



The _____
First Congregational Church
_____ of Woodstock _____

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

October 8th, 2023
Baptismal Service

Words of Institution

Matt 28:18-20; Acts 2:39; Col 2:9-12

Questions for Parents

1. Do you acknowledge that our children are conceived and born in sin and therefore deserve condemnation and so are in need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you believe the doctrine of this congregation to be what is taught in the Old and New Testaments and therefore the truth of God Himself?
3. Do you hereby exclusively commit your child to Christ and promise in humble reliance upon His Holy Spirit that you will bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

❖ Questions for Congregation

Do you, the members of FCCW, promise to receive this child as one of your own and to love and care for him as you are able, and do you promise that by God's grace you will endeavor to pray for and assist these parents in their fulfillment of the covenant?

Administration of Sacrament

I baptize you, Cullen Crewe Bauer, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Introduction to the Congregation

Baptismal Prayer		Stephen Briggs
❖ Scripture Reading	Genesis 1:26 - 2:3	Pastor
❖ Baptismal Hymn #44	<i>How Great Thou Art</i>	Congregation
The Sermon	Exodus 20:8-11 <i>"A Command Celebration"</i>	Pastor
❖ Hymn of Response #188	<i>Jesus, I am Resting, Resting</i>	Congregation
❖ Benediction	Revelation 1:5-6	Pastor

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

Postlude

~~ Organist: Jonathan Denham ~~
~~ Please ensure cell phones are off ~~
Prelude: 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus (Haan)
Offertory: Be Still and Know (Moore)
Deacons' Offering: St. James' Air - The Lord is My Shepherd, Trinity 86 (Ingram)
Postlude: Alleluias (Rawsthorne)

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**Jerri Cole Memorial Service**

There will be a memorial service for Jerri Cole at 3:00 pm **today**, with a reception following. Please join us in thanking God for Jerri's life and ministry.

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There will be no Young Adult Fellowship Group tonight
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**Save the Date!**

- Today, Sunday, October 8** — 3:00-5:00 pm Jerri Cole Memorial Service
- Sunday, October 15** — 3:00-4:30 pm Vespers Services (note date change)
- Saturday, October 28** — 5:00 pm Covered dish dinner with visiting missionaries Herb & Heather)
- Saturday, November 4** — 9:30 am-12:30 pm COT food drive
- Friday, December 8-Saturday, December 9** — Wassail Weekend
  - Friday, 4:30 & 5:30 pm — FCCW Building & History Tours
  - Friday, 5:00 pm — Organ Concert
  - Saturday, 11:00 am-2:00 pm — Hot Wassail and DIY s'mores on the lawn
  - Saturday, 2:00 pm — Wassail Parade Watch Party
  - Saturday, 3:00 pm — The Ten of NYC Concert

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The October Prayer Letter is available on the back table.
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Volunteers Needed!

COT Food drive at FCCW Sat., Nov. 4th from 9:30am-12:30pm. We need 4-5 volunteers to assist during drop off and one person to take donated food to the Woodstock food shelf. Contact Keri Bristow at kerilynbristow@gmail.com to volunteer.

COT will host Wassail drinks and s'mores on the FCCW front lawn Sat Dec 9th from 11am-2pm. We will need set up and clean up volunteers. Contact Keri Bristow to volunteer: kerilynbristow@gmail.com

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## Weekly Gathering Opportunities

**Sundays, 6:00 pm** — Young Adult Fellowship Group in the library

**Tuesdays, 7:00 am** — Middle School & High School Bible Study—meet at Maplefields to grab breakfast, then on to the church for study, discussion, and prayer.

**Tuesdays, 10:00 am** — Ladies' Bible Study meets in person at the Thompson Senior Center and via ZOOM, please contact Bonnie Atwood at (802) 457-4120 or email [bonhope2@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:rbatwood1@gmail.com).

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Join the WCCC Teaching Team!

Are you looking for rewarding work with young children, part or full time? Woodstock Christian Child Care (WCCC) has immediate openings for part-time or full-time Trainees, Teacher Assistants, or Teachers for our full-day program for ages 6 weeks to PreK, and our After School Program for PreK to Grade 2. This is a great opportunity for college students interested in ECE, nursing, or human services to gain experience. WCCC has been serving children and families in the area for 29 years. If you are 18 years old or older, enjoy children, or would like to explore a career in early childhood education, please contact the WCCC Executive Director Ruth Brisson at rbrissonwccc@gmail.com. Thank you!

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## **A Command Celebration**

“Remember the Sabbath day, *to keep it holy*. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, 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. 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*.

### **1. God Has Set Apart the Sabbath as Holy.**

### **2. Yahweh Demands His People Keep It Holy.**

### **3. Jesus Is the Lord of the Sabbath.**

CONCLUSION: We often receive the good gifts God gives us with skepticism or outright disdain. Perhaps this is nowhere else more apparent than with His gift of Sabbath rest. *How dare He command us to rest and enjoy His completed works of Creation and Redemption?!* It is only our pride that objects. Let us delight in our good God and join in the holy celebration He has provided for us!

## Westminster Larger Catechism

**Q. 116.** What is required in the fourth commandment?

**A.** The fourth commandment *requires* of all men the *sanctifying* or *keeping holy to God* such set times as he hath appointed in his word, expressly *one whole day in seven*; which was the *seventh* from the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, and the *first day of the week* ever since, and so *to continue to the end of the world*; which is the *Christian sabbath*, and in the New Testament called *The Lord's Day*.

