



The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

November 24th, 2024

The Order of Morning Worship

November 24th, 2024

Ten-thirty

Welcome & Announcements

Elder Tom Johnston

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship

Isaiah 2:3-5

Elder

“Come, *let us go up to the mountain of the Lord*, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. O house of Jacob, come, *let us walk in the light of the Lord*.

❖ Hymn of Exultation #30 *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* Congregation

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Ps. 90:1

The musical score is written in 4/4 time. The first system includes a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a bass clef staff. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff: C, F, C, Am, Dm, G, C, Am, Em, Am, D. The lyrics are: 1. Our God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come, 2. Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure; 3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame, 4. A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone;

The second system continues the melody and bass line. Chord symbols are: C, F, Dm, G, C, F, E, C, F, C, Dm, G, C. The lyrics are: our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home: suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure. from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same. short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5. The busy tribes of flesh and blood,
with all their lives and cares,
are carried downward by your flood,
and lost in foll'wing years.

6. Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all its sons away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

7. Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come:
O be our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.

Scriptural Call to Repentance

Psalm 32:1-6

Elder

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;

my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. *Selah*

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity;

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"

and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. *Selah*

Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;

surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

Prayer of Collective Confession

ancient prayer

Congregation

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness

Luke 7:47-50

Elder

Jesus came to forgive sinners like you and me. Remember what he said regarding the woman who washed His feet with her hair: "Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little." And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." Then those who were at table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this, who even forgives sins?" And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

Pastoral Prayer

Elder

Offering

(collected from back to front)

Congregation

Affirmation of Faith

First Corinthians 8:6

Congregation

For we know "there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist."

❖ Scripture Reading

Exodus 20:8-11

Elder

“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹ For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

❖ Hymn of Reflection #715 *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* Congregation

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. Matt. 13:39

1. Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home;
 2. All the world is God's own field, fruit un-to his praise to yield;
 3. For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take his har-vest home;
 4. E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home;

all is safe - ly gath - erd in, ere the win - ter storms be - gin;
 wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown;
 from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
 gath - er thou thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin;

God, our Mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied:
 first the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear:
 give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the - tares to cast,
 there for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy pres - ence to a - bide:

come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
 come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home.

“In the Beginning”

Genesis 1:1-11

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³ And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶ And God said, “Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷ And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸ And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹ And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

¹¹ And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so.

❖ Hymn of Response #115 *All Creatures of Our God and King* Congregation

All you have made will praise you, O LORD; your saints will extol you. Ps. 145:10

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "All Creatures of Our God and King". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/2. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. Below the staves, the lyrics are written in five lines, corresponding to the notes above them.

1. All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and
 2. Thou rush - ing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in
 3. Thou flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for thy
 4. And all ye men of ten - der heart, for - giv - ing oth - ers,
 5. Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in-

7

with us sing al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Thou burn - ing
 heav'n a - long, O praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Thou ris - ing
 • Lord to hear, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Thou fire so
 take your part, O sing ye, al - le - lu - ia! Ye who long
 hum - ble - ness, O praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the

sun with gold - en beam, thou sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam,
 morn in praise re - joice, ye lights of eve - ning, find a voice,
 • mas - ter - ful and bright, that giv - est man both warmth and light,
 pain and sor - row bear, praise God and on him cast your care,
 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spir - it, three in one,

O praise him, O praise him, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Francis of Assisi, ca. 1225
 Tr. by William H. Draper, 1926

LASST UNS ERFREUEN L.M.,al.
 Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Cologne, 1623

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❖ Benediction

Ephesians 6:23-24

Elder

Receive now this blessing from God like our brothers and sisters in Ephesus:
“Peace be to you, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love
incorruptible.”

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

Postlude

~~ Organist: Jonathan Denham ~~

~~ Please ensure cell phones are off ~~

Prelude: Praise and Thanksgiving (Callahan)

Offertory: Come, Ye Thankful People, Come (Callahan)

Postlude: Prelude and Fugue on "Nun Danket Alle Gott" (Fletcher)

Save the Date!

Today! — 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—Today!

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. **(Please come even if you didn't bring anything—there will be plenty of food!)** 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 pm** 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 (call 802-457-3012) 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.

Advent & Christmas Devotional

Be sure to pick up your own copy of the Advent & Christmas Devotional book from the back table at FCCW. The season of Advent begins next Sunday, December 1st. Feel free to take some for your friends as well!

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
