



The Fifth Sunday of Easter

If you don't know where you are going, you'll end up someplace else.

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

Prelude Largo and Vivace, from *Trio in A Minor* Georg Philipp Telemann

Call to Worship

Psalm 148:1-12

One: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

All: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

One: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

All: Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

One: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created.

All: He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

One: Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!

All: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

One: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

All: Young men and women alike, old and young together! Praise the LORD!

Hymn 757 (pp. 45) *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples* Kingsfold

Prayer of Invocation

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 *Grant Us Thy Peace* Felix Mendelssohn

Children's Moment

Hymn 361 (p. 6) *O Christ, the Great Foundation* Aurelia

Scripture Lessons

Acts 11:1-18. Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵“I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ ⁸But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ ⁹But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ ¹⁰This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹²The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. ¹³He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ ¹⁵And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ ¹⁷If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” ¹⁸When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

Revelation 21:1-6. Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.” ⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.[...]”

John 13:31-35. ³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Pastoral Prayer

As we hold community members in prayer, please exercise care and discretion when sharing.

We offer our ongoing prayers for Pete, Marcia, Arlene, Evelyn, Greg, Jan, Edith, Eileen, Waneta, Terry, Juanita, Dan, Travis, Garrett, Sue, Rick, Edward, Priscilla, Ron, Lauren, Brian, Micah, Al, Steve, Denzil, Jacobe, Reg, Chris, Pam, Ellen, Tricia, Deserai, Jon, Elizabeth, Dominic, Stacey, Juliet, Alicia, Terri, and Mike.

I now share a prayer from UCC member Karl Heilman of Kimball, Michigan:

Jesus, I love You and thank You for loving me unconditionally.

Today, I'm asking for your help.

Help me embrace your love and comfort.

Help me be gentle, kind and patient.

Help me forgive freely.

Help provide clarity when uncertain.

Help me find purpose in You.

Help me follow You and Your teachings.

Help me see You in all people.

Help me do Your will.

Help me reject temptation.

Help me to love all Your children.

Help, help, help, I need your help.

Thank You for always helping me, for always loving me, and for opening my eyes, ears and heart to Your goodness. Amen.

We offer these prayers, with all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ, 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

Affetuoso, from Trio in A Minor

Georg Philipp Telemann

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*)

God of heaven and earth, you share with us countless blessings. In thanksgiving, we now share with others what you have given to us. Let this morning's offering serve as a sign of the boundless grace that is to be found and shared in your Kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Hymn 93 (p. 8) *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* Cwm Rhondda

Benediction

Postlude *Allegro, from Trio in A Minor* Georg Philipp Telemann

* * *

Leading Worship This Week

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organ/Piano • The FCC Choir • Leslie Stroud, Flute • Jason Smoller, Oboe
Ann Gartner, Liturgist • Deb and Jon Scott, 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.

Community Dinner Next Sunday, May 25—Food and Volunteers Needed!

Many thanks to Bob Ross for volunteering to lead this month! Let's support Bob in his efforts with food donations and help with serving and cleanup. Sign-ups will be posted soon!

As always, all are welcome to come, eat, and enjoy fellowship—regardless of need or affiliation.

757 Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

1 To - day we all are called to be dis - ci - ples of the
2 God made the world and at its birth or - dained our hu - man
3 Pray jus - tice may come roll - ing down as in a might - y
4 May we in ser - vice to our God act out the liv - ing

Lord, to help to set the cap - tive free, make
 race to live as stew - ards of the earth, re -
 stream, with righ - teous - ness in field and town to
 word, and walk the road the saints have trod till

plow - share out of sword, to feed the hun - gry, quench their
 spond - ing to God's grace. But we are vain and sad - ly
 cleanse us and re - deem. For God is long - ing to re -
 all have seen and heard. As stew - ards of the earth may

thirst, make love and peace our fast, to serve the
 proud; we sow not peace but strife. Our dis - cord
 store an earth where con - flicts cease, a world that
 we give thanks in one ac - cord to God who

poor and home - less first, our ease and com - fort last.
 spreads a dead - ly cloud that threat - ens all of life.
 was cre - at - ed for a har - mo - ny of peace.
 calls us all to be dis - ci - ples of the Lord.

This text placing stewardship in the context of faithful witness was written by a retired Presbyterian minister to be part of the 1986 stewardship campaign titled "Called to Be Disciples." The tune name recalls the Sussex village where the arranger first heard the melody.

TEXT: H. Kenn Carmichael, 1985
 MUSIC: *English County Songs*, 1893; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
 Text © 1989 H. Kenn Carmichael

KINGSFOLD
 CMD

O Christ, the Great Foundation 361



1 O Christ, the great foun-da-tion on which your peo-ple stand
 2 Bap-tized in one con-fes-sion, one church in all the earth,
 3 Where ty-rants' hold is tight-ened, where strong de-vour the weak,
 4 This is the mo-ment glo-rious when he who once was dead

to preach your true sal-va-tion in ev-ery age and land:
 we bear our Lord's im-pres-sion, the sign of sec-ond birth:
 where in-no-cents are fright-ened, the righ-teous fear to speak,
 shall lead his church vic-to-rious, their cham-pion and their head.

pour out your Ho-ly Spir-it to make us strong and pure,
 one ho-ly peo-ple gath-ered in love be-yond our own,
 there let your church a-wak-ing at-tack the powers of sin
 The Lord of all cre-a-tion his heaven-ly king-dom brings:

to keep the faith un-bro-ken as long as worlds en-dure.
 by grace we were in-vit-ed; by grace we make you known.
 and, all their ram-parts break-ing, with you the vic-tory win.
 the fi-nal con-sum-ma-tion, the glo-ry of all things.

