

The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

*May 5th, 2024
Communion Sunday*

The Order of Morning Worship

May 5th, 2024

Ten-thirty

Welcome & Announcements

Elder Steve Briggs

Moment for Missions

Caleb Rayapati

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship

Psalm 34:1-3

Elder

I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad. Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together.

❖ Hymn of Exultation #455

And Can It Be

Congregation

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Rom. 5:8

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The first system includes five verses of lyrics. The second system continues the lyrics. Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line: G, Am/C, D7, G, Am/C, D7 in the first system; G, D/A, A7, D, G/D, D, G in the second system.

1. And can it be that I should gain an in - t'rest
2. 'Tis mys - t'ry all! Th'Im - mor - tal dies: who can ex -
3. He left his Fa - ther's throne a - bove (so free, so
4. Long my im - pris - oned spir - it lay fast bound in
5. No con - dem - na - tion now I dread; Je - sus, and

in the Sav - ior's blood? Died he for me, who caused his
plore his strange de - sign? In vain the first - born ser - aph
in - fi - nite his grace!), hum - bled him - self (so great his
sin and na - ture's night; thine eye dif - fused a quick - 'ning
all in him, is mine! A - live in him, my liv - ing

D C G G/D D7 G D G

pain? For me, who him to death pur - sued? A - maz - ing love!
 tries to sound the depths of love di - vine. 'Tis mer - cy all!
 • love!), and bled for all his cho - sen race. 'Tis mer - cy all,
 ray; I woke, the dun - geon flamed with light; my chains fell off,
 Head, and clothed in righ - teous - ness di - vine, bold I ap - proach

C A7 D G C

How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst
 Let earth a - dore, let an - gel minds in -
 • im - mense and free; for, O my God, it
 my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and
 th'e - ter - nal throne, and claim the crown, through

D G REFRAIN D D7

die for me?
 quire no more. A - maz - ing love! How can it
 • found out me. A - maz - ing love! How
 fol - lowed thee. A - maz - ing love! How
 Christ, my own.

G F C G Am/C G/D D7 G 7

be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
 can it be that thou, my God,

Scriptural Call to Repentance

Isaiah 55:5-7

Elder

Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know, and a nation that did not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for He has glorified you.

“Seek the LORD while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.”

Prayer of Collective Confession

from Psalm 25

Congregation

Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Remember not the sins of our youth or our transgressions; according to Your steadfast love remember us, for the sake of your goodness, 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. The troubles of our hearts are enlarged; bring us out of our distresses. Consider our affliction and our trouble, and forgive all our sins.

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness

Colossians 2:13-14

Elder

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This He set aside, nailing it to the cross.

Pastoral Prayer

Elder

Offering

(collected from back to front)

Congregation

❖ Scripture Reading

Romans 8:35-39

Elder

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?


³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

❖ Hymn of Reflection *Standing on the Promises* Congregation

He has given us His very great and precious promises, 2 Pet. 1:4



1. Stand-ing on the prom - is - es of Christ my King, Thro' e - ter - nal a - ges
 2. Stand-ing on the prom - is - es that can - not fail, When the howl-ing storms of
 3. Stand-ing on the prom - is - es of Christ the Lord, Bound to Him e - ter - nal-
 4. Stand-ing on the prom - is - es I can - not fall, Lis-t'ning ev - ery mo-ment



let His prais - es ring; Glo - ry in the high - est, I will shout and sing,
 doubt and fear as - sail, By the liv - ing Word of God I shall pre - vail,
 ly by love's strong cord, O - ver - com - ing dai - ly with the Spir - it's sword,
 to the Spir - it's call, Rest - ing in my Sav - ior as my all in all,



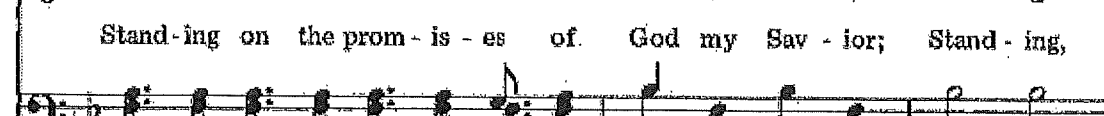
Refrain



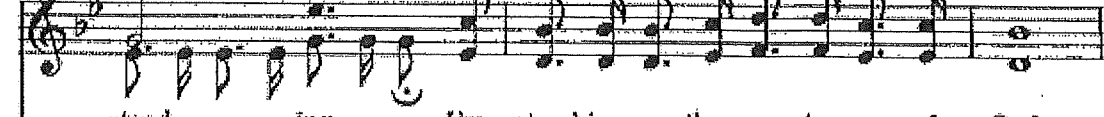
Stand-ing on the prom-is-es of God. Stand-ing, stand - ing,
 stand-ing on the prom-is-es,



Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God my Sav - ior; Stand - ing,



stand - ing, I'm stand-ing on the prom-is - es of God.



stand - ing, I'm stand-ing on the prom-is - es of God.

“The Parable of the Sower”

Mark 4:1-20

Again he began to teach beside the sea. And a very large crowd gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat in it on the sea, and the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land. ² And he was teaching them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: ³ “Listen! Behold, a sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured it. ⁵ Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and immediately it sprang up, since it had no depth of soil. ⁶ And when the sun rose, it was scorched, and since it had no root, it withered away. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. ⁸ And other seeds fell into good soil and produced grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.” ⁹ And he said, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

¹⁰ And when he was alone, those around him with the twelve asked him about the parables. ¹¹ And he said to them, “To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside everything is in parables, ¹² so that

“they may indeed see but not perceive,
and may indeed hear but not understand,
lest they should turn and be forgiven.”” (Isaiah 6:9-10)

¹³ And he said to them, “Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables? ¹⁴ The sower sows **the word**. ¹⁵ And these are the ones along the path, where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. ¹⁶ And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: the ones who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy. ¹⁷ And they have no root in themselves, but endure for a while; then, when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away. ¹⁸ And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word, ¹⁹ but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²⁰ But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones **who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold.**”

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

F B \flat F⁷ B \flat Gm B \flat F C

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

Am C⁷ F B \flat F

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

G⁷ C F G⁷ B⁷ C G⁷ C

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!

REFRAIN

Turn your eyes up - on Je - sus, look full in -- his

won - der - ful face; and the things of earth will grow

strange - ly dim in the light of his glo - ry and grace.

Helen H. Lemmel, 1922

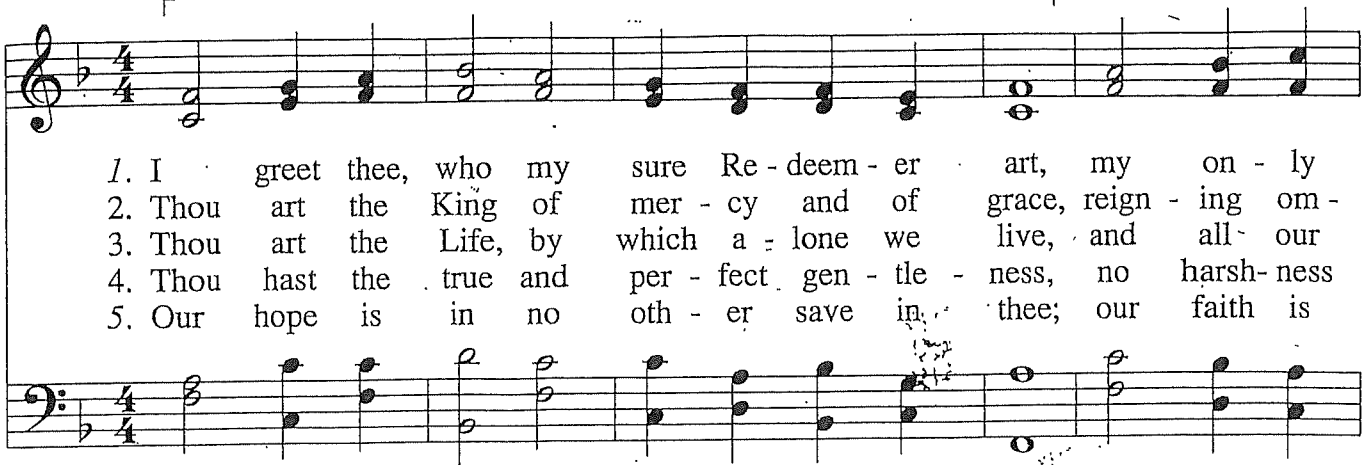
LEMMELE 9.8.9.8.ref.
Helen H. Lemmel, 1922

Text and tune © 1922, Singspiration Music/ASCAP. All rights reserved. Used by permission of The Benson Co., Inc.

