



The _____
First Congregational Church
_____ of Woodstock _____

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

August 7th, 2022

The Order of Morning Worship

August 7th, 2022

Nine-thirty

Welcome & Announcements

Elder Gil Emery

Prelude & Silent Prayer

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| ❖ Call to Worship | Psalm 34 | Elder |
| ❖ Hymn of Exultation #642 | <i>Be Thou My Vision</i> | Congregation |
| Scriptural Call to Repentance | Isaiah 55:6-7 | Elder |
| Prayer of Collective Confession | Psalm 25 | Congregation |

Be mindful of Your mercy, O Lord, and of Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Do not remember the sins of our youth or our transgressions; according to Your steadfast love remember us, for Your goodness' sake, O Lord! Good and upright is the Lord; therefore He instructs sinners in the way. For Your name's sake, O Lord, pardon our guilt, for it is great. Turn to us and be gracious to us, for we are lonely and afflicted. Relieve the troubles of our hearts, and bring us out of our distress. Consider our affliction and our trouble, and forgive all our sins.

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness Colossians 2:13-14 Elder

Offering (collected from back to front) Congregation

Pastoral Prayer Elder

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|------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| ❖ Affirmation of Faith | <i>The Apostles' Creed</i> | Congregation |
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Pastor: Christian, what do you believe concerning God, the Father?

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

Pastor: 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.

Pastor: 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.

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| ❖ Creedal Song #731 | <i>Doxology</i> | Congregation |
| ❖ Scripture Reading | Colossians 1:15-23 | Elder |
| ❖ Hymn of Reflection | <i>Better Is One Day</i> | Congregation |
| The Sermon | Philippians 3:7-8 | Pastor Doug Warren |
| <i>“The Surpassing Worth of Knowing Christ”</i> | | |
| ❖ Hymn of Response # 660 | <i>O God Beyond All Praising</i> | Congregation |
| Communion | | Congregation |
| ❖ Communion Hymn #421 | <i>Soul, Adorn Yourself
With Gladness</i> | Congregation |
| ❖ Benediction | Romans 15:13 | Pastor |

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

Postlude

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

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

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Young Adult Fellowship Group will meet tonight  
at 6 pm in the church library.  
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Concert of Prayer

Calling all members and regular attenders of FCCW! We will be gathering at 7:00 pm on Friday, August 26, for a concert of prayer. Our focus will be asking the Lord to guide us as we reach out together by faith in Christ. We want to faithfully love our neighbors in word and deed to the honor of Jesus. This evening of prayer should be a great time in God's presence together with praise music and prayer.
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The August Prayer Letter is available in the narthex.  
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Intro to FCCW Workshop

Interested in knowing more about FCCW? Want to explore questions about the Bible in a small group? What does it mean to be a member? What opportunities are there to serve at FCCW? Consider attending the *Intro to FCCW Workshop* being offered **five consecutive Thursday evenings, August 4-September 1, from 6-8 pm.** This workshop will give insight into how FCCW functions and the importance of membership. Please contact Kristen at fccwinfo@gmail.com to register.

Session One—Worship

Session Two—Joyous Knowledge

Session Three—Radical Love for One Another

Session Four— Extending His Grace

Session Five— Belonging to His Community
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### Teachers Needed

WCCC is in need of **Teachers/Assistants**, and **Substitutes**. 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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Market on the Green

The 2022 season of our face painting booth at Market on the Green is well underway! Volunteers from FCCW are at the park every **Wednesday**, June 1-Oct 12 from **3-6 pm**, offering free face painting for all ages. We also have coloring books, and story time for the kids. Each Wednesday we serve between 20 and 40 families. We often hear comments like “Your face painting is a highlight of our kids’ week!” and “We love that you guys are here serving the community!”

More helping hands are always welcome! If you would like to help in any way with this amazing outreach opportunity please contact Jeff DeDell at dedellcrew@gmail.com.



Mid Vermont Christian School

Educating for Impact

Calling missionaries to MVCS!

We are seeking qualified and enthusiastic individuals who have a passion for Christian education!

MVCS has full-time and part-time positions available:

Music Director & Teacher (band & chorus teaching could be split into two part time positions), Elementary School Teacher, JSH Foreign Language Teacher, JSH Mathematics Teacher and part-time High School Art.

