

The Order of Morning Worship

March 15th, 2020

Ten-thirty

Welcome

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer

Prayer & Praise Retreat Announcement

Preston Bristow

❖ Call to Worship

Psalm 19: 1 – 4

Elder John Haas

Elder: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.

Congregation: Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they acknowledge His glory.

Elder: There is no land or nation where their voice is not heard.

Congregation: Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.

❖ Hymn of Exultation

Number 30

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

Scripture Reading

Elder John Haas

Romans 11: 22 – 24

Lead Elder: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

Offering (collected from back to front)

Scriptural Call to Repentance

Pastor Doug Warren

Isaiah 55: 6 – 7

❖ Song of Preparation

Number 34

The God of Abraham Praise

Collective Confession

Congregation

Silent Reflection and Confession

Congregation

Proclamation of Forgiveness

Pastor Doug Warren

Romans 8: 1

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Doug Warren

Children's Message

Pastor Doug Warren

Children in Grades K – 2 are excused for Junior Church

The Order of Evening Worship

March 15th, 2020

Six o'clock

Prelude

Welcome & Invocation

Elder John Haas

❖ Hymn

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

Number 1

Scripture Reading

Elder John Haas

John 15: 18 – 22

❖ Hymn

We Gather Together

Number 363

Evening Prayers & Testimonies

Congregation

The Sermon

Daniel 3: 1 – 12

Pastor Doug Warren

“Swollen Head of Gold”

❖ Hymn

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

Number 679

Benediction

Pastor Doug Warren

Organist: David Lasky

John 15: 18 – 22

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<sup>18</sup>“If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you. <sup>19</sup>If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you. <sup>20</sup>Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A slave is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also. <sup>21</sup>But all these things they will do to you for My name’s sake, because they do not know the One who sent Me. <sup>22</sup>If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin.  
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~~ Schedule and Announcements ~~

This Sunday, The Lord's Day, March 15th, 2020

9:00 am Sunday School

10:30 am Morning Worship: Pastor Doug Warren

Lead Elder: John Haas

Ushers: Rick Chubbuck, Robbo Holleran,
Kevin Kaija, Jerry Morton,
and Joe Trottier
Nursery: Cindy Emery
Children's Msg: Doug Warren
Junior Church*: Lisa Kaija
Hospitality: Set-up – Bruce/Clean-up – Holleran

12:30 pm Fellowship Meal

6:00 pm Evening Worship Service: Pastor Doug Warren

Lead Elder: John Haas

* K-2nd Grade (ages 5 – 8)

~~ Schedule and Announcements ~~

Next Sunday, The Lord's Day, March 22nd, 2020

9:00 am Sunday School

10:30 am Morning Worship: Pastor Doug Warren

Lead Elder: Peter Vanderhoof

Ushers: Rick Chubbuck, Robbo Holleran
Kevin Kaija, Jerry Morton,
and Joe Trottier
Nursery: Ruth Holleran
Children's Msg: Doug Warren
Junior Church*: TBD
Hospitality: Set-up – Bruce/Clean-up – Holleran

6:00 pm Evening Worship Service: Pastor Doug Warren

Lead Elder: Gil Emery

* K-2nd Grade (ages 5 – 8)

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**Monday, 3/16**

Women's Bible Study, 9:00 am, church library

**Tuesday, 3/17**

Women's Bible Study, 10:00 am, church library

Prayer Meeting, 6:00 pm, church library

Freelance Singers Practice, 6:30 pm sanctuary

Deacons, 7:00 pm, church library

**Wednesday, 3/18**

Men's Bible Study, 6:15 am, church library

Intro to FCCW, 6:30 pm, church library

BCE, 7:00 pm, classroom downstairs

**Thursday, 3/19**

Women's Bible Study, 6:15 am, church library

Elders, 7:00 pm, church library

**Saturday, 3/21**

Sugar Maple Celebration, 9:00 am – 12:30 pm  
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**Pastor Doug's Office Hours this Week**

**Wednesday, 3/18**

7 – 10 am

**Thursday, 3/19**

1 – 5:00 pm

**Friday, 3/20**

2 – 5 pm

Please e-mail Terri at [fccwinfo@gmail.com](mailto:fccwinfo@gmail.com)  
to schedule an appointment.  
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## Sugar Maple Celebration

The Community Outreach Team (COT) is hosting our 2nd annual Maple Open House in March. The 'Sugar Maple Celebration' event is free and open to the public. Many church members volunteered last year to help staff the event. We need your help again!