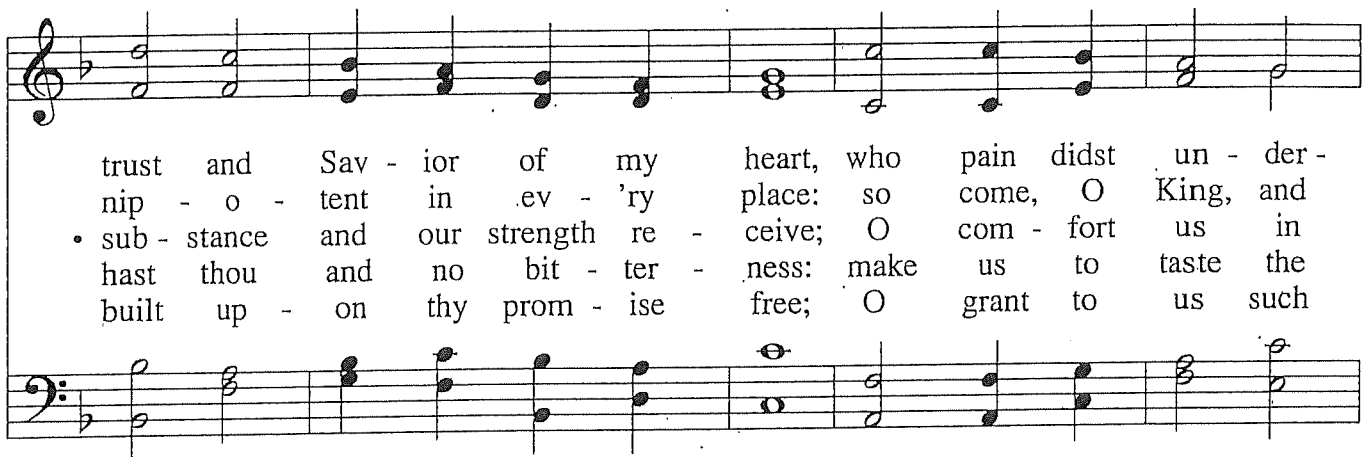
❖ Communion Hymn #168

*I Greet Thee, Who My
Sure Redeemer Art*

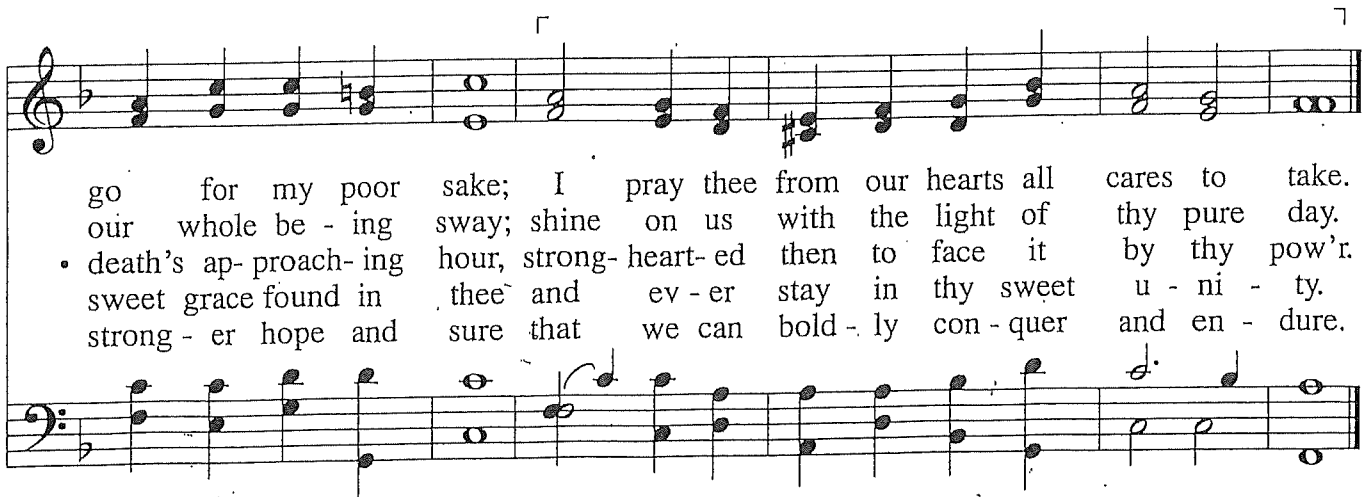
Congregation

Who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age. Gal. 1:4


1. I greet thee, who my sure Re - deem - er art, my on - ly
 2. Thou art the King of mer - cy and of grace, reign - ing om -
 3. Thou art the Life, by which a - lone we live, and all - our
 4. Thou hast the true and per - fect gen - tle - ness, no harsh - ness
 5. Our hope is in no oth - er save in thee; our faith is



trust and Sav - ior of my heart, who pain didst un - der -
 nip - o - tent in ev - 'ry place: so come, O King, and
 • sub - stance and our strength re - ceive; O com - fort us in
 hast thou and no bit - ter - ness: make us to taste the
 built up - on thy prom - ise free; O grant to us such



go for my poor sake; I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.
 our whole be - ing sway; shine on us with the light of thy pure day.
 • death's ap - proach - ing hour, strong - heart - ed then to face it by thy pow'r.
 sweet grace found in thee and ev - er stay in thy sweet u - ni - ty.
 strong - er hope and sure that we can bold - ly con - quer and en - dure.

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

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

Postlude

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

~~~~~  
Young Adult Fellowship Group will meet in the library  
this evening at 6:00 pm.  
~~~~~

Save the Date!

Saturday, May 11, 9:00 am-12:30 pm — Spring Clean-Up Day

Saturday, May 18, 2:00-4:00 pm — Libby Warren's Bridal Shower

Thursday, May 30, 6:00 pm — Supper Talk: Beyond "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God." Who was Jonathan Edwards and why should we know about him? Meal at 6 pm followed by the presentation given by Paul Hoehner

Saturday, June 1, 8:00-9:00 am — Men's Prayer Breakfast

Sunday, June 2 — No Sunday School, worship service at 10:30

