

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

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

*August 9th, 2020*

# *The Order of Morning Worship*

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

August 9th , 2020

Nine-thirty

Welcome

Elder Gil Emery

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship

Nicene Creed

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We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only – begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us and for our salvation  
came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,  
and was made human;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried;  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;  
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the  
dead;  
Whose kingdom shall have no end.

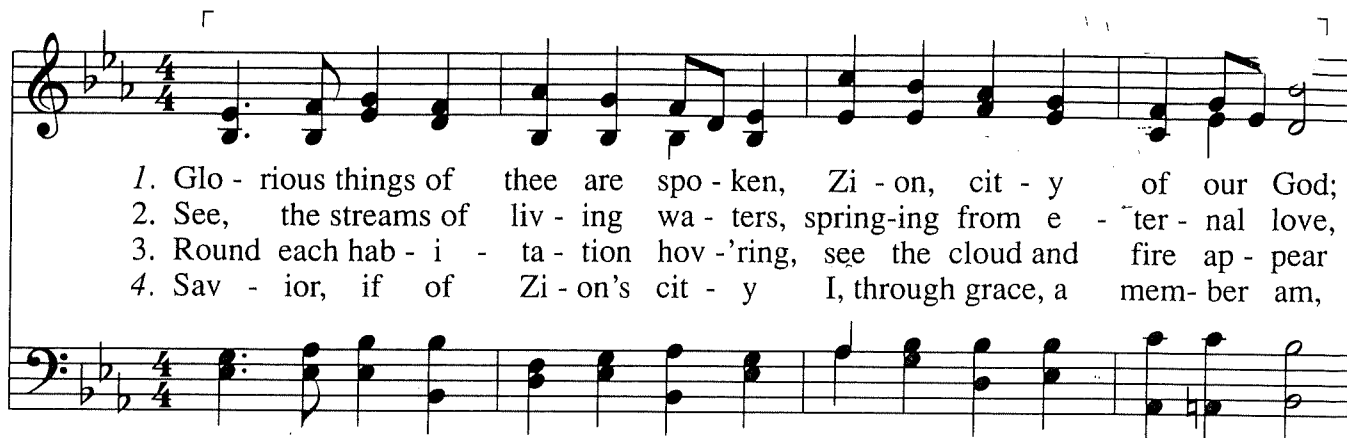
And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;  
who spoke by the prophets;  
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;  
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;  
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