Volunteers are still needed to help children make crafts, plant Maple seedlings, assist Heidi Gennaro in the kitchen, help Dan Bruce with boiling sap (is there any among you with some experience sugaring?), and engage in discussions about FCCW church history in our sanctuary. A good handful of folks are also needed to meet and greet all who come to watch the boiling demonstration outside as well as those who come inside the doors for crafts and refreshments.

Will you volunteer? The time commitment is short, from 9-12:30 am on Saturday March 21st. Hayley and Jeff are available to answer any questions that you might have about volunteering that morning. Contact: Hayley Bauer at hayleylgriffith@gmail.com or 785-727-0756, and Jeff DeDell at dedellcrew@gmail.com or 802-457-3773 for more information. And thank you for lending a hand!

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Introduction to FCCW Class

It's not too late to join the Intro to FCCW Workshop. Even if you can't make them all, come to as many as you can. Childcare provided upon request.

What kind of congregation is the First Congregational Church of Woodstock? Want to understand FCCW's Statement of Faith? What does it mean to be a member? What opportunities are there to serve at FCCW? Looking for the answers to these questions and more. Consider attending the Intro to FCCW Workshop. This five part workshop will give an insight into how FCCW functions and the importance of membership. It will be offered on consecutive Wednesdays from March 11 to April 8 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm.

Please contact Terri at fccwinfo@gmail.com to register or sign-up in the Billings Room.

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| ❖ Creedal Song                                                     | <i>Doxology</i>                                                        | Number 731         |
| The Sermon                                                         | Acts 3: 17 – 26<br>"Covenant of Transformation"                        | Pastor Doug Warren |
| ❖ Hymn of Commitment <span style="float: right;">Number 355</span> |                                                                        |                    |
|                                                                    | <i>We Are God's People</i>                                             |                    |
| Benediction                                                        | 2 Corinthians 13: 14                                                   | Pastor Doug Warren |
|                                                                    | The Congregation may be seated after the Benediction for silent prayer |                    |
| Postlude                                                           |                                                                        |                    |

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~~ Organist: Anne Hablitzel ~~  
 ~~ Nursery for Birth to Age 5 available during Morning Worship ~~  
 ~~ Please ensure cell phones are off ~~

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 The flowers this week are given in loving memory of Betty Marciano. Celebrating the unique, influential person God made her to be and a life well lived.
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## Prayer and Praise Retreat!

March 28, 2020  
 9:00 am to 4:00 pm  
 Cost: \$10.00  
 Ottauquechee Farm, Bridgewater, VT

Join us for a Prayer Retreat for the whole church. We will have a "Concert of Prayer" in four movements: Praying; Singing; Sharing; Worshiping and Intercession. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Scholarships provided.

An opportunity to join together as a church to worship together and pray for our church, our community, our country, and our world.

Sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Billings Room. For more information, see the newsletter or contact Cora Koop at [cora.hogue@gmail.com](mailto:cora.hogue@gmail.com) or 603-643-1609.

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Taking Gathered Worship Home

They were privileged with membership in the covenant community and had been privy to all the prophets' explanations of God's plans to bless them and through them to bless the nations. Yet they missed it. They did not understand. So God in His grace provides them an opportunity to repent and believe Him anew. What about you?

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

Sunday AM

READ **Acts 3:17-26; Romans 11:11-24**. DISCUSS, How does this explanation of the covenant help you better understand the gospel? How is Christ faithful to His promise to His people? PRAY for God to open our eyes to the covenant. Ask the Lord to enable us to walk in it.

Sunday PM

READ **Daniel 3:1-12; John 15:18-27**. Why does the world hate us (followers of Jesus)? Why did it hate Jesus? How are we to respond to this hatred? PRAISE God for loving us enough to allow us to suffer with Christ.

