



The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

February 13th, 2022

The Order of Morning Worship

February 13th, 2022

Ten-thirty

Welcome

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship

Psalm 86

Congregation

Pastor: We will praise You, O Lord our God, with our whole hearts; we will glorify Your name forever; for You have delivered us from the power of death.

Congregation: Bring joy to Your servants, O Lord, for to You we lift up our souls. There is none like You; no deeds can compare with Yours.

Pastor: All the nations You have made will come and worship before You. They will bring glory to Your name, for You alone are God.

Congregation: Teach us now Your way, O Lord, and we will live in Your truth. Give us undivided hearts that we may fear and praise Your great name.

❖ Hymn of Exultation #498

*Jesus! What a
Friend for Sinners!*

Congregation

Scriptural Call to Repentance

Psalm 46: 8 – 9

Pastor

Collective Confession

Congregation

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.

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness

Psalm 130

Pastor

Offering	(collected from back to front)	Congregation
❖ Affirmation of Faith	<i>The Westminster Shorter Catechism</i> ¹	Congregation
Pastor:	What is the chief end of man?	
Congregation:	Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.	
Pastor:	What rule has God given to direct us in how to glorify and enjoy Him?	
Congregation:	The Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us as to how we may glorify and enjoy Him.	
❖ Creedal Song #735	<i>Gloria Patri</i>	Congregation
❖ Scripture Reading	Ezekiel 11:17-21	Pastor
Pastor:	The Word of the Lord.	
Congregation:	Thanks be to God.	
Deacons' Offering	(collected from back to front)	Congregation
Pastoral Prayer		Pastor
❖ Hymn of Reflection #597	<i>Though I May Speak With Bravest Fire</i>	Congregation
The Sermon	Philippians 1:7-8; Matthew 22:36-40 <i>"Gospel Affection"</i>	Pastor
❖ Hymn of Response	<i>O Church, Arise</i>	Congregation
Benediction	Jude 24-25	Pastor
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.

¹ A catechism is a question and answer format for teaching the truths contained in Scripture. The Westminster Shorter Catechism was written in 1647 in England primarily as an aid for teaching children. It has been used by congregations and families in both worship and instruction for the past 350 years.

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

Young Adult Fellowship Group will meet tonight at the Parsonage at 6:00 for a Super Bowl party.

Deacons' Offering – Today, February 13th

Our church receives many requests for help from not just within our church body but the community at large. The deacons have a great many opportunities to share God's love with folks in need, whether it is paying a bill for them or buying them a pair of glasses. This is a vital ministry that our church has to reach into our communities and share the gospel in a loving, gracious way. If you are in need or know someone who is, please contact Dan Bruce, the Deacons' Mercy Minister at home (802) 457-3975, at his cell number (802) 345-8870, or email him at rhondan08@myfairpoint.net.

The February newsletter is on the table in the narthex.

Property Manager Position

FCCW is looking for a Property Manager. This part-time position requires the person or persons to work a flexible schedule, be able to handle a variety of tasks, and be a good steward of FCCW property. Please contact Karl Huck at 802-457-3072 or e-mail him at karlhuck@gmail.com for more details or to submit an application. Thank you.

Teachers Needed

WCCC is in need of **Teachers/Assistants**, and **Substitutes**. Please contact Ruth Brisson at rbrissonwccc@gmail.com or 410-925-7959, if you are interested in serving in any of these roles.

Intro to FCCW Workshop

Interested in knowing more about FCCW? Want to explore questions about the Bible in a small group? What does it mean to be a member? What opportunities are there to serve at FCCW? Consider attending the *Intro to FCCW Workshop* being offered Friday night, February 25 and Saturday morning, February 26. This two-part workshop will give insight into how FCCW functions and the importance of membership. Please contact Kristen at fccwinfo@gmail.com to register.