Deut. 5:12-14; Gen. 2:2-3; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; Acts 20:7; Matt. 5:17-18; Isa. 56:2, 4, 6-7; Rev. 1:10.

**Q. 117.** *How* is the sabbath or the Lord's Day *to be sanctified*?

**A.** The sabbath or Lord's Day is to be sanctified by an *holy resting* all the day, not only from such works as are at all times sinful, but *even from such worldly employments and recreations as are on other days lawful*; and making it our delight to spend the whole time (except so much of it as is to be taken up in *works of necessity and mercy*) in the public and private exercises of God's worship: and, to that end, we are to prepare our hearts, and with such foresight, diligence, and moderation, to dispose, and seasonably to dispatch our worldly business, *that we may be the more free and fit for the duties of that day*.

Ex. 20:8, 10; Ex. 16:25-28; Neh. 13:15-22; Jer. 17:21-22; Matt. 12:1-13; Isa. 58:13; Luke 4:16; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; Ps. 92 title; Isa. 66:23; Lev. 23:3; Ex. 20:8; Luke 23:54, 56; Ex. 16:22, 25-26, 29; Neh. 13:19.

**Q. 119.** What are the *sins forbidden* in the fourth commandment?

**A.** The *sins forbidden* in the fourth commandment are, *all omissions of the duties required*, all careless, negligent, and unprofitable performing of them, and being weary of them; all profaning the day by idleness, and doing that which is in itself sinful; and by *all needless works*, words, and thoughts, about our worldly employments and recreations.

Ezek 22:26; Acts 20:7, 9; Ezek. 33:30-32; Amos 8:5; Mal. 1:13; Ezek. 23:38; Jer. 17:24, 27; Isa. 58:13.

# Taking Gathered Worship Home

What is the Sabbath all about? Why is there so much controversy surrounding it? There is nothing sinful human nature hates more than the complete sovereignty of God. He has set apart the Sabbath as an eternal testimony to His completed work in both Creation and Redemption. They are His doing entirely. Let us praise Him every day and enjoy His divinely ordained celebration each Lord's Day!

*Please use the devotional material below each day this week to praise Christ.*

## Sunday Morning

READ **Exodus 20:8-11; 16:11-36; Genesis 1:1 - 2:3; Psalm 92:1-15; Luke 6:1-5; 13:10-17; Acts 20:7-12; 1Corinthians 16:1-4; Psalm 119:33-48.** DISCUSS What does it mean to *keep the Sabbath holy*? How have you profaned it? How are you trusting Christ to do the former and repenting of the latter? MEDITATE on **Psalm 92:1-4.** Use WLC #116-19 as an aid. PRAY "Lord of the Sabbath, You deserve all praise!"

## Sunday Evening

There will be *no Young Adult Fellowship tonight* as we encourage the whole church family to attend *the memorial service for Jerri Cole* at 3pm.

## Monday

READ **Exodus 20:8-11; 16:11-36; Genesis 1:1 - 2:3; Psalm 119: 33-48.** DISCUSS Why has God set apart His Sabbath day? How is His Sabbath connected to His work of Creation? Redemption? SERVE by taking time to help someone! MEDITATE on **Psalm 92:1-4.** Use WLC #116-19 as an aid. PRAY, "Lord of the Sabbath, forgive us our pride."

## Tuesday

READ **Exodus 20:8-11; Luke 6:1-5; 13:10-17; Psalm 119:33-48.** DISCUSS Why did the Pharisees get so upset about what Jesus did on the Sabbath? Whose day is it? Given that, what does "Lord of the Sabbath" mean? MEDITATE on **Psalm 92:1-4.** Use WLC #116-19 as an aid. PRAY, "Lord of the Sabbath, You have completed Your work of Creation and Redemption. Thank You for including us in celebrating Your finished work. Make us joyful. Nurture within us gratitude to You."

### Wednesday

READ **Exodus 20:8-11; Mark 16:1-8; Acts 20:7-12; 1Corinthians 16:1-4; Psalm 119:33-48.** DISCUSS What significance did the first day of the week have for Christians in the New Testament? Why? MEDITATE on **Psalm 92:1-4.** Use WLC #116-19 as an aid. PRAY, “Lord of the Sabbath, empower us through Your Spirit to keep Your Sabbath holy. Keep Your majesty in our memory.”

### Thursday

READ **Exodus 20:8-11; Psalm 92:1-15; 119:33-48; Habakkuk 3:17-19.** DISCUSS What should make us glad? SERVE by putting someone else’s interests *above your own!* MEDITATE on **Psalm 92:1-4.** Use WLC #116-19 as an aid. PRAY, “Lord of the Sabbath, You have made us glad. Teach us to truly rejoice in You.”

### Friday

READ **Exodus 20:8-11; 16:11-36; Genesis 1:1 - 2:3; Psalm 92:1-15; Luke 6:1-5; 13:10-17; Acts 20:7-12; 1Corinthians 16:1-4; Psalm 119:33-48.** DISCUSS What has God been teaching you this week? SERVE by *caring for someone in need!* MEDITATE on **Psalm 92:1-4.** Use WLC #112-13 as an aid. PRAY that we at FCCW would *honor Christ together.*

### Saturday

PREPARE today for *gathered Sunday worship tomorrow.* READ **Exodus 20:1-21.** *Invite others to join you tomorrow for the worship service @ 10:30 am.* PRAY, “Lord, gather us together *to delight in You.*”

### Psalm 92:1-4

It is good to give thanks to the LORD,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;  
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
and your faithfulness by night,  
to the music of the lute and the harp,  
to the melody of the lyre.

For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;  
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.