

The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

November 10th, 2024

The Order of Morning Worship

November 10th, 2024

Ten-thirty

Welcome & Announcements

Elder Stephen Briggs

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship

Revelation 15:3-4

Elder

“Great and amazing are your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty!
Just and true are your ways, O King of the nations!
Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify your name? For you alone
are holy.

All nations will come and worship you, for your righteous acts have
been revealed.”

❖ Hymn of Exultation #76

*Praise, My Soul,
the King of Heaven*

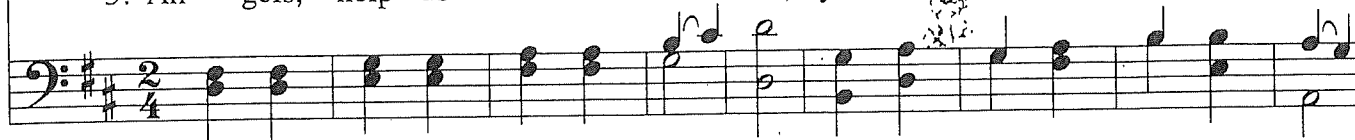
Congregation

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

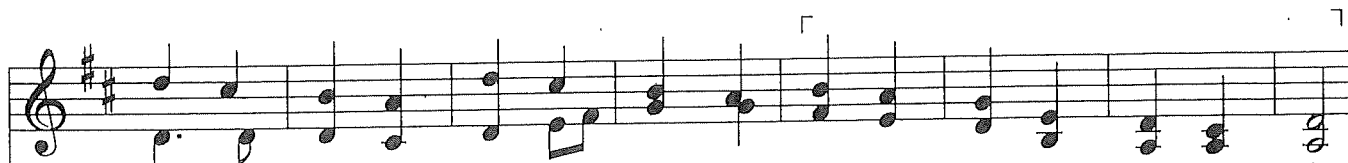
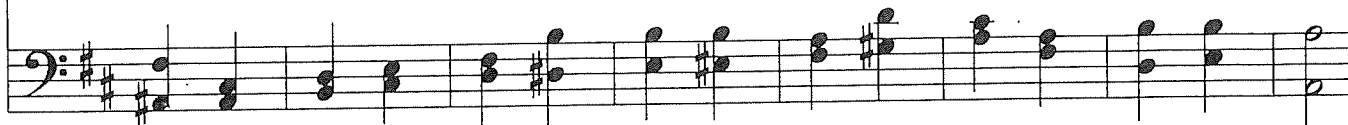
*Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the LORD,
O my soul.. Ps. 103:22*



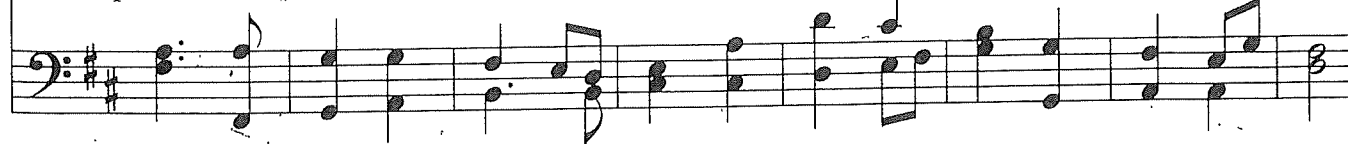
1. Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en, to his feet your trib - ute bring;
2. Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to our fa - thers in dis - tress;
3. Fa - ther - like, he tends and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows;
4. Frail as sum - mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
5. An - gels, help us to a - dore him; you be - hold him face to face;



- ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, who, like me, his praise should sing?
- praise him, still the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless;
- in his hands he gent - ly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes;
- but while mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.
- sun and moon, bow down be - fore him, dwell - ers all in time and space,



- Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
- praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness.
- praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, wide - ly as his mer - cy goes.
- Praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise the High E - ter - nal One.
- praise him, praise him, praise him, praise him, praise with us the God of grace.



“O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, we have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and rules. We have sinned against you and to us belongs open shame. To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against him and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God by walking in his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets. O my God, incline your ear and hear. Open your eyes and see our desolations, and the city that is called by your name. For we do not present our pleas before you because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy revealed in Christ. O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive. O Lord, pay attention and act. Delay not, for your own sake, O my God, because your city and your people are called by your name.”

Prayer of Collective Confession

Luther's Prayer

Congregation

O Lord, merciful and mighty, we unworthy sinners, come to You in humble repentance and confess how we have transgressed Your holy Law. We are guilty of sins of omission and commission, evil thoughts, improper words, and wrong deeds. Forgive our iniquity and shortcomings for the sake of the suffering and death of our Savior Jesus Christ. Let His obedience cover our disobedience, let His righteousness atone for our unrighteousness. Great God and Helper, You alone can forgive. With all our hearts we thank You for Your boundless mercy. Grant us grace with which we might accept Your gift of forgiveness with true faith and look upon the word of pardon as a message coming from You, assuring us and consoling our hearts before You. Let us treasure Your forgiveness and freely extend it to others by the power of Your resurrection. We pray in the name of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Elder

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were

sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Pastoral Prayer

Elder

Offering

(collected from back to front)

Congregation

Affirmation of Faith

Belgic Confession, Articles 1, 20

Congregation

We all believe with the heart, and confess with the mouth, that there is one only simple and spiritual Being, which we call God; and that He is eternal, incomprehensible, invisible, immutable, infinite, almighty, perfectly wise, just, good, and the overflowing fountain of all good.

