



The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

November 8th, 2020

The Order of Morning Worship

For assistance as we “gather” remotely and in-person to worship together.

November 8th, 2020

Ten-thirty

Welcome

Pastor Doug Warren

Moment for Missions

Elevation Christian Academy

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship

Psalm 86

We will praise you, O Lord our God, with our whole

Pastor: hearts; we will glorify your name forever; for you have delivered us from the power of death.

Bring joy to your servants, O Lord, for to you we lift

Congregation: up our souls. There is none like you; no deeds can compare with yours.

All the nations you have made will come and worship

Pastor: before you. They will bring glory to your name, for you alone are God.

Teach us now your way, O Lord, and we will live in

Congregation: your truth. Give us undivided hearts that we may fear and praise your great name.

❖ Hymn of Exultation

Number 235

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

"Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the King of Israel!" John 12:13

1. All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King,
 2. The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
 3. Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent:
 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King!

Thou art the King of Is - rael, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
 to thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
 All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re - deem - er, King,

who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One!
 to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!

Scriptural Call to Repentance

Psalm 46: 8 – 9

The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; He utters His voice, the earth melts. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.

Collective Confession

Holy Father, we long to have you change our hearts. We confess to You that we do not obey You as we should. We don't think Your thoughts, speak Your truth, or do the good that You command. We do not love our neighbors as You have loved us. We bend the truth to our own purposes. We harbor bitterness when we don't get our own way. We neglect and leave the oppressed with no defender. We break Your holy law and delight in what You have forbidden. Merciful Lord, we humbly ask that You would forgive us and change our hearts. Conform us to the image of Your Son. Holy Spirit, work in us we pray, that we might be like You.

Proclamation of Forgiveness

Psalm 130: 3, 7 – 8

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? O Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with Him is full redemption. He Himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

Scripture Reading

2 Timothy 2: 8 – 10

⁸Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel, ⁹for which I suffer hardship even to imprisonment as a criminal; but the word of God is not imprisoned. ¹⁰For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus *and* with *it* eternal glory.

Pastor: The grass withers, the flower fades,

Congregation: But the word of our God will stand forever.

Pastoral Prayer

Gloria Patri

*Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor
of his holiness. Ps. 29:2*

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost, as it was in

the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er

shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

“*An Encouraging Word for the People*”

Acts 13: 13 – 25

¹³ Now Paul and his companions put out to sea from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia; but John left them and returned to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ But going on from Perga, they arrived at Pisidian Antioch, and on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. ¹⁵ After the reading of the Law and the Prophets, the synagogue officials sent *word* to them, saying, “Brothers, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, say it.” ¹⁶ Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said,

“Men of Israel, and you who fear God, listen: ¹⁷ The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with an uplifted arm He led them out from it. ¹⁸ For a period of about forty years He put up with them in the wilderness. ¹⁹ When He had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, He distributed their land as an inheritance—*all of which took* about 450 years. ²⁰ After these things He gave *them* judges until Samuel the prophet. ²¹ Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, for forty years. ²² After He had removed him, He raised up David to be their king, concerning whom He also testified and said, ‘I have found David, the son of Jesse, a man after My heart, who will do all My will.’ ²³ From the descendants of this man, according to promise, God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, ²⁴ after John had proclaimed, before His coming, a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. ²⁵ And while John was completing his course, he kept saying, ‘What do you suppose that I am? I am not *He*. But behold, one is coming after me, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie.’

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

In his days the righteous will flourish; prosperity will abound till the moon is no more.
Ps. 72:7

1. Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
2. He comes with com - fort speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong;
3. He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
4. O'er ev - 'ry foe vic - to - rious, he on his throne shall rest,

Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth;
from age to age more glo - rious, all - bless - ing and all - blessed;

He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free,
to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,
be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;
the tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;

to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.
whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.
and righ - teous - ness, in foun - tains, from hill to val - ley flow.
his name shall stand for - ev - er—that name to us is Love.

Benediction

Jude 24 – 25

Pastor: To Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forever more.

Congregation: Thanks be to God. Amen.

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

Postlude

~~ Organist: Jonathan Denham ~~
~~ Please ensure cell phones are off ~~

Deacons' Offering – November 15

This month's Deacons' offering will be the Pastor Emeritus Collection. Twice a year, in May and November, the Pastor Emeritus offering is taken for Doris Johnston. David and Doris faithfully served this church for 24 years. The Pastor Emeritus Collection helps off-set unexpected expenses that Doris might incur in her retirement. This month's collection will take place on Sunday, November 15.

