



## The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

“What makes the desert beautiful,” the little prince said, “is that it hides a well somewhere.”

*Kindly silence cell phones and other devices during worship. All hymns are included on pages 4-7.*

C.H.H. Parry

## Call to Worship

Psalm 107:1-9, 43

One: O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

**All:** Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,

One: Those he redeemed from trouble, and gathered in from the lands,

**All:** From the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

One: Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

**All:** Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress;

One: He led them by a straight way, until they reached an inhabited town.

**All:** Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.

One: For he satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things.

**All:** Let those who are wise give heed to these things, and consider the steadfast love of the LORD.

Hymn 505 (p. 5)      *Sweet Hour of Prayer*

## Sweet Hour

## Prayer of Invocation

## Words of Welcome; Our Ministry and Mission

Musical Offering      *Sound the Trumpet*

Henry Purcell

## Children's Moment

## Scripture Lessons

*Hosea 11:1-11.* When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.<sup>2</sup>The more I called them, the more they went from me; they kept sacrificing to the Baals, and offering incense to idols.<sup>3</sup>Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them up in my arms; but they did not know that I healed them.<sup>4</sup>I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love. I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks. I bent down to them and fed them.

<sup>5</sup>They shall return to the land of Egypt, and Assyria shall be their king, because they have refused to return to me.<sup>6</sup>The sword rages in their cities, it consumes their oracle-priests, and devours because of their schemes.<sup>7</sup>My people are bent on turning away from me. To the Most High they call, but he does not raise them up at all.

<sup>8</sup>How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender.<sup>9</sup>I will not execute my fierce anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim; for I am God and no mortal, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath.<sup>10</sup>They shall go after the Lord, who roars like a lion; when he roars, his children shall come trembling from the west.<sup>11</sup>They shall come trembling like birds from Egypt, and like doves from the land of Assyria; and I will return them to their homes, says the Lord.

*Colossians 3:1-11.* So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.<sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth,<sup>3</sup>for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.<sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup>Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry).<sup>6</sup>On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient.<sup>7</sup>These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life.<sup>8</sup>But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth.<sup>9</sup>Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices<sup>10</sup>and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator.<sup>11</sup>In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

*Luke 12:13-21.* <sup>13</sup>Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” <sup>14</sup>But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” <sup>16</sup>Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup>And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ <sup>18</sup>Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my

grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup>And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' <sup>20</sup>But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' <sup>21</sup>So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

**Sermon**

*"What Is to Be Done?"*

Robert H. Ross

**Hymn 370** (pp. 6-7) *Victory in Jesus*

Hartford

### **Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Pastoral Prayer**

*As we hold 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.*

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, Mike, Steve, and Jeff.

### **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**

*Erhöre mich, wenn ich rufe*

Heinrich Schütz

*"Hear me when I call, my Judge. You who comfort me in anguish, be gracious unto me and hear my prayer. Give ear to my cries, my King and my God."*

### **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)**

Holy One, bless these offerings, prosper the work of our hands, and the gifts we bring. We dedicate them to your kingdom, forever and ever. Amen.

### **THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

*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

*All:* Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, we gather at your table to know you in the breaking of the bread.

## Communion Prayer

*All:* With the faithful in every place and time, we praise with joy your holy name: Holy, holy, holy, God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High.

## Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine

## Sharing the Elements

## Prayer of Thanksgiving (*Unison*)

We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table, where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Hymn 335 (p. 8)      *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

Erie

## Benediction

Postlude

*Fanfare*

Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens

\* \* \*

## *Leading Worship This Week*

The Rev. Robert H. Ross, Guest Preacher

Ernie Drown, Organ/Piano • Betsy Alexander, Soprano • Laurel Stavis, Alto  
Betsy Bowse, Liturgist • Stacey Steele and Dominic Watson, Ushers • Bob Gerlach, Zoom

*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](mailto:prayer@fccleb.org) or speak with the pastor directly.*

## STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH—SPECIAL UCC OFFERING

This offering supports the growth of ministry and local congregations across the country. This year's theme—"Great and Wide"—suggests the diversified goal of establishing new churches and supporting existing ones. By renewing faith communities 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. Thanks!*

## Sweet Hour of Prayer

*William Walford, 1845; alt.*

1 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! that calls me from a world of care,  
 2 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! the joys I feel, the bliss I share  
 3 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! whose wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear

and bids me at my Ma-ker's throne let all my needs and wants be known.  
 of those whose anx-ious spir-its burn with strong de-sires for your re-turn!  
 to One whose truth and faith-ful - ness en - gage the wait - ing soul to bless.

In sea - sons of dis-tress and grief, my soul has of - ten found re - lief,  
 With them I has-ten to the place where I would know my Sav-ior's face,  
 And since I'm bid to seek God's face, be-lieve God's word, and trust God's grace,

and oft es-caped the tempt-er's snare by your re - turn, sweet hour of prayer!  
 And glad - ly take my sta - tion there, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!  
 I'll cast a - way my ev - ery care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!

