



The Second Sunday in Lent

Courage is not simply one of the virtues,
but the form of every virtue at the testing point.

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

Prelude	<i>Prelude in E Minor</i> , BWV 533	Johann Sebastian Bach
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Call to Worship

Adapted from Psalm 22

One: You who fear the LORD, praise him!

All: All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

One: The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD.

All: May your hearts live forever! All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

One: For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

All: Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

Hymn 20 (p. 5) *God of Abraham and Sarah* Constantine

Prayer of Invocation

Lenten Prayer of Confession *(Unison)*

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Open our hearts to you, that we may receive your forgiveness and be redeemed by your reconciling love. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

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 *Comfort, O Lord, the Soul of Thy Servant*

William Crotch

Children's Moment

Hymn 14 (p. 6) *The God of Abraham Praise*

Leoni

Scripture Lessons

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16. When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. [...]"

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Mark 8:31-38. ³¹Then [Jesus] began to teach [the disciples] that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Sermon *"The Names We Use"*

Stephen R. Silver

Hymn 726 (p. 7) *Will You Come and Follow Me*

Kelvingrove

Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Pastoral Prayer

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

Today we offer ongoing prayers for Pete, Arlene, Evelyn, Gordon, Greg, Jan, Edith, Eileen, Waneta, Terry, Juanita, Dan, Travis, Garrett, Sue, Rick, Edward, Duane, Priscilla, Ron, Lauren, Brian, Micah, Al, and Steve.

O God, we come to you in prayer, often in supplication, because we want something, but we know we should offer our praise to you because it is your due. You, not we, are the author of all that is good in our lives: our skills, our relationships, everything. We prefer to believe and act as if we alone have made everything possible. But we overlook that we are able to do what we do only because of the gifts with which you, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, have blessed us.

We pray this, and all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, in the name of your Son Jesus, 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

O Salutaris Hostia, No. 3

Edward Elgar

O redeeming sacrifice, who opens the gate of heaven: as enemies threaten wars, give us strength, send aid. Blessed Three-in-One, grant us life that shall not end in our true native land with thee.

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*)

Lord of Creation, inspired by the power of your Spirit, humbled by this season of renewal, and grateful for all you have done, do, and will do through Jesus, we respond with this morning's offering. In our Savior's name we pray, Amen.

Hymn 320 (p. 8)

The Church of Christ in Every Age

Wareham

Benediction

Postlude

Fugue in E Minor, BWV 533

Johann Sebastian Bach

Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organ/Piano • The FCC Choir • Chris Chase, Liturgist

Deb and Jon Scott, Ushers • Dawn Troutman, 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.

THE HEART OF IT ALL—LENTEN BOOK STUDY STARTS THIS WEEK!


Wednesdays, February 28 through March 27, at 7:00 pm on Zoom

What does the Bible mean to us? What does the Bible say to us? Join us for a discussion of *The Heart of It All: The Bible's Big Picture* (2019) by the Rev. Dr. Samuel Wells, an Anglican priest, and vicar of St. Martin-in-the-Fields in London. "As a collection of 66 books spanning thousands of years," explains the publisher, "the Bible can be daunting in size and scope. Rev. Wells simplifies the Bible's complexity and presents the entire sweep of its narrative in eighteen key themes."


We'll discuss this provocative, engaging book on Zoom over five Wednesdays, but you needn't attend every week to participate. Copies of the book are free, but you must RSVP so that we can order you a copy. To participate, please contact the church office or silver@fccleb.org.

If you would like to receive daily devotional reflections from Rev. Steve Silver during Lent, please contact the church office or email him directly at silver@fccleb.org.


* * * **HOLY WEEK IS MARCH 24-31, 2024** * * *

James Gertmenian, 1986; alt.



1 God of A - bra - ham and Sar - ah, God of Mo - ses, Mir - iam's Guide;
 2 God who danc - es in cre - a - tion, spin - ning stars a - bove our heads;
 3 God who loves the poor in spir - it, God who com - forts those who mourn;
 4 In our lives from birth to dy - ing, depth of sor - row, height of joy;



God of Da - vid and the proph - ets, God in Je - sus glo - ri - fied:
 God whose face is scribed in mu - sic, by whose hand the earth is fed:
 Balm for wounds, the friend of sin - ners, tak - ing the side of earth's for - lorn:
 Prais - ing God in ev - ery sea - son, let ev - ery key our hearts em - ploy.