Creative Vesper Services

The deaconesses regret to tell you that our plan to make a video of a Vesper Service for our local homes for the elderly has been cancelled. With rising numbers of Covid cases in the Northeast it seems best to not gather in a group and sing as planned. Please pray with us as we seek the Lord's direction for ways to minister to our friends in these homes.

Thank you,

The Deaconesses

Annual Meeting Warning

Members are welcome to attend in person or via live stream. ONLY those members attending in person will be counted as part of the quorum and have the ability to vote.

Notice: The members of the First Congregational Church of Woodstock, Vermont, Inc., are called to meet on Thursday, November 12th, 2020 at 7:00 pm to conduct the following business:

1. To vote on a motion from the elders to suspend the committee membership number requirements for 2021.
 2. To vote on the Elders' nomination of
 - a) Tom Johnston to a first four-year term on the Board of Elders
 - b) Dan Bruce to a first four-year term on the Board of Deacons
 3. To vote on the Deacons' nomination of
 - a) Jerry Morton to a three-year term as Treasurer
 - b) Andy Cole to a three-year term as Assistant Treasurer
 4. To vote on the Nominating Slate as proposed by the Nominating Committee;
 5. To review and vote on the 2021 Budgets, including the normal operating budget, major expense budget and Woodstock Christian Child Care budget, as proposed by the Board of Deacons;
 6. To vote and approve the minutes of the November 14, 2019 Annual Congregational Meeting;
 7. To address any other business that is properly brought before the membership;
 8. To join in a closing prayer.
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Winter Clothing Drive

Loving Our Neighbors as Jesus Loves Us

When: November 14 from 10 am to noon

Give the gift of warmth! There is a very high need this year for warm outerwear due to families spending more time at home and needing the ability to be outside. Join us in participating with FCCW Community Outreach Team by donating your new & gently used coats, hats, gloves, scarves & snow pants to help support Upper Valley Haven, David's House and Free the Coats.

- Free the Coats – benefits families at Ottauquechee Health Center and Woodstock Elementary School
- Upper Valley Haven – offers shelter, education and food for homeless families
- David's House – offers free short/long term housing and food for families that have children in the NICU at DHMC

Curbside drop off at FCCW.

For more information contact Hayley Bauer at 785 – 727 – 0756 or email her at hayleylgriffith@gmail.com.

Welcome Elevation Christian Academy

The Mission Board invites you to join Scott Rancourt, the Director of Elevation Christian Academy, and his student, Aaron Blanchard, out on the brick patio after the morning Worship Service for a time of refreshment. It will be a great opportunity to welcome Scott and Aaron and to learn more about Elevation Christian Academy.

Formerly known as The Fold, Elevation Christian Academy (ECA) has relocated to Milton, Vermont in Chittenden County. ECA provides a nurturing school environment for at-risk youth between the ages of 11 and 17. Recognized as an independent school in the state of Vermont, ECA will be able to provide students the opportunity to earn a high school diploma.

Core Values

SCHOLARSHIP

Elevation Academy believes that the mind is to be exercised and engaged, and desires that students' minds will be renewed by Jesus Christ, as they increasingly discipline the intellect and develop a Christian worldview, through a curriculum integrating faith and learning.

LEADERSHIP

Elevation believes that true leadership is rooted in wholehearted commitment to follow God, and desires to equip students to wisely and willingly lead in service to Jesus Christ.

PARTNERSHIP

Elevation believes that parents have the primary responsibility of instructing their children, and desires to exhort and to work alongside parents in teaching and training their children, focused on spiritual formation, to be followers of Jesus Christ.

DISCIPLESHIP

Elevation believes that children need godly mentors to model for them and desires that students "grow in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4b), studying under mature disciples of Jesus Christ.

STEWARDSHIP

Elevation believes that life is a gift, and desires that students will responsibly and gratefully use their talents and skills in a life of service to others through effective leadership honoring Jesus Christ.

WORSHIP

Elevation believes that all of life is worship, “a living sacrifice” (Romans 12:1) and desires that students voluntarily and passionately worship Jesus Christ.

Our Mission

The mission of Elevation Christian Academy is to help students and families find hope and healing in Christ. This is accomplished by giving students a comprehensive, rigorous, 21st Century standard-based education while providing mentoring, life skill support, and character building, within a distinctly Christian family environment. We believe that God’s word is true and transforming and that the lives of those we serve will take on new meaning as they begin to believe in themselves and understand their God-given value.

