe in - to the ha - ven guide, O re - ceive my soul at last!  
 cov - er my de - fense - less head with the shad - ow of thy wing.  
 false and full of sin I am, thou art full of truth and grace.  
 spring thou up with - in my heart, rise to all e - ter - ni - ty.

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13: 14

Pastor

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

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

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## Special Event Tonight

Greetings From the Mission Board!

We are inviting you to a cover dish dinner and Zoom meeting with our missionaries Matt and Tara Megill this Sunday night.

The Zoom will be at 6 pm and we can fellowship and enjoy a dinner together afterwards. It has been a long time since we have been able to have a cover dish so come on out and celebrate!

I (Anne) will be cooking hamburgers and hotdogs on a grill and you should bring a generous proportion of food of whatever you want to share with everyone. Other meat dishes are also welcomed.

Looking forward to seeing you all and having us all greeting and bringing encouragement to Matt and Tara in the Lord via Zoom while they are in the states on sabbatical.

What: Cover dish dinner and Zoom with the Megills, our missionaries from Africa

Where: FCCW Billings Room

When: August 15, 2021, Zoom 6 PM followed by cover dish dinner

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August Newsletter is on the Table in the Narthex.

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## Sunday School Teachers Needed

Fall is just around the corner, causing each of us to think about the seasonal changes and the new school year. The BCE is also looking ahead to fall and planning the new Sunday School year with an anticipated start date sometime mid to late September. We would like to be able to offer a hybrid class option (virtual and in-person) for the following classes: PreK-K, Grades 1-3, Grades 4-6, and Grades 7-12. Please prayerfully consider teaching the children of our church and community. The reward will be great. For more information, please contact Terri DeDell, Sunday School Superintendent, at [dedellcrew@gmail.com](mailto:dedellcrew@gmail.com).

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## Market on the Green

Our outreach at the Woodstock Market on the Green each Wednesday continues to be very popular with area kids and their families and many volunteers are needed to help each week. If you can help in any way--greeting children and families, painting faces, overseeing the coloring station, holding babies, or assisting in the setup and tear-down of the tent, table, and chairs--please contact Hayley Bauer at (785) 727-0756 or email her at [hayleylgriffith@gmail.com](mailto:hayleylgriffith@gmail.com).

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## Teachers Needed

WCCC is in need of **Teachers/Assistants**, and **Substitutes**. We are in serious need of Substitutes in the Fall Session, so please prayerfully consider how you could support the center by becoming a Substitute.

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 for the Fall session, which starts on August 30th!

Please contact Ruth Brisson at [rbrissonwccc@gmail.com](mailto:rbrissonwccc@gmail.com) or 410-925-7959, if you are interested in serving in any of these roles.

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

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## **Uproar at the Temple**

**1. Paul (and the Gospel) Receive Both Welcome and Violence.**

**2. Christ's Kingdom Will Overcome Both Jerusalem and Rome.**

**3. Upon What Is Your Certainty Based?**

CONCLUSION: Christ's promise to expand His Kingdom throughout Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth continues even as Paul and his missionary band return to Jerusalem. As we should expect they receive both hospitality and rejection just like Jesus. The reactions of Jerusalem and Rome demonstrate their fickleness and falseness of this fallen world. This historical account also calls us to evaluate our own fleeting lives and what we are looking for as an anchor. Anything less than Christ will disappoint with devastating consequences. Look to Christ and live!

## Matthew 10:16-25

<sup>16</sup> “Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup> Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, <sup>18</sup> and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup> When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. <sup>20</sup> For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. <sup>21</sup> Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, <sup>22</sup> and you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup> When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

<sup>24</sup> “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. <sup>25</sup> It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. *If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.*

## 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

<sup>18</sup> For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For *Jews* demand signs and *Greeks* seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to *Jews* and folly to *Gentiles*, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are called, both *Jews* and *Greeks*, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

## Psalms 20:1-9

May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble!  
May the name of the God of Jacob protect you!  
May he send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion!  
May he remember all your offerings and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices!  
May he grant you your heart’s desire and fulfill all your plans!  
May we shout for joy over your salvation, and in the name of our God set up our banners!  
May the Lord fulfill all your petitions!  
Now I know that the Lord saves his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with the saving might of his right hand.  
Some *trust in chariots and some in horses*, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.  
They collapse and fall, but we rise and stand upright.  
O Lord, save the king! May he answer us when we call.

# Taking Gathered Worship Home

Homecomings can be bitter or sweet and oftentimes both. Such was Paul's return to Jerusalem, his ancestral home. First he was welcomed and then beaten and imprisoned. What is going on and how does this account help us to trust Jesus whose Kingdom is true and everlasting?

*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 21:17-39; Matthew 10:16-25; First Corinthians 1:18-25; Psalm 20:1-9.** DISCUSS Followers of Jesus will find the whole world against us. Why does this surprise us? Which do you tend to look to for approval more—false religion or civil authority? How does their approbation act as a false gospel providing false security? PRAY “Lord Jesus, forgive us for looking to other things for security besides You.”

## Sunday Evening

Everyone is welcome to attend *this evening at 6pm* as we host missionary Matt Megill in the meeting room and then enjoy dinner.

## Monday

READ **Acts 21:17-39; Matthew 10:16-25; First Peter 5:6-11.** DISCUSS Why does the world hate Christians? How is that expressed through Jerusalem? How through Rome? What false hopes do you need to repent of today? MEDITATE on **Matthew 6:31-33.** PRAY “Lord, forgive us for the ways we look to others in ways we should only look to Christ.”

## Tuesday

READ **Acts 21:17-39; Mark 13:9-13; Psalm 20:1-9; Isaiah 45:21-23.** DISCUSS: How do the psalmist and Isaiah point us to resting in God alone? What counterfeits do Jerusalem and Rome offer? How do we resist their temptations? MEDITATE on **Matthew 6:31-33.** PRAY “Lord, thank You when we are welcomed and thank You when we are rejected. Enable us to receive joyfully whatever You bring because of the security we have only in Christ.”

### Wednesday

READ **Acts 21:17-39; Luke 21:12-19; First Corinthians 1:18-25.** DISCUSS How do the stereotypes of Jewish and Gentile disbelief held us to understand true belief in Christ and His Kingdom? What does the coming of the Kingdom of God mean? How are we to trust in our King? MEDITATE on **Matthew 6:31-33.** PRAY “Lord, enflame our hearts with passion for You and Your Kingdom.”

### Thursday

READ **Acts 21:17-39; John 15:18-27; Matthew 5:10-12.** DISCUSS How does the truth of Christ conflict with the lies of this world? Why is it so important for us as Christ’s people to be truthful? When are you most tempted to embellish or deny the truth? Why? MEDITATE on **Matthew 6:31-33.** PRAY “Jesus, make us honest. Embolden us to speak the truth in love. Help us to discern dishonesty and to stand against its destructive nature.”

### Friday

READ **Acts 21:17-39; Matthew 10:16-25; First Corinthians 1:18-25; Psalm 20:1-9.** DISCUSS How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? MEDITATE on **Matthew 6:31-33.** PRAY “Thank You, Lord Christ, that You are true and that Your Kingdom is everlasting.”

### Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow. *Both in-person & live-stream services are available.* READ **Acts 21:40-22:29.** Invite others to join you tomorrow for the *in-person or live-stream service.* Ask Jesus to build us build us up as His holy body.

## Matthew 6:31-33

“Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But *seek first the kingdom of God* and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”