❖ Hymn of Exultation

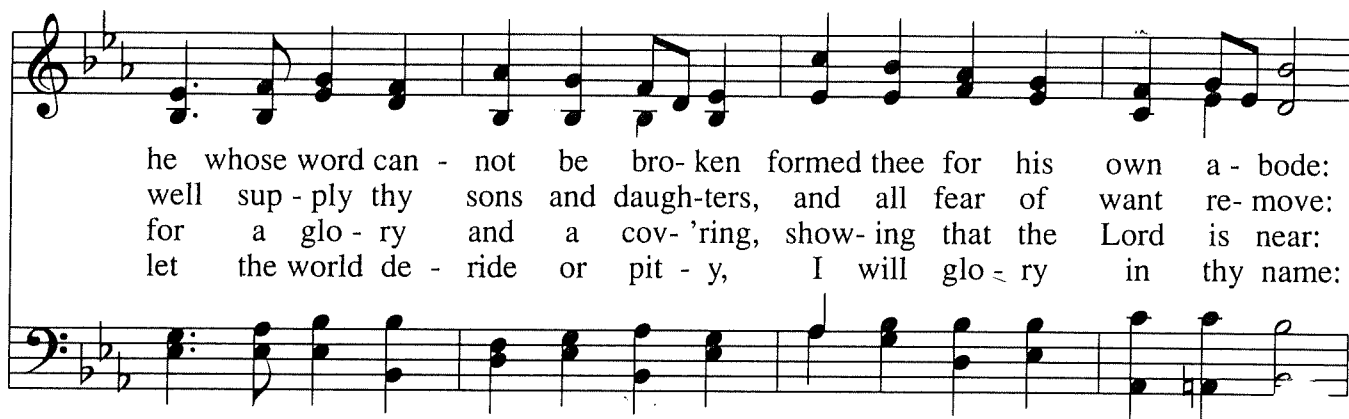
Number 345

*Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

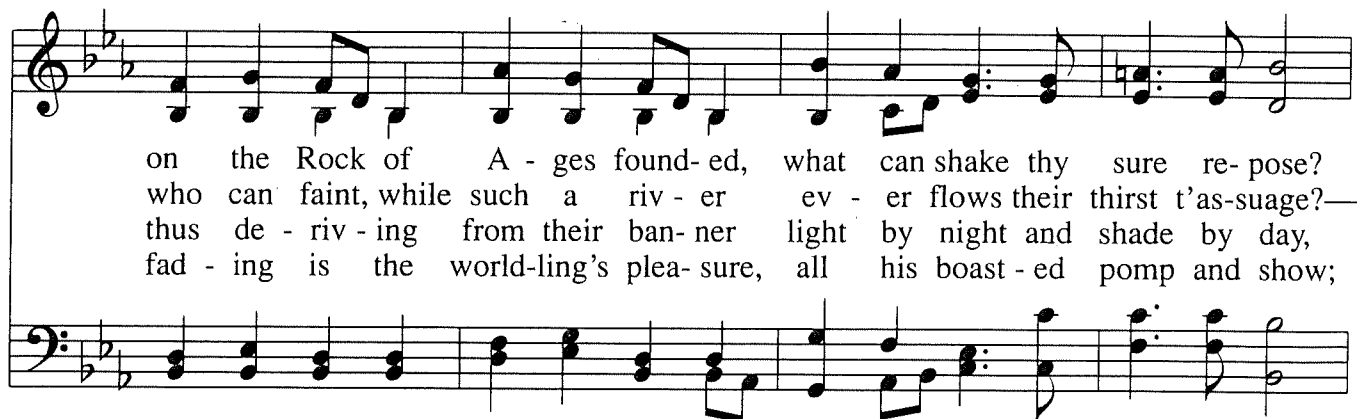
## Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

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


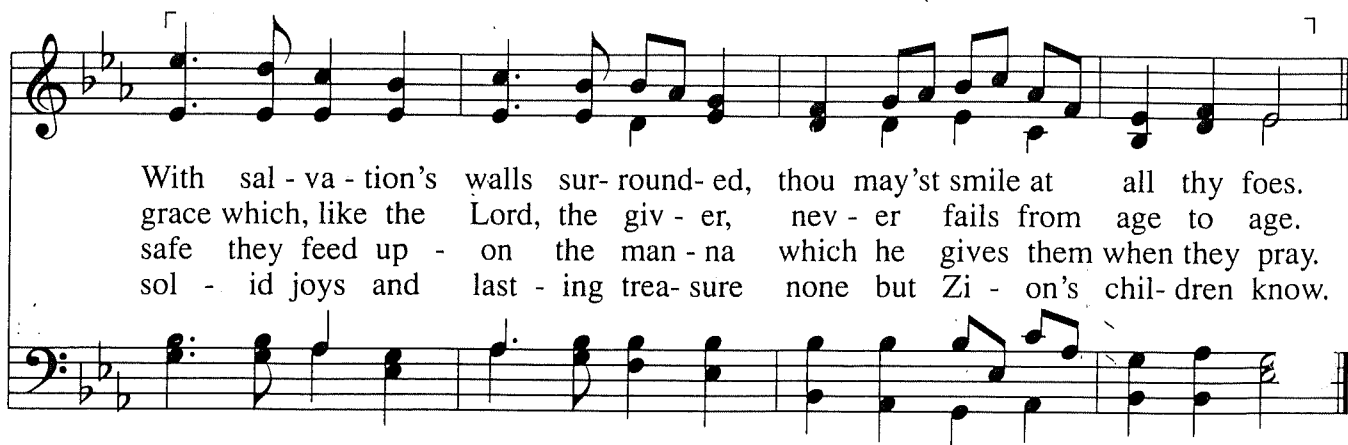
1. Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God;  
 2. See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,  
 3. Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring, see the cloud and fire ap - pear  
 4. Sav - ior, if of Zi - on's cit - y I, through grace,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

<sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup>which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

<sup>11</sup>In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, <sup>12</sup>so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup>who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,

**Congregation: But the Word of our God will stand forever.**

Pastoral Prayer

The Sermon

Mr. Nathan Snyder

*“Worship God, the Ultimate Wedding Planner”*

Revelation 19: 6 – 10

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out,

“Hallelujah!