Our Vision

To become a primary resource for teens, families, and communities in the effective application of biblically-based, joyful living for the glory of God. Therefore, we passionately endeavor to:

- Share the love of Christ through discipleship, mentoring, and role modeling in the context of Christ-centered education.
- Demonstrate God’s grace and compassion for teens, families and individuals facing crises and brokenness.
- Strengthen families and the greater Christian community to promote a safe godly society

To learn more about Elevation Christian Academy go to <https://www.elevationchristianacademy.org/>.

Second Timothy 2: 8 – 10

Remember **Jesus Christ**, risen from the dead, **the offspring of David**, as preached in my gospel, for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the **salvation that is in Christ Jesus** with eternal glory.

Second Peter 1: 16 – 21

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our **Lord Jesus Christ**, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15: 4 – 7

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Acts—Series Overview

The Expansion of the Gospel Witness with Power

Acts records God’s faithful accomplishment of all that He promised in taking the gospel to the nations. It lays the groundwork for all that will take place as His Church awaits His return. Just as Jesus lived and spoke as the Father commanded, we now are called to do in the power of His Holy Spirit. While Jesus did this perfectly, we will strive imperfectly, constantly in need of the Holy Spirit’s direction, power, and correction. Nevertheless, our faithful God will work even through our failing efforts and His gospel witness through us will prevail and penetrate every nation, tribe, & territory. For the praise of our King!

Taking Gathered Worship Home

What is the point of history? Is it just a collection of dates when stuff happened? God shows us history is the record of God's faithfulness in keeping His promise to His people. That promise culminates in His bringing David's Son to His eternal throne from which He rules and reigns as sovereign over all the earth and redeems His people.

Please use the devotional material below each day this week to praise Christ. Ask Jesus to teach us His ways that we may walk in them to accomplish His purposes.

Sunday Morning

READ **Acts 13:13-25; Luke 1:30-33; Second Timothy 2:8-10**. DISCUSS, What encouragement do we find in Jesus, *the Son of David*? How does God the Father's rule over history comfort us? How does it demonstrate His claim over all of our lives? How are you submitting to His lordship today? PRAY "Lord God of Israel, we praise You as our King. We thank You for Your sovereign rule over all history. You have established Your Kingdom just as You promised. Enable us to joyfully submit to Your holy rule and reign over all things! "

Sunday Evening

Young Adults' Fellowship at **6:00** tonight in the FCCW library.

Monday

READ **Acts 13:13-25; Mark 13:9-13; Second Corinthians 1:3-7; 11:24-28**. DISCUSS, What challenges might we face proclaiming Christ as the Lord of History? What is our comfort? How is God working through all these challenges? PRAY, "Jesus, You are the King of History. You orchestrate all things to bring glory to Your name and the salvation of Your people. Teach us to trust in You!"

Tuesday

READ **Acts 13:13-25; Romans 15:4-7; Hebrews 11:1-40**. DISCUSS, How does reviewing history help us to trust Christ? Why? How does Christ's rule enable us to trust Him as we face various challenges? PRAY, "Jesus, thank You for Your eternal rule as King of all history. It is the chronicle of Your faithfulness and we praise You."

Wednesday

READ **Acts 13:13-25; Second Samuel 7:1-17; Psalm 132:11-12; Luke 1:30-33**. DISCUSS, What did God promise David? How was that fulfilled in Solomon? How was that fulfilled in Jesus? How are we trusting now in the Son of David? PRAY, “Lord Jesus, we confess that You alone are King and we praise You.”

Thursday

READ **Acts 13:13-25; Matthew 9:27-31; 12:22-28; 15:21-28; 20:29-34; 21:9-17; 22:41-45**. DISCUSS, What is the title used for Jesus throughout these passages? Why is that significant? What does the Son of David do? Why? PRAY, “Lord Jesus, You are the promised Son of David who has come to save Your people. Help us to trust You and submit to Your loving rule and reign.”

Friday

READ **Acts 13:13-25; Luke 1:30-33; Second Timothy 2:8-10**. DISCUSS, How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? REJOICE if by God’s grace you are able to praise the King! PRAY for renewal and revival across our land.

Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow. *Both live-stream & in-person services are available.*

READ **Acts 13:1-52**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for either the *live-stream or in-person service*. ^[1]_[SEP]Ask Jesus to help us love our neighbors well.

Luke 1: 30 – 33

And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And **the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David**, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”