The text was written by a leading Chinese educator, author, and editor who chaired the commission that prepared an important ecumenical Chinese hymnal, *Hymns of Universal Praise* (1936). This familiar tune invites comparison of these words with its usual text (see no. 321).

TEXT: Timothy T'ingfang Lew, 1933, alt.; trans. Mildred A. Wiant, 1966

MUSIC: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864

Text © 1977 Chinese Christian Literature Council Ltd.

AURELIA

7.6.7.6.D

O Holy City, Seen of John

420

W. Russell Bowie, 1882-

MORNING SONG 8.6.8.6.8.6.
Melody, "Kentucky Harmony," 1816
Harm. by C. Winfred Douglas, 1867-1944



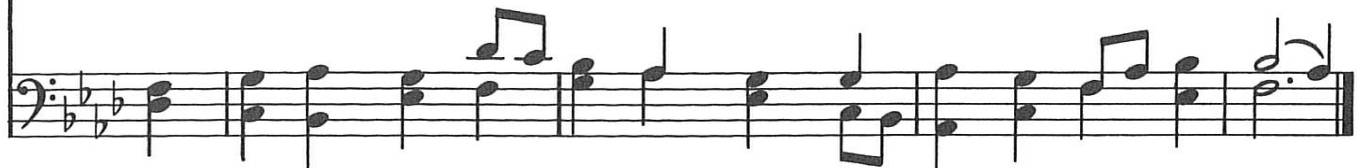
1 O ho - ly cit - y, seen of John, Where Christ, the Lamb, doth reign,
2 O shame to us who rest con - tent While lust and greed for gain
3 Give us, O God, the strength to build The cit - y that hath stood



With-in whose four-square walls shall come No night, nor need, nor pain,
In street and shop and ten - e - ment Wring gold from hu - man pain,
Too long a dream, whose laws are love, Whose ways are broth - er - hood,



And where the tears are wiped from eyes That shall not weep a - gain,
And bit - ter lips in blind de - spair Cry, "Christ hath died in vain!"
And where the sun that shin - eth is God's grace for hu - man good.



4 Already in the mind of God
That city riseth fair:
Lo, how its splendor challenges
The souls that greatly dare,
Yea, bids us seize the whole of life
And build its glory there.

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

William Williams, 1717-1791

Tr. Peter Williams, 1727-1796, and others

CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.

John Hughes, 1873-1932

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, Pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, Whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might-y; Hold me with thy
 stream doth flow; Let the fire and cloud-y pil - lar Lead me all my
 fears sub - side; Death of death, and hell's de-struc-tion, Land me safe on

power - ful hand; Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 jour - ney through; Strong De - liv - erer, strong De - liv - erer,
 Ca - naan's side; Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es,

Feed me till I want no more, Feed me till I want no more.
 Be thou still my strength and shield, Be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee, I will ev - er give to thee. A-men.



Upper Valley Music Center: Sing & Play 30 for 30—Sat.-Sun., May 17-18 (various times)
Celebrating 30 years of music-making by each other, for each other! Recitals, class concerts, and individual performances will happen all over town! *Free to all; full details at uvmusic.org/events.*

Classicopia: Alive and Kicking (Living Composers)—Saturday, May 24, at 7:30 pm
Pianist Dan Weiser welcomes back the Borowsky siblings (violinist Emmanuel and cellist Frances) for wonderful trios by Heleen Verleur, Paul Schoenfield, and Stephen Dankner—each drawing freely from various historical genres. *Adults \$20, FCC members \$15, children free; more at classicopia.org.*

Cantabile Women's Voices: Oh Canada!—Sunday, June 1, at 4:00 pm
Directed by Kathy Sherlock-Green, this superb women's ensemble presents a program surveying the choral landscape of our northern neighbor, in its rich traditional heritage and contemporary composers. *Adults \$15 suggested donation, online or at the door; more details at cantabilewomen.org.*

Upper Valley Voices: Standing Strong—Saturday, June 7, at 7:00 pm
Director Kevin Quigley and one of our area's premier choral groups share a diverse collection of music exploring how fear confronts us in our lives—and how we can recognize, neutralize, and utilize it to empower ourselves. *Adults \$15 online (\$20 at door), students \$10; more at uppervalleyvoices.org.*

Acacia Chamber Music: Quartets, Trios, and Duos—Sunday, June 8, at 4:00 pm
Leslie Stroud (flute), Jason Smoller (oboe), Meghan Donahue (clarinet), and Matthew Odell (piano) offer “music in uncommonly heard combinations,” this time by Camille Saint-Saëns, Darius Milhaud, Heitor Villa-Lobos, and more. *Free-will donation; for more about Acacia Music, find them on Facebook.*

Do Your Part to Fill the Cart!

Join the fight against local poverty and food insecurity with contributions to our shopping cart in the Parish Hall. We're currently collecting non-perishable food and personal-care items for:

THE UPPER VALLEY HAVEN

For a list of current and ongoing needs, please visit uppervalleyhaven.org/current-wish-lists/ or see the list that is attached to the shopping cart itself.

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

Celebrate the Children's Community Corner—Children's Sunday is June 1

The **Children's Community Corner** is excited to lead worship and mark the end of the school year. Please join us for one of the annual highlights of our communal church life!

If you and/or your children are interested in participating or have questions, please contact Rachel Silver (rachelsilver@live.com) or the church office.



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@fcclb.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@fcclb.org • prayer@fcclb.org • music@fcclb.org • www.fcclb.org