

# First Congregational Church of Lebanon

United Church of Christ - Open and Affirming

# The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

July 3, 2022

"Love of country is a wonderful thing, but why should love stop at the border?" —Pablo Casals

Kindly silence cell phones and other devices during worship. All hymns are included on pages 5-8.

Prelude

Prelude No. 2 in G Major, op. 37 no. 2

Felix Mendelssohn

Call to Worship

Adapted from Psalm 66:1-9

One: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise.

All: Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you.

One: All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name."

All: Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds among mortals.

One: He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot.

All: There we rejoiced in him, who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations—let the rebellious not exalt themselves.

One: Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard.

All: God has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.

Hymn 435 (p. 6) Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendor

Rhuddlan

#### Prayer of Invocation

God of Grace and Glory, we confess that we lose sight of our identities, finding our worth in our status, our demographic, or even our location. Forgive us of our idolatry, forgive us for placing our worldly identities above your love for us. Forgive us for when we get distracted by elaborate rituals, holding ourselves superior, simply due to our place of birth. You, O God, are the source of our identity.

You, O God, call us to love our neighbor.

You, O God, challenge us to learn from one another.

You, O God, tell us to be different!

May we swim in your healing waters, resting in the fullness of being children of God. Amen.

#### Gloria (Unison)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

# Words of Welcome; Our Ministry and Mission

#### Anthem

#### Children's Moment

#### Scripture Lessons

Galatians 6:1-16. My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. <sup>2</sup>Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. <sup>3</sup>For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. <sup>4</sup>All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. <sup>5</sup>For all must carry their own loads. <sup>6</sup>Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.

<sup>7</sup>Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. <sup>8</sup>If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. <sup>9</sup>So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest-time, if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup>So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

<sup>11</sup>See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! <sup>12</sup>It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. <sup>13</sup>Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. <sup>14</sup>May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. <sup>15</sup>For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! <sup>16</sup>As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20. After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. <sup>2</sup>He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. <sup>3</sup>Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. <sup>4</sup>Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. <sup>5</sup>Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' <sup>6</sup>And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. <sup>7</sup>Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. <sup>8</sup>Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before

you; <sup>9</sup>cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' <sup>10</sup>But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, <sup>11</sup>'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.' [...]

<sup>16</sup>"Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

<sup>17</sup>The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" <sup>18</sup>He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. <sup>19</sup>See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. <sup>20</sup>Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Sermon "On the Road" Gail T. Dimick

Hymn 437 (p. 7) My Country, 'Tis of Thee

America

## Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Pastoral Prayer

As we hold our community members in prayer, please exercise care and discretion when sharing. Help us keep our prayer list current by contacting the church office to add or remove names.

Today we offer our ongoing prayers for Pete, Lloyd, Arlene, Evelyn, Barbara, Greg, Edith, Jan, Eileen, Michelle, Stephanie, Juanita, Terry, Dan, and Ethan.

Almighty God, you rule all the peoples of the earth. Inspire the minds of all women and men to whom you have committed the responsibility of government and leadership in the nations of the world. Give to them the vision of truth and justice, that by their counsel all nations and peoples may work together. Give to the people of our country zeal for justice and strength of forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will. Forgive our shortcomings as a nation; purify our hearts to see and love the truth.

(United Methodist Church, GBOD)

We pray these things, and all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.

#### The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

# Offering of Gifts

Remembering those who are without, who are in need, who are often ignored, we invite your support of our ongoing ministry in and for the community.

Offertory Prière Ambroise Thomas

#### Doxology (Unison)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God, all creatures here below,

Praise God above, ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#### Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

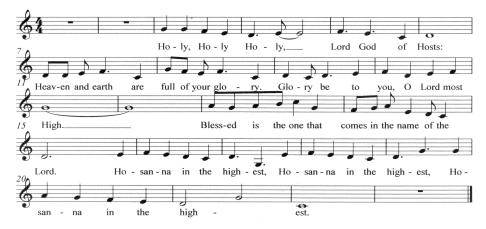
Creator of all that has been, is, and will be, thank you for the capacity and the privilege of giving. May these gifts, which we give right back to you, transform hunger into nutritious food; literacy into education; thirst into clean, accessible water; disease into healing; displacement into welcome; and despair into hope. We humbly ask you to consecrate these gifts for the transformation of lives and communities so that our abundance may be for their need and their need become our abundance. To you, God, be the glory! Amen. (UCC)

#### The Sacrament of Holy Communion

For communion, you are invited to have some bread and juice on hand. We will share in the bread and cup at the appointed time. If you would like to receive a blessing, please let the officiant know.