Session One—Worship

- a. Wired for Worship
- b. Gathered Worship

Session Two—Joyous Knowledge

- a. Knowing The Redeemer Within His Church
- b. Our Catholic Beliefs
- c. Our Historic Practices
- d. Our Evangelical Convictions
- e. Our Reformed Beliefs
- f. Our Congregational Heritage

Session Three—Radical Love for One Another

- a. Charity Born of Character
- b. Christian Sanctification
- c. Living Together with Differences

Session Four— Extending His Grace

- a. Two Parables and A Command
- b. You Can't Serve What You Ain't Cookin'
- c. What Does It Mean To Extend Christ's Grace?

Session Five— Belonging to His Community

- a. Understanding the Church
 - b. The Church as a Worshipping Community
 - c. The Church as a Worshipping Community
 - d. The Biblical Concept of Church Membership
 - e. Membership & Stewardship
 - f. Summary
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New Members and Friends Lists are on the
Table in the Billings Room.

Walking Wednesday

If you would like to walk inside for some exercise and fellowship, meet the Pastor at FCCW at 1:00 pm on Wednesday to go together to the Powerhouse Mall.

Together in Differences -- Local CCEF NE Conference, April 2

The FCCW Board of Christian Education would like to invite you to attend a one day conference put on by the Christian Counseling and Educational Foundation of New England. It will be held in Lebanon, NH on **April 2, 2022**. FCCW has a special group rate, and according to people's desires, we may have a watch group at the church as well as a group attending in person. You may also watch from home or another remote location.

The topic for the day is Together in Differences. Below is the brief description of the topic and the schedule for the day:

TOGETHER IN DIFFERENCES

Living Out Our Unity in Christ

Division and discord seem to surround us, even in the places where we most long for connection. Scripture recognizes this modern yet timeless problem and invites us into a new way of relating to others. We will press into the real problem of disunity and the real hope of the body of Christ, and examine strategies for engaging our differences in a way that builds up the church. Join CCEF New England and special guest Alasdair Groves for a day of teaching and encouragement.

Conference Schedule

8:00-9:00am | Registration

9:00-10:15am | Plenary 1 "We Really Have Differences" (Andy Engert)

10:15-10:30am | Stretch break

10:30-11:45am | Plenary 2 "We Really Have Unity" (Robyn Huck)

11:45-1:15pm | Lunch break (local restaurants or pre-purchased boxed lunch)

1:15-2:00pm | Breakout Sessions

2:00-2:15pm | Stretch break

2:15-3:00pm | Plenary 3 "We Really Can Overcome Divisions" (Alasdair Groves)

3:00-3:30pm | Book table open

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Breakout sessions will explore these ideas further in the context of marriage and family, church and more.

To register, first email Jeff DeDell at dedellcrew@gmail.com for the special FCCW group discount code. Registration costs will go up after Feb 15 and March 15. Conference cost to FCCW folks will be between \$34 and \$49 dollars per person, depending on when you register. (There is an optional lunch you can add to your registration cost when you sign up online.)

After contacting Jeff for the code, go to www.ccef.org/newengland to register. Jeff can assist anyone who has trouble with online registration, and the BCE would also like you to tell him if you wish for assistance in paying for the conference.

The BCE is looking forward to this day of learning alongside other Christians about a struggle that is found in all our churches. Please save the date of Saturday, April 2, 2022.

Gospel Affection

1. God's Word Demands Proper Affection.

2. God Has Every Right to Require Our Heart's Total Devotion.

3. Jesus Christ Came to Totally Transform Our Hearts and Lives.

CONCLUSION: God's claim on us is comprehensive and exclusive. He is due all our praise with joyful hearts and total devotion that leaves room for no other competitors. He has also linked this affection for Himself with our love for one another. It is not to be a grudging putting up with one another for Christ's sake, but rather a full enjoyment of one another because of our connection in Christ. We cannot possibly manufacture such pure and complete affection. But Christ is in the process of transforming us by the power of His Holy Spirit so that we might love one another as thoroughly as He does. Come let us rejoice in the wondrous love of God!