For the Lord our God  
the Almighty reigns.

<sup>7</sup> Let us rejoice and exult  
and give him the glory,  
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,  
and his Bride has made herself ready;

<sup>8</sup> it was granted her to clothe herself  
with fine linen, bright and pure”—

for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

<sup>9</sup> And the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.” And he said to me, “These are the true words of God.” <sup>10</sup> Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God.” For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

❖ Hymn of Commitment

Number 320

*Rejoice, All Ye Believers*

## Rejoice, All Ye Believers

*Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him! Matt. 25:6*

1. Re - joice, all ye be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;  
 2. See that your lamps are burn - ing; re - plen - ish them with oil;  
 3. Ye saints, who here in pa - tience your cross and suf - f'rings bore,  
 4. Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near:  
 and wait for your sal - va - tion, the end of earth - ly toil.  
 shall live and reign for - ev - er, when sor - row is no more:  
 a - rise, thou sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.

the Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he draw - eth nigh;  
 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the Bride - groom near;  
 a - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb ye shall be - hold,  
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, pray, and watch, and wres - tle: at mid - night comes the cry.  
 go meet him as he com - eth, with al - le - lu - ias clear.  
 in tri - umph cast be - fore him your di - a - dems of gold.  
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that brings us un - to thee.

<sup>24</sup> Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, <sup>25</sup> to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

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

Postlude

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*~~ Organist: Anne Hablitzel ~~*  
*~~ Please ensure cell phones are off ~~*

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Nathan Snyder

Our guest preacher today is Nathan Snyder from Belin, NH. He is licensed by the Northern New England Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America to preach the gospel and he often substitutes for pulpits while ministers in the area are on vacation. Nathan graduated from Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri with a Master of Divinity in 2011. On February 24, 2013, he was ordained as an Associate Pastor at Exeter Presbyterian Church in Exeter, NH. God had other plans for Nathan and called him back to teaching math at the high school level. He first taught at Portsmouth Christian Academy in Dover, NH for 5 years, and is currently teaching math at Gorham High School in Gorham, NH. Nathan and his wife Genie have three children – Jonah (age 11), Maizy (age 9), and Melody (age 8). In their free time, Nathan and Genie enjoy hiking, watching movies, and playing Ticket to Ride.

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## Substitutes Needed

The Woodstock Christian Childcare is planning to reopen the end of August. Staff has been busily reorganizing and preparing. They are in need of more substitute teachers. If you would like more information, please contact Ruth Brisson at 410 – 925 – 7959 or email her at [brissonwccc@comcast.net](mailto:brissonwccc@comcast.net). Please continue to pray for the many changes that must be put in place in order to open.

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## Deacons' Offering – Today, August 9

This month's Deacons' offering will go towards the work of the Deacons. 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 Jerry Morton, the Deacons' Mercy Minister at 802-672-1793 or email at [ejerrym@aol.com](mailto:ejerrym@aol.com).

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## Last Day to Reserve Your Meals for the Dinner To – Go is Tomorrow, August 10!

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## Young Adult Fellowship Group

Pastor Doug has formed a Young Adult Fellowship Group to grow the faith of our High School Students and Young Adults in our congregation and community. On Tuesdays the group meets at 8:00 am for Bible Study at the Church. On Sundays, the group meets at 7:30 pm for a time of Praise and Fellowship at the Church. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Doug at 802-457-1304 or email him at [PastorDougW@gmail.com](mailto:PastorDougW@gmail.com). Young Adults invite your friends to a time of learning, praise and worship, and fellowship. Appropriate social distancing and protocols are being taken.