We believe that God, who is perfectly merciful and just, sent His Son to assume that nature in which the disobedience was committed, to make satisfaction in the same and to bear the punishment of sin by His most bitter passion and death. God therefore manifested His justice against His Son when He laid our iniquities upon Him and poured forth His mercy and goodness on us, who were guilty and worthy of damnation, out of mere and perfect love, giving His Son unto death for us and raising Him for our justification, that through Him we might obtain immortality and life eternal.

Deacons' Offering

(collected from back to front)

Congregation

❖ Creedal Song #735

Gloria Patri

Congregation

735

Gloria Patri

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness. Ps. 29:2

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in

the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er

shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

2nd cent.; tr.

GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)
Henry W. Greatorex, 1st

❖ Scripture Reading

Matthew 10:34-39

Elder

³⁴ “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. ³⁶ And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. ³⁷ Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸ And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

❖ Hymn of Reflection #469

*How Sweet and
Awesome Is the Place*

Congregation

How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place

469

A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. Luke 14:16

1. How sweet and awe - some is the place
2. While all our hearts and all our songs
3. "Why was I made to hear your voice,
4. 'Twas the same love that spread the feast

with Christ with - in the doors, while ev - er - last - ing
join to ad - mire the feast, each of us cries, with
and en - ter while there's room, when thou - sands make a
that sweet - ly drew us in; else we had still re -

love dis - plays the choic - est of her stores.
thank - ful tongue, "Lord, why was I a guest?
wretch - ed choice, and rath - er starve than come?"
fused to taste, and per - ished in our sin.

5. Pity the nations, O our God,
constrain the earth to come;
send your victorious Word abroad,
and bring the strangers home.

6. We long to see your churches full,
that all the chosen race
may, with one voice and heart and soul,
sing your redeeming grace.

“True Treasure”

Isaiah 28:1-6

1 Ah, the proud crown of the drunkards of Ephraim, and the fading flower of its glorious beauty, which is on the head of the rich valley of those overcome with wine! 2 Behold, the Lord has one who is mighty and strong; like a storm of hail, a destroying tempest, like a storm of mighty, overflowing waters, he casts down to the earth with his hand. 3 The proud crown of the drunkards of Ephraim will be trodden underfoot; 4 and the fading flower of its glorious beauty, which is on the head of the rich valley, will be like a first-ripe fig before the summer: when someone sees it, he swallows it as soon as it is in his hand. 5 In that day the LORD of hosts will be a crown of glory, and a diadem of beauty, to the remnant of his people, 6 and a spirit of justice to him who sits in judgment, and strength to those who turn back the battle at the gate.

❖ Hymn of Response #170

Fairest Lord Jesus

Congregation

Fairest Lord Jesus

You are the most excellent of men and your lips have been anointed with grace, since God has blessed you forever. Ps. 45:2

Capo 1: Γ (D) (Em) (A) (D) Γ (Bm) (B⁷) (Em) (A) (D)

1. Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Rul - er of all na - ture,
 2. Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3. Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior! Lord of the na - tions!

(G) (D) (A⁷) (D) (A⁷) (D) (A) (D) (G) (D) (B⁷) (Em)

Son of God and Son of Man! Thee will I cher - ish,
 robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,
 and all the twink - ling, star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,
 Son of God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or,

(B⁷) (Em) (A⁷) (D) Γ (Bm) (D⁷) (G) (D) (A⁷) (D) Γ

thee - will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
 Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 Je - sus shines pur - er than all the, an - gels heav'n can boast.
 praise, ad - o - ra - tion, now and for - ev - er - more be thine.

Münster Gesangbuch, 1677
 Tr. 1850, 1873.

CRUSADER'S HYMN 5.6.8.5.5.8.
 Silesian folk song
 Schlesische Volkslieder, Leipzig, 1842

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

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

Postlude

~~ Organist: Jonathan Denham ~~

~~ Please ensure cell phones are off ~~

Prelude: Prelude in D Major (Fischer)

Offertory: My Heart is Filled (Getty/Townend)

Deacons' Offering: Fairest Lord Jesus (Innes)

Postlude: Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken (T. T. Noble)

Deacons' Offering – Today, November 10th

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 home (802) 457-3975, at his cell number (802) 345-8870, or email him at rhondan08@myfairpoint.net.

Vespers Today

We will have Vespers again this Sunday, November 10th, starting at the Woodstock Terrace at **3 pm**, followed by Mertens House at **3:30 pm**.