Please inquire through the school office ~ mvcs@mvcs.info or 802-295-6800.

The Surpassing Worth of Knowing Christ

1. Paul Learned to Count Differently in Christ.

2. Consider the Infinite Worth in Christ!

3. Christ's Worth Makes Everything Else Like Dung in Comparison.

4. How Do We Prioritize Christ's Worth in Our Daily Lives?

CONCLUSION: God's ledger book works differently than ours. He is not capable of error. He knows the true value of everything having made all that there is. He cannot be duped into placing value on fool's gold. But we are easily misled. In this passage we are invited to gaze upon the surpassing worth of Christ Jesus. Seeing His true magnificence allows us to see everything else rightly. Let us as a church family help and encourage one another to value and prioritize the things of God's Kingdom according to their true worth in Christ.

Colossians 1:15-23

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

²¹ And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, ²³ if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴ having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Hebrews 3:1-6

Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, ² who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. ³ For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. ⁴ (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) ⁵ Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, ⁶ but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

Ephesians 1:18-23

“... ¹⁸ having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is *the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe*, according to the working of his great might ²⁰ that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Taking Gathered Worship Home

What is your most prized possession? Why? Has it always been the same? Is there something that you used to prize above all else that now is not that valuable to you any more? Why or why not?

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 2:9-11; 3:7-8; Colossians 1:15-23; Hebrews 1:1-4; 3:1-6; Ephesians 1:18-23; Romans 11:33-36; 1Corinthians 1:26-31; 1Peter 2:4-8.** DISCUSS On what basis do you come to God today? What is our certainty? Why? What provides you confidence today and hope for tomorrow? PRAY “Jesus, thank You for blessings we inherit as well as those You enable us to accomplish. They all demonstrate Your glory.”

Sunday Evening

The *Young Adults' Fellowship* will meet at **6pm** in the FCCW Library.

Monday

READ **Philippians 2:9-11; 3:7-8; Colossians 1:15-23; Psalm 16:1-11.** DISCUSS How do these verses describe Christ's value? Is that how you value Him? Why or why not? SERVE by putting someone else's interest *above your own!* MEDITATE on **Hebrews 12:1-2.** PRAY, “Lord, You are glorious. Help me (us) to give You the praise and adoration You deserve.”

Tuesday

READ **Philippians 3:7-8; Hebrews 1:1-4; 3:1-6; Psalm 57:1-11.** DISCUSS According to Hebrews how does Christ compare to the prophets, angels, Moses? Why? Do you agree? Why or why not? MEDITATE on **Hebrews 12:1-2.** PRAY, “Lord, *help me (us) to believe that You really are greater than anything/anyone. Teach us to live that out.*”

Wednesday

READ **Philippians 3:7-8; Ephesians 1:18-23; Romans 11:33-36; Psalm 84:1-12**. DISCUSS How do we know “*the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe*”? What are you (we) doing to cultivate God’s work in us? MEDITATE on **Hebrews 12:1-2**. PRAY, “Lord, teach us to abide in You alone.”

Thursday

READ **Philippians 3:7-8; 1Corinthians 1:26-31; 1Peter 2:4-8; Psalm 118:15-29**. DISCUSS How is God’s accounting different than ours? MEDITATE on **Hebrews 12:1-2**. ATTEND the *Intro Class* tonight from **6-8pm** if possible. PRAY, “Lord, *teach us to count differently than we are used to counting*. Help us to see value as You do.”

Friday

READ **Philippians 2:9-11; 3:7-8; Colossians 1:15-23; Hebrews 1:1-4; 3:1-6; Ephesians 1:18-23; Romans 11:33-36; 1Corinthians 1:26-31; 1Peter 2:4-8**. DISCUSS, How has God been convicting you from these passages this week? MEDITATE on **Hebrews 12:1-2**. PRAY that we at FCCW would *honor Christ*.

Saturday

PREPARE today for the service tomorrow which is *available both in-person and via live-stream*. READ **Philippians 3:1-21**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for the 9:30 service. Ask Jesus to gather us together joyfully to praise Him.

Hebrews 12:1-2

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also *lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, *looking to Jesus*, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”