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## Pastor Doug is Away

This next week, August 10 – 14, Pastor Doug and his family will be away for some much needed rest. In case of an emergency, please contact an Elder.

Keith can be reached at 802 – 484 – 1274, 802 – 345 – 6312 (cell), or email him at tallon49@gmail.com.

Gil can be reached at 802 – 457 – 4950 or email him at Hgemery@aol.com.

John can be reached at 802 – 345 – 7855 or email him at jhaas@ara.com.

Peter can be reached at 802 – 483 – 9430 or email him at pdvanderhoof@gmail.com.

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## Volunteers Needed

The Community Outreach Team is looking for volunteers to fill various needs for the Dinner To-Go Free Community Meal on August 14th. Many hands make light work. Please consider volunteering to help make this meal a great success.

To sign up please click on the link below:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ih33Bc17bW2w\\_4E6kxMqj4FsdMglUA5-Vlw9d3kg9qM/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ih33Bc17bW2w_4E6kxMqj4FsdMglUA5-Vlw9d3kg9qM/edit?usp=sharing)

For more information or details on when to arrive, please contact Sheryl Hoehner at schoehner@gmail.com or 434-446-6052.

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## **Worship God, the Ultimate Wedding Planner**

### **Worship God!**

1. God Rules History According to His Plan.
2. God Plans for History to Climax in the Marriage of the Lamb.
3. God's Marriage Plan Is Revealed Through Testimony of Jesus.

## Taking Gathered Worship Home

What's the greatest finale you've ever witnessed? Do we live like history is heading somewhere specific or like it is just a freight train headed no where? What difference does the destination make? How are you (we) trusting Christ together as we await the great wedding?

*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 **Revelation 19:6-10; Ephesians 1:7-14; 5:25-27**. DISCUSS, What has God been planning to do in history all along? How has Christ accomplished that? What remains yet to do? PRAY "Lord, Christ open our eyes to Your purposes in redemption. Help us to see everything else in light of Your end in the marriage feast of the Lamb."

### Sunday Evening

*In lieu of the evening worship service tonight, please set apart some time to pray for God to bring revival here at FCCW and around the globe.*

### Monday

READ **Revelation 19:6-10; John 3:25-30; Revelation 1:1-3**. DISCUSS, Jesus describes Himself as the Bridegroom. Who is His Bride? What does this language convey about Christ's intimacy with His people? How does that fit with the beginning of Revelation? PRAY, "Lord Jesus, we want to long for You as a bride longs for her groom. Teach us what it means to serve You with all of our hearts."

### Tuesday

READ **Revelation 19:6-10; 5:1-14; Ephesians 2:8-10**. DISCUSS, Christ alone is worthy to open the scroll. Why? How does that relate to His work in Ephesians? What are you doing with what He has entrusted to you? PRAY, "Lord, thank You for all that You have prepared before hand to bring us to You. Teach us to serve You with all of our abilities and strength."

### Wednesday

READ **Revelation 19:6-10; Ephesians 5:25-33**. DISCUSS, How has Christ loved the Church? In this time of our engagement how is He purifying us? When is He going to present us perfectly pure? How are you living in that good news today? PRAY, “Lord, make holy, faithful, and true. Help us in our thoughts, words, and actions to resemble You.”

### Thursday

READ **Revelation 19:6-10; 21:9-14; John 14:1-7**. DISCUSS, What has Jesus gone to the Father to do for His Bride? How is that described in these passages? How much does that hope direct you now in your daily living? PRAY, “Lord You have promised to return for us. You will not leave us forever. Teach us to trust You.”

### Friday

READ **Revelation 19:6-10; Ephesians 1:7-14; 5:25-27**. DISCUSS, How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? REJOICE if Christ has given you the honor to be identified among His people! PRAY for renewal and revival across our land.

### Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow. *There will be both the live-stream and in-person services available.*

READ **Acts 9:1-43; Joshua 1:31-18**. Invite others to join you for either the *live-stream or in-person service* tomorrow. Ask Jesus to help us in the transition back to gathered worship in the building.

## Ephesians 5: 25 – 27

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.