Anyone who loves visiting with the elderly, enjoys singing hymns, listening to a short gospel message, and praying is welcome. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Annual Meeting Warning

Notice: The members of the First Congregational Church of Woodstock, Vermont Inc., are called to meet on Thursday, November 14th, 2024, at 7:00 pm to conduct the following business:

1. To vote and approve the minutes of the November 9, 2023 Annual Congregational Meeting;
2. To vote and approve the minutes of the June 16, 2024 Special Congregational Meeting;
3. To vote on a motion to suspend the bylaw-required term break of one year off after two consecutive terms;
4. To vote on the Elders' nomination of:
 - a) Gil Emery to a one-year term on the Board of Elders;
 - b) Rick Truell to a first four-year term on the Board of Deacons;
5. To vote on the Nominating Slate as proposed by the Nominating Committee;
6. To review and vote on the 2025 Budgets, including the normal operating budget and major expense budget, as proposed by the Board of Deacons;
7. To review and vote on the deacons proposed use of the \$120,136.30 Wilfert bequest as follows: \$20,000 to be used to offset part of the deficit this year, \$15,000 to be used as a special gift for the BCM to be used as they determine, \$5,000 to be given to each of the four FCCW employees as a bonus in lieu of a raise, and \$65,000 to be used to offset the proposed 2025 budget deficit;
8. To vote on the proposed changes to the FCCW Bylaws;
9. To join in a closing prayer.

Tabletalk

Copies of Tabletalk magazine are available in the narthex and in the library. You are welcome to pick up a copy to take home.

Nominating Committee Slate for 2025

Board of Christian Education

27 Robyn Huck (2)
27 Carolina Lin

Board of Christian Missions

27 Cora Koop (2)
27 Keri Bristow

Community Outreach Team

27 Robyn Huck

Board of Deaconesses

27 Alison Briggs (2)
27 Michelle D'Hooghe

Flower Committee

27 Elaine Johnston (2)
27 Carol Powell

Hospitality Committee

27 Anne Hablitzel*
27 Pam Burnett
27 Heidi Tucker
27 Carolina Lin
27 Andrew Lin

Library Committee

27 Paige Gibbs*
27 Nancy Stockwell

Nominating Committee

27 Peter Pickett

Nursery Committee

27 Stephanie Sterling

*Denotes a candidate accepting another term, having served two terms without a required year off. This exception requires a suspension of the Bylaws' requirement that after two terms a person has one year off before resuming a position on that board or committee.

Nursery Volunteers Needed

Can you give one Sunday to help minister to the youngest members of our church family? If you are willing to help one Sunday or more, you can find the sign-up sheet with the fall schedule in the Billings Room, or contact Kristen at fccwinfo@gmail.com.

Nursery Volunteer Schedule for November/December:

11/3 Keri Bristow & Robyn Huck	12/1 Paige Gibbs & Keri Bristow
11/10 Kristen Warren & Nancy Stockwell	12/8 _____ & _____
11/17 Paige Gibbs & _____	12/15 Paige Gibbs & Robyn Huck
11/24 Keri Bristow & Nancy Stockwell	12/22 Keri Bristow & _____
	12/29 Robyn Huck & Karl Huck

Operation Christmas Child

It's Operation Christmas Child time again! Pick up a shoebox or two, then go to samaritanspurse.org for a list of ideas of how to pack them. This is a wonderful opportunity to share God's love in a tangible way with children around the world. The deadline for dropping off your shoeboxes is **next Sunday, November 17th**. Please also bring \$10 cash or check to cover shipping when you drop off the box. Contact Karis Warren at (207) 329-4190 or karis.warren@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Save the Date!

Thursday, November 14 — 7:00 pm Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, November 24 — Thanksgiving Fellowship Meal at 1:00 pm, followed by a special Worship Service

Friday, December 13 — Wassail Weekend Events

4:30 pm Building & History Tour

5:00 pm Organ Concert

5:30 pm Building & History Tour

Saturday, December 14 — Wassail Weekend Events

11:00 am-2:00 pm Hot Wassail & S'mores

2:00 pm Parade Watch Party

3:00 pm The Ten of NYC A Capella Concert

Thanksgiving Fellowship Dinner—November 24th

All are welcome to join in a special time of fellowship with church friends and family on Sunday, November 24 as we enjoy a Thanksgiving meal. Turkeys, gravy and cranberry sauce will be supplied, and we ask that each family bring a traditional Thanksgiving side dish or dessert to share. Paper plates will be provided but you can bring your own plate and silverware if you prefer the real thing.

The meal will begin around **1:00** and will be followed by a special time of worship and thanksgiving, all in the Billings Room. In preparation for the worship time, think about favorite hymns, prayer requests, and praises/thanksgivings!

November Prayer Letter

Copies are available on the back table. Our ministry partner of the month for November is Adult & Teen Challenge. Pick up a copy and read about what God is doing through this ministry and how you can be praying for them!

Weekly Gathering Opportunities

Tuesdays, 7:00 am — FCCW Breakfast Club (Middle School & High School Bible Study)—meet at Maplefields to grab breakfast, then on to the church for study, discussion, and prayer. Contact Michael Byrne at michael@clickthruvt.com.

Tuesdays, 10:00 am —Ladies' Bible Study meets in person at FCCW 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.

Wednesdays, 6:30 pm — Women's Bible Study meets in the library. Contact Robyn robbynhuck@gmail.com or Nancy nancystockwell60@gmail.com
