

First Congregational Church
of Woodstock

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

April 12th, 2020

Easter Sunday

The Order of Morning Worship

For assistance as we "gather" remotely for the live streaming worship service.

April 12th, 2020

Easter Sunday

Ten-thirty

Welcome

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer Easter Sacrificial Offering

See Announcement at the End

❖ Call to Worship

Pastor Doug Warren

Pastor: But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits

of those who have fallen asleep. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting? Death is swallowed up in victory. Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing! He is

risen!

Congregation: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

♣ Hymn of Exultation

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Number 277

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Cor. 15:57



5. Hail, the Lord of earth and heav'n! Alleluia! Praise to thee by both be giv'n; Alleluia! thee we greet triumphant now; Alleluia! hail, the Resurrection, thou! Alleluia!

Charles Wesley, 1739

EASTER HYMN 7.7.7.7.al. Lyra Davidica, 1708; alt.

Scripture Reading

Romans 8: 1 – 11

Pastor Doug Warren

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸ Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Easter Offering

Please either go to fccw.net/donate/ click on the Easter Offering Donate button to give electronically or mail your offering to the church being sure to put in the memo line Easter Offering.

Children's Message

Easter Sunday

Pastor Doug Warren

Prayer

Congregation

Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your 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 Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

The Sermon

"The King Has Risen"

Pastor Doug Warren

Mark 16: 1 – 8

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ² And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³ And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" ⁴ And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. ⁵ And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶ And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸ And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

❖ Hymn of Commitment

O Worship the King

Number 2

O Worship the King

All you have made will praise you, O LORD; your saints will extol you. Ps. 145:10



- 5. Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in you do we trust, nor find you to fail; your mercies how tender, how firm to the end, our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!
- 6. O measureless Might! Ineffable Love! While angels delight to hymn you above, the humbler creation, though feeble their lays, with true adoration shall lisp to your praise.

Based on Psalm 104 LYONS 10.10.11.11.
Robert Grant, 1833 Johann Michael Haydn; 1737–1806
Mod. 37 Arr. in William Gardiner's Sacred Melodies, 1815

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, ²¹ equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Congregation may be seated after the Benediction for silent prayer

Postlude

~~ Organist: Anne Hablitzel ~~ ~~ Organist: Les Gibbs and Pianist: Tim Newton ~~

Easter Offering

This year's Easter Offering recipient will be Brian and Cathy Birdsall. They have been affiliated with First Congregational Church of Woodstock since 1988 when they served with Campus Crusade for Christ (Cru) at Dartmouth College. It was Brian and Cathy who started the connection with Dartmouth students and FCCW by loading them in their Volkswagen van and driving them over on Sunday mornings.

In 1991, God called Brian and Cathy to serve in the former Soviet Union. They moved to Moscow, Russia in February 1992 and then to Kiev, Ukraine in 1993. They served in a variety of roles with Cru in that part of the world for over twenty years.

Brian and Cathy currently lead the Christian Embassy ministry at the United Nations in New York City where they serve the spiritual needs of over 4,000 diplomats from 193 countries around the world. They do this via large events such as The International Prayer Breakfast and small groups such as Bible studies, English classes and personal appointments. Brian and Cathy have five children and two grandchildren, with a third due the end of April.

Please watch the video attached to the newsletter or on FCCW's YouTube channel that the Birdsalls have put together to explain their work and the challenges that they are facing. You will have a chance to bless them through the Easter sacrificial offering.

If you are giving online at https://www.fccw.net/donate/, please be sure to choose the Easter Offering Donate button. If you are mailing your gift, please be sure to put in the memo line Easter Offering.

Tithing

Through the hard work of the Deacons and Michael Byrne, the church now has the ability to accept online donations. Here is the link for making an online donation: https://www.fccw.net/donate/. You will be able to tithe to the general fund, give to the Easter Offering, etc. If you want to use your mobile phone, set your mobile phone browser to https://www.fccw.net/donate/, it will automatically format the page to your phone screen. This is a very safe and secure way for you to be able to give to the church.

If you are uncomfortable with online giving and prefer to mail your tithe, please don't hesitate to continue to mail your checks to FCCW, ATTN: Treasurer, 36 Elm Street, Woodstock, VT 05091.

If you have any questions or prayer requests, please email them to me at fccwinfo@gmail.com.

Testimonies Requested

The Elders believe that the congregation would be blessed to hear the testimonies of God's people as another way to encourage and sustain everyone during this season of trial and perseverance. To that end we would invite you to send your testimony of praise to Terri who will collect them and periodically publish for everyone to read.

The prophet Jeremiah declared in Chapter 51:10 that we should "announce everything that God has done" and the book of 1 Chronicles 16: 8, 9 that "we should proclaim God's greatness." Psalm 9:11 implores believers to "tell the world about God's unforgettable deeds." Certainly we have much to tell and so much to be grateful for. God bless you all as we travel this road in faith and adoration to the Lord's greatness and provision for his people.

The Elders

If you have not filled out the Elders' questionnaire, please do so and return to me via email or snail mail (FCCW, 36 Elm Street, Woodstock, VT 05091). The questionnaire is on the next page. Please fill out a questionnaire for each person in your household. Every person has different health needs, contact information, and concerns. Thank you for helping the leadership stay connected with the needs of the body.

Elders' Questionnaire

If you have not sent the answers to the questions below via email, please answer the questions and return via email or snail mail.

From the Elders:

With the Coronavirus outbreak we want to make sure that everyone at First Congregational Church of Woodstock is receiving loving care physically and spiritually.

Name:			
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- Do you have any symptoms such as a cough or fever?
- Do you have any complicating health concerns such as respiratory issues or a compromised immune system?
- Are you under medical quarantine or social isolation?
- Do you have enough food and medicine for the next month?
- Are you under a doctor's care?
- What is the most concerning part of this current outbreak for you?
- What needs do you have?
- How can the Elders best pray for you?
- Do you have access to FaceTime, Skype, Zoom, or some other means of video conferencing? If so, what is your contact information?
- What Bible verse or passage has been the most helpful for you in the past week?

Additionally,

- Are you available to help drive people to the doctor?
- Would you be able to transport groceries or other essentials to those homebound?
- What time of the day/week are you most available?

By Christ's Grace,

Pastor Doug