Friday, June 7 — Congregational Prayer Gathering

Sunday, June 9 — Summer schedule begins with worship service at 9:30

Sunday, July 21 — Church Picnic on the WCCC playground (rain date July 28)

Interested in joining FCCW?

We will be welcoming new members in our Sunday morning worship service on May 19. If you would like to find out more about becoming a member of FCCW, please contact Pastor Doug or one of the other elders.

Weekly Gathering Opportunities

Sundays, 6:00 pm — Young Adult Fellowship Group in the library

Tuesdays, 7:00 am — Middle School & High School Bible Study—meet at Maplefields to grab breakfast, then on to the church for study, discussion, and prayer.

Tuesdays, 10:00 am — Ladies' Bible Study meets in person at the Thompson Senior Center and via ZOOM, please contact Bonnie Atwood at (802) 457-4120 or email bonhope2@gmail.com.

Tuesdays, 6:00 pm — Prayer Meeting, in person in the library and via ZOOM

Wednesdays, 6:15 am — Men's Bible Study, in person in the library and via ZOOM, please contact Dick Atwood at (802) 457-4120 or email rbatwood1@gmail.com.

GUESTS, welcome! It is great to have you here to worship Christ today. Please come back next week. May you come to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, if you don't already. Please send an email to fccwinfo@gmail.com with your name, address, and where you watched today. If you need help or have any questions, please include that in your email or call Pastor Doug.

Pastor Doug Warren: 802-299-1623

Email: PastorDougW@gmail.com

36 Elm Street, Woodstock, Vermont 05091

802-457-9818

fccwinfo@gmail.com

Elder Peter Vanderhoof (Chair): 802-483-9430

Elder Tom Johnston: 802-457-3012 Elder Stephen Briggs: 802-775-8088

Visit, or view past sermons on our website www.fccw.net,
sermonaudio.com, Facebook, or YouTube

“Proclaiming the grace and truth of the Gospel: a Christ-centered community for Woodstock, the Upper Valley, and the world, sharing Christ in word and deed.”