Ezekiel 11:17-21

“... ¹⁷ Therefore say, ‘Thus says the Lord God: I will gather you from the peoples and assemble you out of the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.’ ¹⁸ And when they come there, they will remove from it all its detestable things and all its abominations. ¹⁹ And I will give them one heart, and a new spirit I will put within them. I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, ²⁰ that they may walk in my statutes and keep my rules and obey them. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God. ²¹ But as for those whose heart goes after their detestable things and their abominations, I will bring their deeds upon their own heads, declares the Lord God.”

Second Corinthians 9:6-15

The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one *must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.* And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written,

“He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.”

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way *to be generous in every way*, which through us will produce *thanksgiving to God*. For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also *overflowing in many thanksgivings to God*. By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and *the generosity of your contribution* for them and for all others, while *they long for you and pray for you*, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you. Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

Second Timothy 2:22-26

²² So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with *those who call on the Lord from a pure heart*. ²³ Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. ²⁴ And the Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, ²⁵ correcting his opponents with *gentleness*. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, ²⁶ and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.

Taking Gathered Worship Home

How does love for God define our love for one another? What do you do when you don't feel like loving God or others? How deep does God's command to love Him and one another really go? How can we possibly keep it?

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 **Philippians 1:7-8; Ezekiel 11:17-21; 36:22-32; Psalm 37; Matthew 5-7; 22:36-40; 2Cor 9:6-15; 2Timothy 2:22-26.** DISCUSS What is God due from us? How does that apply to how we love one another? PRAY "Lord Christ, grant us hearts that truly love You as we ought and that produce godly affection for one another."

Sunday Evening

Come join the *Young Adults' Fellowship* for a Super Bowl Party at the Parsonage starting at 6pm!

Monday

READ **Philippians 1:7-8; Ezekiel 11:17-21; 36:22-32.** DISCUSS How does God describe what He is going to do to our hearts? How is this related to what we saw last week about His promise to be our God and take us as His people? MEDITATE on **Matthew 22:36-40.** PRAY, "Lord Jesus, *enflame our hearts with love for You and Your family.*"

Tuesday

READ **Philippians 1:7-8; Psalm 37:1-40** (especially v. 4). DISCUSS What does it mean to delight yourself in the Lord? How can God demand us to feel a certain way? Is this reasonable? How does Jesus enable us to obey this command? MEDITATE on **Matthew 22:36-40.** PRAY, "Lord, help us to trust You and so do good with our whole hearts."

Wednesday

READ **Philippians 1:7-8; Matthew 5:1-7:29**. DISCUSS, How does Jesus reveal the law's requirements for not just action, but also affection? How did death on the cross accomplish this for us who believe in Him? MEDITATE on **Matthew 22:36-40**. PRAY, "Lord, help us to understand the full extent of the law and the impossibility of us keeping it on our own."

Thursday

READ **Philippians 1:7-8; Second Corinthians 9:6-15; Second Timothy 2:22-26**. DISCUSS, What is the point of pointing out God's desire for us to be cheerful givers? What does it mean to call upon the Lord with a pure heart? How do we do this? MEDITATE on **Matthew 22:36-40**. PRAY, Lord, You went to the cross with joy. Enable us to follow You just as joyfully."

Friday

READ **Philippians 1:7-8; Ezekiel 11:17-21; 36:22-32; Psalm 37; Matthew 5-7; 22:36-40; 2Cor 9:6-15; 2Timothy 2:22-26**. DISCUSS, How has God been teaching you from these passages this week? DELIGHT in Christ with all your heart and love His people with joy! MEDITATE on **Matthew 22:36-40**. PRAY for unity and joyful care for one another at FCCW.

Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow. *There will be both the in-person and live-stream services available.* READ **Philippians 1:1-30; James 3:13-18**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for the service. Ask Jesus to gather us together joyfully to praise Him.

Matthew 22:36-40

"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."