Monday

READ **Acts 3:22-26; Gen 22:15-18**. DISCUSS, Why does God take an oath? By whom does He swear? What does He promise? PRAY for your neighbors, peers, friends, & family, asking God to make them recipients of His promise. Ask Him to draw them to Himself.

Tuesday

READ **Acts 3:22-26; Deuteronomy 18:15-22; Hebrews 1:1-4**. DISCUSS, Why did God raise up prophets? What specific prophet is in view here? Why? How did Christ fulfill the covenant? MEDITATE on Christ's faithfulness. REJOICE in Christ's steadfast love. PRAY, "Lord, thank You for making us Your holy people based on Your faithfulness and not ours. Make us faithful too."

Wednesday

READ **Acts 3:17-21; Galatians 3:6-9**. DISCUSS, how does God reckon Abraham's faith as righteousness? How do we experience this blessing? How are we brought into the covenant community? PRAY, "Lord, You have been faithful, brought us near, and made us Your own. We praise You!"

Thursday

READ **Acts 3:17-26; Galatians 3:23-29**. DISCUSS, How are we made sons or daughters of God? What difference does that make in your daily life? REJOICE in the restoration that Jesus provided us. PRAY, "Lord, enable us to praise You and follow Your Holy Spirit's leading as we await Your return."

Friday

READ **Acts 3:17-26**. How has God been teaching you from this passage this week? REJOICE for Christ has not left us outside, but brought us near to Him! PRAY for our neighbors to know God and themselves as they truly are and so run to Christ.

Saturday

PREPARE today for the gathered worship service tomorrow.

READ **Acts 4:1-22**. Invite others to come with you to worship tomorrow. Pray for God's glory to be shown through us as we extend His grace and celebrate it together.

Romans 11: 22 – 24

Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God's kindness to you, provided you continue in his kindness. Otherwise you too will be cut off. And even they, if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again. For if you were cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, the natural branches, be grafted back into their own olive tree.

Acts—Series Overview

The Expansion of the Gospel Witness with Power

The book of *Acts* gives the account of 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!

APPLYING GOD’S WORD

Please ask the Holy Spirit to guide you:

What is Your Relationship to the Covenant? How are you connected? What does that mean?

Honor that commitment! If you are a member of the covenant community, live like it. If not, join it by faith in Jesus!

Daniel—Series Overview

Holy Living in a Hostile World

The book of *Daniel* was written to console and motivate God’s people during desperate times. It shows us how to live faithfully in the midst of a faithless world. It is a book-long treatment of Christ’s command to be in the world but not of it (John 15:17). But the book of Daniel is far more than a “how-to” manual. It sets in context the whole flow of history. It shows that all of history is *His story*—the story of God’s redeeming work for His people. From the horrific discipline of the exile to the horrors of the cross, God is sovereignly directing all human history for the redemption of His saints.



Sermon Notes and Daily Devotional
First Congregational Church of Woodstock

Pastor Doug Warren
March 15th, 2020

Morning Service:

Acts 3: 17 – 26

Covenant of Transformation

1. This Restoration Is For Covenant Members (22-26).
2. Insiders Are Put Out and Outsiders Brought In (13, 16-21).
3. Christ Has Fulfilled the Covenant (18).

The Jews amazed at the healing of the man born lame hear how they should not have been surprised and are then called to repentance and faith in Christ. To help them make sense of what they should have known as recipients of the prophets and members of the covenant as God’s people, Peter connects the dots from Abraham to Moses. We too are called to faith and repentance and invited into the covenant community. Will you come?

Evening Service:

Daniel 3: 1 – 12

Swollen Head of Gold

1. Nebuchadnezzar Responds to Blessing with Pride.
2. He Demands Everyone Else to Join in His Idolatry.
3. The World Hates Us Because It Hates Jesus.

Christians sometimes refer to New England as a spiritually dark place because of the animosity here towards biblical Christianity. This is nothing new or unique to this region. It is in fact the historical norm. In this chapter of Daniel we see that hatred in full gear. There are important lessons as to how hatred towards God and His people is manifested and how the gospel equips us to resist it with love.