Up from the dust you raise a peo - ple, breathe in the breath of life, of soul;
 Up from the ground you raise the moun - tains, raise our spir - its, lift our eyes;
 Up from the depths you raise your peo - ple, giv - ing them cour - age for the day;
 Praise is the heal - ing, praise, the glo - ry, praise is the fin - al mys - ter - y;



Down through the years the peo - ple praise you till al - le - lu - ias make them whole!
 Down through the years your peo - ple praise you till al - le - lu - ias flood the skies!
 Down through the years the peo - ple praise you till al - le - lu - ias light their way!
 Down through the years let peo - ple praise you till al - le - lu - ias set them free!

The healing power of praise and the history of God's dealings with humankind are the themes of this hymn, written by a United Church of Christ minister who is the grandson of Armenian immigrants. The tune is named for his father.

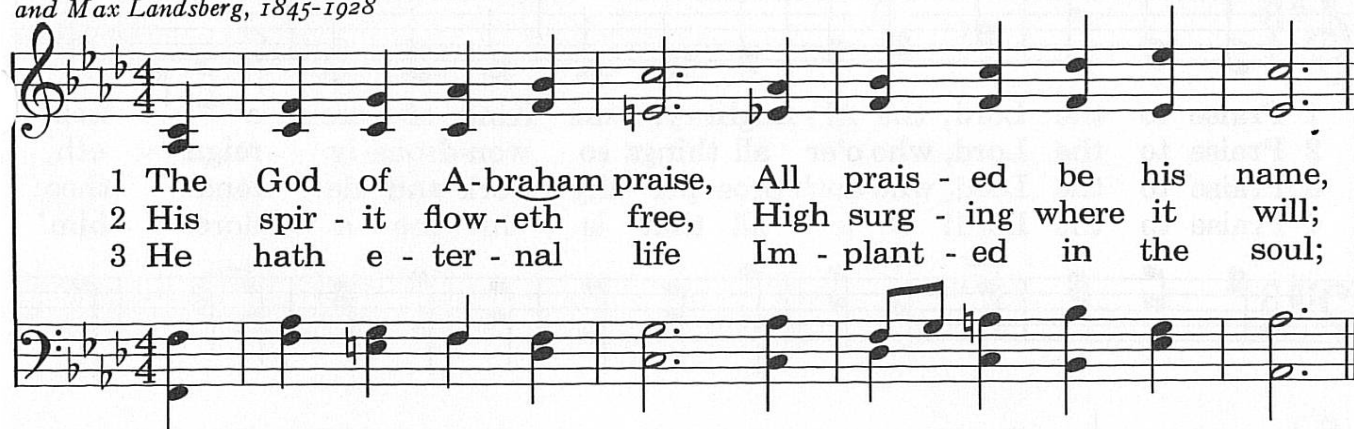
Tune: CONSTANTINE 8.7.8.7.D.
 Melody by James Gertmenian, 1986
 Harm. Ronald Huntington, 1986; alt.

The God of Abraham Praise

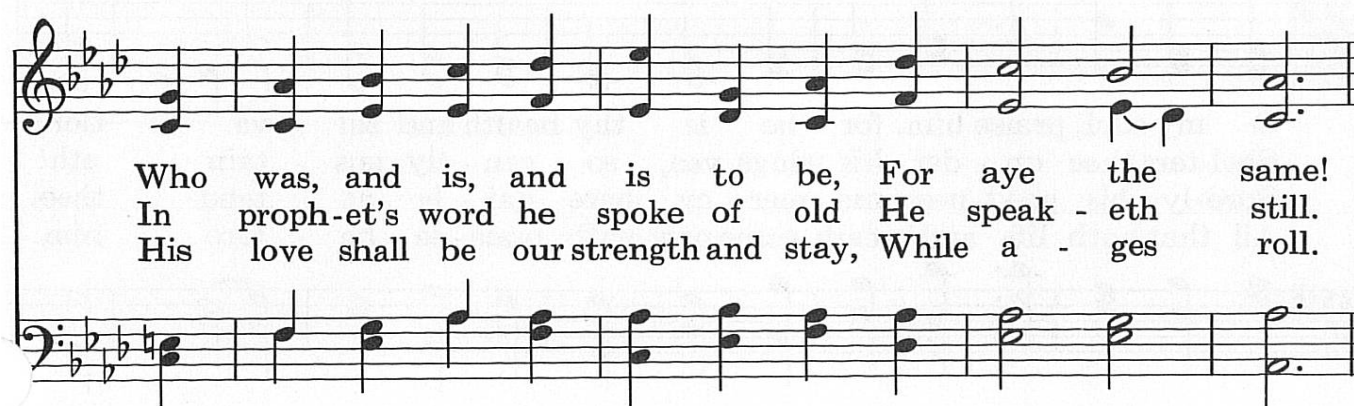
14

Revised Version of the "Yigdal"
Daniel ben Judah, c.1400
Tr. Newton Mann, 1836-1926,
and Max Landsberg, 1845-1928

LEONI 6.6.8.4.D.
Traditional Hebrew Melody
Adapted by Meyer Lyon, 1751-1797



1 The God of A-braham praise, All prais - ed be his name,
 2 His spir - it flow - eth free, High surg - ing where it will;
 3 He hath e - ter - nal life Im - plant - ed in the soul;



Who was, and is, and is to be, For aye the same!
 In proph-et's word he spoke of old He speak - eth still.
 His love shall be our strength and stay, While a - ges roll.