#### Invitation and Communion Prayer





#### Sharing of the Bread and Cup

# Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison)

In gratitude, deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out as a changed people, because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. So, Lord, may we live to your glory both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen. (Wild Goose Publishing)

Hymn 298 (pp. 8-9) Lord, You Give the Great Commission

Abbot's Leigh

Benediction

Postlude Land of Our Birth

Ralph Vaughan Williams

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#### Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Gail Temperley Dimick, Guest Pastor Ernie Drown, Organist • The FCC Choir • Linda Jacobs, Liturgist Beth Griffiths and Barb Jones, Ushers • Sue Pratt, Zoom Greeter

If you wish to have a joy, concern, or prayer request lifted up in the service, or if you know of someone who may need special prayers, a card or phone call, or some other form of pastoral care, please email prayer@fccleb.org or speak with Rev. Silver directly.



# **July Concerts**

Masks, distanced seating, and proof of vaccination required.

# Oak Hill Music Festival-Wednesday, July 13, and Saturday, July 16, both at 7:30

Hanover-born bassoonist Leah Kohn, back in the Upper Valley after establishing an impressive performance career in Los Angeles, inaugurates what she hopes to build into an annual festival of professional musicians and exciting repertoire, both familiar and innovative. They'll use FCC as a rehearsal space and offer two programs here, entitled "From the New Hampshire Woods" and "Breath." Complete details, musician information, and ticket options at www.oakhillmusicfestival.com (use promotional code "FCC" for 50% discount on tickets for 7/13 and 7/16 concerts!).

#### Counterpoint: The Woods and the Waters-Friday, July 15, at 7:30

Director Nathaniel Lew brings VT's professional choral ensemble back to Lebanon for the first time in four years to celebrate landscapes near and far, with guest pianist Alison Cerutti. Music by Jude Navari, Benjamin Britten, and NH's own Amy Beach, along with the premiere of a piece by composer Travis Ramsey and poet Jim Schley—who both live in the Upper Valley. *Adults* \$20, seniors \$15, students and limited means \$5; more at counterpointchorus.org/upcoming/.

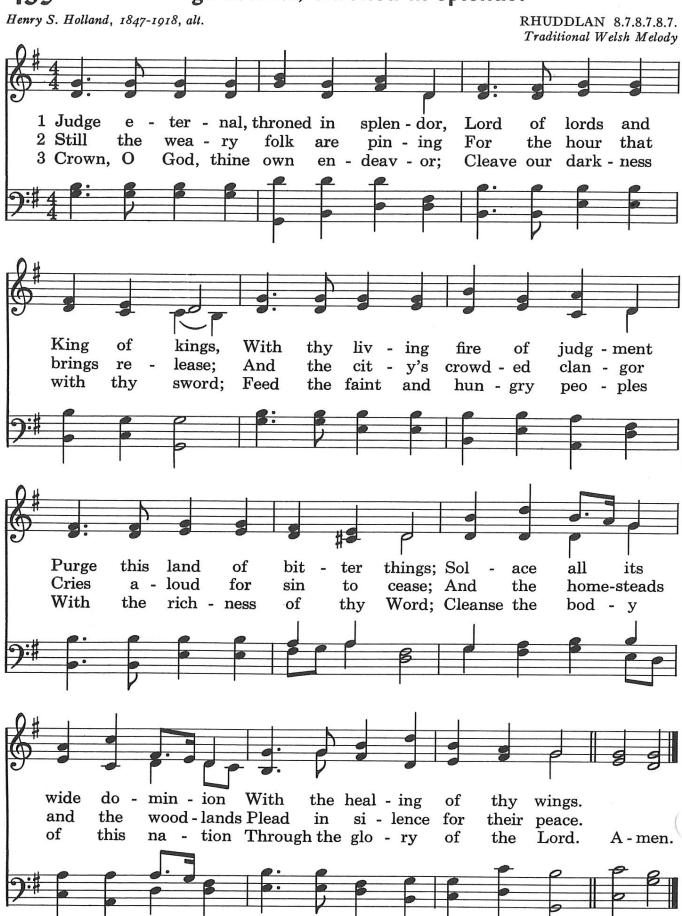
# Register Now for Classicopia's Summer Music Camp!—Two Sessions: August 8-13 and 15-20

This immersive program offers instrumental and vocal instruction to students aged 8-18, with outstanding faculty and guest artists. *More details and registration at classicopia.org/summer-camp/*.

# STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH—SPECIAL UCC OFFERING

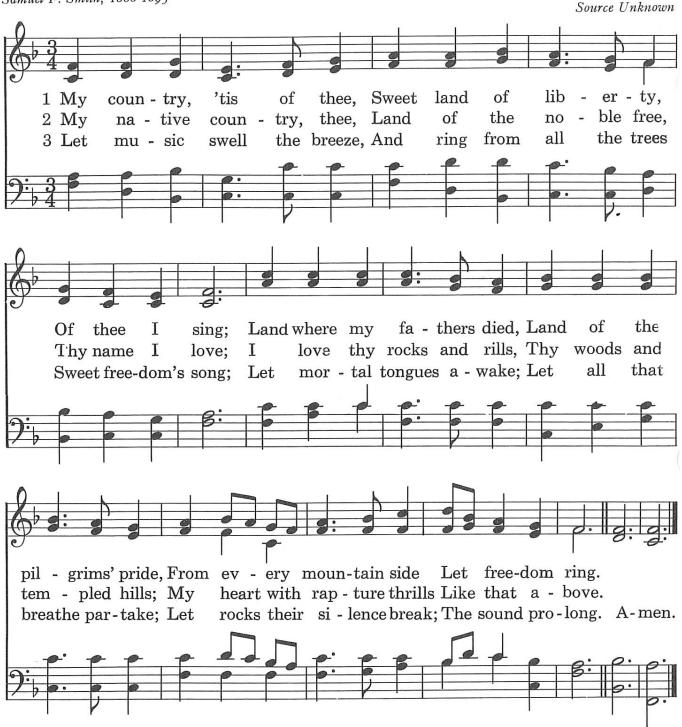
The Strengthen the Church offering supports the growth of ministry and local congregations across the country. This year's theme—"All Together"—invokes the communal spirit of Pentecost. By renewing older faith communities, building new ones, and funding fellowships for young, emerging leaders in our church, this program is vital to the health of our denomination.

Please give as you are able to this nationwide effort to support church growth. We will accept contributions (payable to FCC, memo "Strengthen the Church") until Labor Day. Thank you!



Samuel F. Smith, 1808-1895

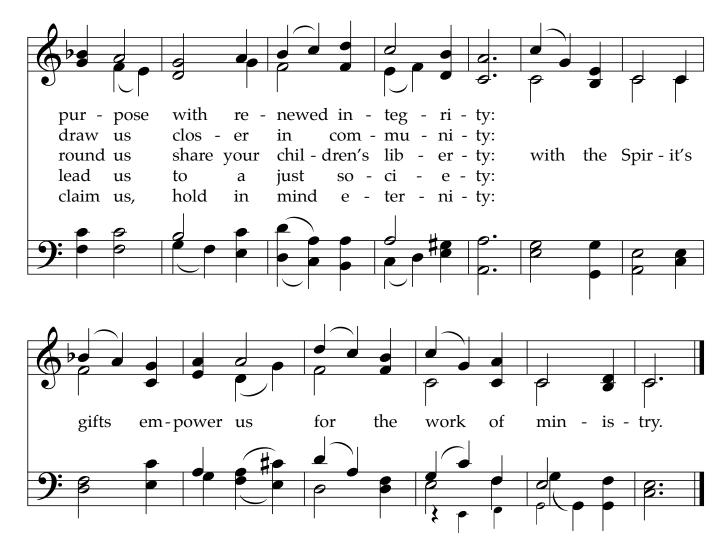
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4 Our father's God, to thee,
Author of liberty,
To thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by thy might,
Great God, our King.

# 298 Lord, You Give the Great Commission





United by the refrain after each stanza, this text relies on passages from Matthew and Luke to highlight various dimensions of the church's mission and ministry in the world. It was written for use with this tune, composed in the village near Bristol, England, for which it is named.

TEXT: Jeffery W. Rowthorn, 1978 MUSIC: Cyril Vincent Taylor, 1941

Text © 1978 Hope Publishing Company

Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company

ABBOT'S LEIGH 8.7.8.7.D



## First Congregational Church of Lebanon PO Box 230 10 South Park St Lebanon NH 03766

Weekly Worship Resources Enclosed!

DATED MATERIAL—Please Deliver Promptly

Do you use email? Contact church@fccleb.org to receive this and other communication by email.

### Welcome!

We are a Christ-centered community that celebrates the love of God. Although we are of varied minds, with varying measures of belief and unbelief, we are one body, bound together in Christ. We recognize the uniqueness of every individual as God's beloved child. We seek to respond faithfully to God's call for justice for all creation. We strive in word and deed to be faithful to Jesus' model of loving acceptance. We seek to create a sanctuary where all will know they are welcome and included.

No matter your age, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, race or ethnicity, physical or mental ability, or economic circumstance, you are invited into the full life and ministry of First Congregational Church of Lebanon, including its worship, sacraments, and rites.

Join us as we grow together in God's love.

# First Congregational Church of Lebanon

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organist and Choir Director • Nancy Parsons, Children's Community Corner Jon Scott, Chair of Church Council • Linda Gerlach, Chair of Deacons • Barbara Jones, Moderator Brian Clancy, Church Administrator

Church Office Hours: Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9:00-12:00 (or by appointment as needed) 603-448-4281 • church@fccleb.org • prayer@fccleb.org • music@fccleb.org • www.fccleb.org