



The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

November 17th, 2024

The Order of Morning Worship

November 17th, 2024

Ten-thirty

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship

Exodus 20:1-2

Pastor

And God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery."

❖ Hymn of Exultation #98

*Now Thank We
All Our God*

Congregation

Now Thank We All Our God

Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name. 1 Chron. 29:13

1. Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voice,
 2. O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
 3. All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,

who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;
 with ever-joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
 the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven—

who from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,
 the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;

with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more.

Scriptural Call to Repentance

Matthew 22:38-40

Pastor

And Jesus said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.” Let us be honest with ourselves and one another. We have not loved God as we should. We have failed to love our neighbor as Christ commanded. We have broken the Law and the Prophets. Let us now confess our sins to God, trusting Christ as our Savior and Lord.

Prayer of Collective Confession

based on Isaiah 53

Congregation

“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way;” Lord, we confess, we have gone astray not loving according to Your commands, but according to our sinful, selfish desires. ***“And the Lord has laid on Jesus the iniquity of us all.”*** Lord, help us to repent, to turn from our sin, because of Your gracious gift of forgiveness, and instead of pursuing our own glory, be committed to declaring Your glory through all we think, say, and do.

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness

based on Hebrews 10:10

Pastor

We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. This is God’s gospel promise: to forgive our sins and give us eternal life by grace alone because of Christ’s one sacrifice finished on the cross.

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor

Offering

(collected from back to front)

Congregation

Affirmation of Faith

First Corinthians 15:1-11

Congregation

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred

brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

❖ Creedal Song *Barocha* Congregation

Verse 1

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine upon you.
And give you peace
And give you peace
And give you peace forever

(repeat v. 1)

Verse 2

The Lord be gracious to you
The Lord turn his face towards you
And give you peace
And give you peace
And give you peace forever.

CCLI Song # 229110

Michael Card

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❖ Scripture Reading *Ecclesiastes 5:10* Pastor

He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity.

❖ Song of Reflection *My Worth Is Not
in What I Own* Congregation

Verse 1

My worth is not in what I own
Not in the strength of flesh and bone
But in the costly wounds of love
at the cross

Verse 2

My worth is not in skill or name
In win or lose in pride or shame
But in the blood of Christ that flowed
at the cross

Chorus

I rejoice in my Redeemer
Greatest treasure Wellspring of my soul
I will trust in Him no other
My soul is satisfied in Him alone

Verse 3

As summer flowers we fade and die
Fame youth and beauty hurry by
But life eternal calls to us
at the cross

Verse 4

I will not boast in wealth or might
Or human wisdom's fleeting light
But I will boast in knowing Christ
at the cross

Verse 5

Two wonders here that I confess
My worth and my unworthiness
My value fixed my ransom paid
at the cross

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The Sermon

Pastor

“Wealth and the Kingdom of God”

Mark 10:17-31

¹⁷ And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸ And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: ‘Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.’” ²⁰ And he said to him, “Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth.” ²¹ And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” ²² Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

²³ And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” ²⁴ And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁶ And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, “Then who can be saved?” ²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, “With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are

possible with God.”²⁸ Peter began to say to him, “See, we have left everything and followed you.”²⁹ Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel,³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”

❖ Hymn of Response #455

And Can It Be?

Congregation

455

And Can It Be That I Should Gain

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

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!
 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,

❖ Benediction

First Thessalonians 5:23-24

Pastor

“Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.”

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

Postlude

~~ Organist: Jonathan Denham ~~

~~ Handbells: Jonathan Denham, Jo Truell, Heidi Tucker, Kristen Warren~~

~~ Please ensure cell phones are off~~

Prelude: In Thee is Gladness (Hildebrand)

Offertory: Now Thank We All Our God (Krug)

Postlude: Fanfare on Now Thank We All Our God (Callahan)

Operation Christmas Child

Shoeboxes are due today! You may drop them off in the church library along with \$10 cash or check to cover shipping. Thank you!

Save the Date!

Next 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

Tuesday, December 24 — Christmas Eve

5:00 pm Candlelight Service with nursery

7:00 pm Candlelight Service

Thanksgiving Fellowship Dinner—Next Sunday!

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!

Christmas Poinsettias

Poinsettias always add to the festive color of Christmas and can be given as a memorial to a loved one and taken home after the Christmas Eve Service. To order a 6" red or white Poinsettia, contact Elaine Johnston (text 802-356-4194) or Alison Briggs (briggsboat@gmail.com) before December 12, 2024. Poinsettias are \$12 each. Please remember to make your check out to FCCW, with Flower Committee on the memo line. Also include the name of the person you wish to memorialize.

Advent and Christmas Eve Services

Sunday, December 1 marks the beginning of the Advent season, which will culminate with our traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Services on Tuesday, December 24. This year we will have two services, one at 5:00 pm (nursery provided) and one at 7:00 pm. Invite your friends and family to join you as we celebrate Christ's birth!

Tabletalk

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

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

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 robynhuck@gmail.com or Nancy nancystockwell60@gmail.com