*Although credited to a different poet when first published in 1845, researchers believe this hymn was written by William Walford. William Bradbury, a highly trained musician, sang under Lowell Mason in Boston and also wrote "Jesus Loves Me."*

Tune: SWEET HOUR L.M.D.  
*William B. Bradbury, 1861*

## Victory in Jesus

1. I heard an old, old sto - ry, how a Sav - ior came  
 2. I heard a - bout his heal - ing, of his cleans - ing power  
 3. I heard a - bout a man - sion he has built for me

from glo - ry, how he gave his life on Cal - va - ry  
 re - veal - ing, how he made the lame to walk a - gain  
 in glo - ry, and I heard a - bout the streets of gold

to save a wretch like me; I heard a - bout his  
 and caused the blind to see; and then I cried, "Dear  
 be - yond the crys - tal sea; a - bout the an - gels

groan - ing, of his pre - cious blood's a - ton - ing,  
 Je - sus, come and heal my bro - ken spir - it,"  
 sing - ing and the old re - demp - tion sto - ry,

then I re - pent - ed of my sins and won the  
 and some - how Je - sus came and brought to me the  
 and some sweet day I'll sing up there the song of

*Refrain*

vic - to - ry.  
 vic - to - ry. O vic - to - ry in Je - sus, my  
 vic - to - ry.

Sav - ior for - ev - er! He sought me and bought me

with his re - deem - ing blood; he loved me ere I

knew him, and all my love is due him; he

plunged me to vic - to - ry be - neath the cleans - ing flood.

WORDS: Eugene M. Bartlett, 1939  
 MUSIC: Eugene M. Bartlett, 1939

HARTFORD  
 Irr. with Refrain

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# What a Friend We Have in Jesus

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Joseph Scriven, 1819-1886

ERIE 8.7.8.7.D.

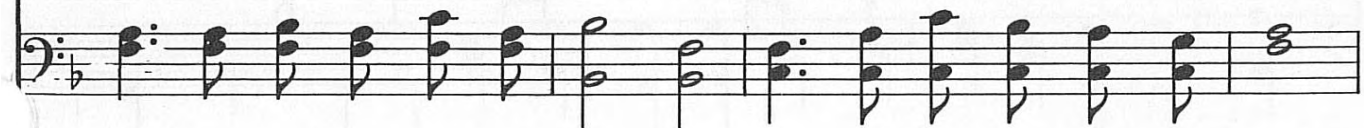
Charles C. Converse, 1832-1918



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?  
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!  
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge, Take it to the Lord in prayer!



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit, Oh, what need - less pain we bear,  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful, Who will all our sor - rows share?  
Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - ery - thing to God in prayer.  
Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee, Thou wilt find a sol - ace there. A - men.





***Classicopia Summer Music Camp—Monday-Saturday, August 4-9***

**Student Concert on Saturday, August 9, 10:00 am**

Join us for a special performance by the distinguished faculty and young student musicians at Classicopia's wonderful summer camp. *Saturday free admission; more at [classicopia.org](http://classicopia.org).*

***Classicopia: The Sound of America—Sunday, August 17, at 2:00 pm***

Dan Weiser welcomes back sensational violinist Tim Schwarz for a delightful survey of the diversity and energy of American music, from folk tunes and Black spirituals to ragtime and blues, Jewish traditions and jazz to musical theater. *Adults \$20, FCC mems \$15, children free; more at [classicopia.org](http://classicopia.org).*

***The Anonymous Coffeehouse—Friday, Sept. 12, and Saturday, Sept. 27, at 7:30 pm***

Our comfy community venue for live folk music opens its sixth season! Come and go as you please; food and drink available. *Free admission. For performers and more, visit [anoncoffee.org](http://anoncoffee.org).*

**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:

**LISTEN COMMUNITY SERVICES**

For a list of current and ongoing needs, please visit [listencs.org/food-pantry#itemsweneedthemost](http://listencs.org/food-pantry#itemsweneedthemost) 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!*

**Community Dinner: Sunday, August 24, at 5:00—All Are Welcome!**

Many thanks to the Scott Family for leading our next monthly dinner! Let's support their efforts with food donations and serving/cleanup help. **Sign-ups coming soon.**

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



**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](mailto: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: Monday-Friday, 9:00-2:00 (or by appointment as needed)*

**603-448-4281 • [church@fcclieb.org](mailto:church@fcclieb.org) • [prayer@fcclieb.org](mailto:prayer@fcclieb.org) • [music@fcclieb.org](mailto:music@fcclieb.org) • [www.fcclieb.org](http://www.fcclieb.org)**