The one e - ter - nal God, Ere aught that now ap - pears;
 Es - tab - lished is his law, And change-less it shall stand,
 Praise to the liv - ing God! All prais - ed be his name



The First, the Last: be - yond all thought His time - less years!
 Deep writ up - on the hu - man heart, On sea, or land.
 Who was, and is, and is to be, For aye the same! A-men.

726 Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be - hind if I but call your name?
- 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus) (A)
Gm7 B^b Am7 B^b Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

The first four stanzas of this ballad-like hymn are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

TEXT: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1987

MUSIC: Scottish melody; arr. John L. Bell, 1987

Text and Music Arr. © 1987 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

KELVINGROVE

13.13.7.7.13

320 The Church of Christ in Every Age



1 The church of Christ in ev - ery age, be - set by
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
 4 For Christ a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
 be - dience to our Lord: to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
 bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
 share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
 out re - serve, and spread Christ's lib - er - at - ing word.

In this challenging text by a British Methodist minister, the odd-numbered stanzas develop the image of "the servant church," while the second surveys the many needs and the fourth describes the true source of strength for the task.

TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, 1969
 MUSIC: William Knapp, 1738
 Text © 1971 Hope Publishing Company

WAREHAM
 LM



Upcoming Concerts

All in the FCC Sanctuary

The Anonymous Coffeehouse—Fridays, Feb. 23, Mar. 8 and 22, Apr. 5, 19, and 26, all 7:30

Our comfy community venue for live folk music is thriving in its fourth season! Come and go as you please; food and drink available. *Free admission. For performers and more, visit anoncoffee.org.*

NE Heritage Music Camp's Midwinter Gathering—Sunday, March 3, at 6:30 pm

A full day of workshops and jam sessions at UVMC culminates in a concert of traditional music here at FCC. *Adults \$15-25; more information about both daytime programs and concert at uvmusic.org.*

Upper Valley Music Center Faculty Showcase—Saturday, March 9, at 4:00 pm

This popular annual program features the vocal and instrumental excellence of the faculty next door at UVMC, in classical repertoire, traditional and folk genres, and original compositions.

Free-will donation; all proceeds benefit UVMC tuition assistance fund. More at uvmusic.org.

Do Your Part to Fill the Cart!

Greater Lebanon continues to struggle with poverty and food insecurity, and we have resumed collection of items in our shopping cart in the Parish Hall, to support a variety of beneficiaries.

CURRENT BENEFICIARY—UPPER VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY

Many who struggle with food and financial insecurity just manage to take care of themselves but cannot afford to keep their beloved pets, whose companionship is vital in difficult times. UVHS seeks to address this need with donated pet food and supplies, and we can help!

Direct financial contributions to any Upper Valley service organization are always needed and much appreciated. Thanks for fighting local poverty and hunger!

It's Time for the Lenten Lunch Bag Offering

The arrival of Lent brings the **Children's Community Corner** Lunch Bag Offering! We ask for your participation in this annual collection of savings from a regular sacrifice during Lent. The total collection on Palm Sunday (March 24) will be split between **WISE of the Upper Valley** and **Epilogos Charities**. *(Decorated paper bags will be available, but not required to participate.)*

The Children's Community Corner thanks you for supporting this stewardship project!

One Great Hour of Sharing: "Time to Share the Light"—UCC Mission Offering

This annual, nationwide UCC offering funds mission initiatives around the world. It supports healthcare, education, agriculture, refugee assistance, and disaster relief in over 130 countries. OGHS funds are leveraged with local, national, and global partners to maximize their impact.

Please consider a contribution as you are able, and thank you for SHARING!

(Payable to FCC, with "OGHS" in the memo line. Contributions gratefully accepted until Easter.)



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@fcclieb.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 • Brian Clancy, Church Administrator

Jon Scott, Chair of Church Council • Linda Gerlach, Chair of Deacons • Barbara Jones, Moderator

Church Office Hours: Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9:00-12:00 (or by appointment as needed)

603-448-4281 • church@fcclieb.org • prayer@fcclieb.org • music@fcclieb.org • www.fcclieb.org