



The \_\_\_\_\_  
First Congregational Church  
of Woodstock \_\_\_\_\_

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

*April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022*

*Easter Celebration Service*

# *Easter Celebration Service*

April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Ten-thirty

Welcome

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship

1 Corinthians 15

Congregation

Pastor: Jesus Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

**Congregation: O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?**

Pastor: Death is swallowed up in victory.

**Congregation: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!**

Pastor: Christ is risen!

**Congregation: He is risen indeed!**

**All: Alleluia! Our Lord, Jesus, is risen from the dead! Death has been conquered!**

❖ Invocation

Pastor

❖ Hymn of Exultation #277

*Christ the Lord is Risen Today*

Congregation

Prayer of Adoration

**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**

Scriptural Call to Repentance

John 12:12-6; 19:15

Pastor

Collective Confession

**Gracious Lord, we confess now that we dishonor You in our words and thoughts and deeds. Depending on our own strength we stumble; proclaiming our own goodness, we sin; glorying in our own righteousness we corrupt everything we touch. Turning our faces from You, Lord, we desire the things of this world to satisfy us. We pray now,**

**Lord, for You to forgive all of our many sins; to cleanse the darkness from our lives, and to turn our faces and our hearts back towards You. We pray these things in the name of Your most precious Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness                      Romans 8:1                      Pastor

Offering                      (collected from back to front)                      Congregation

Pastoral Prayer                      Pastor

Description of Easter Sacrificial Offering Recipients

Scripture Reading                      Second Corinthians 5:14-21                      Pastor

Pastor: The Word of the Lord!

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

Easter Sacrificial Offering (collected from back to front)                      Congregation

Offertory                      *Because He Lives*                      Choir  
 (congregation join on final refrain)

**CHORUS**

A<sup>b</sup>/E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>/C E<sup>b</sup>/B<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>/7/C

Be - cause He lives I can face to -

19 D<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>7/B<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>/C Fm<sup>7</sup> B<sup>b</sup>m<sup>7</sup>

-mor - row; Be - cause He lives, all fear is gone.

24 E<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/D<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>/C E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>7/B<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>/C A<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>7<sup>sus</sup> A<sup>b</sup>7 D<sup>b</sup>

Be - cause I know He holds the fu - ture,

28 D<sup>b</sup>m<sup>6</sup> A<sup>b</sup>/E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>/G<sup>b</sup> F<sup>7</sup> B<sup>b</sup>7 E<sup>b</sup>7 A<sup>b</sup>

and life is worth the liv - ing just be-cause He lives.

- |                        |   |              |
|------------------------|---|--------------|
| ❖ Affirmation of Faith | Romans 10:8-13  | Congregation |
|                        | Pastor: But what does the Bible say?  |              |
|                        | <b>Congregation: “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim)</b>  |              |
|                        | Pastor: because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, |              |
|                        | <b>Congregation: “Everyone who believes in Christ will not be put to shame.”</b>  |              |
|                        | Pastor: For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him.   |              |
|                        | <b>Congregation: For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”</b>  |              |

❖ Hymn of Reflection #260	<i>Were You There?</i>	Congregation
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The Sermon	Luke 24:1-11	Pastor
	<i>“Sense and Sovereignty”</i>	

❖ Hymn of Response #274	<i>Thine Be the Glory</i>	Congregation
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❖ Benediction	Hebrews 13:20-21	Pastor
	Pastor: Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, even Jesus our Lord, equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.	
	<b>Congregation: Thanks be to God. Amen.</b>	

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

Postlude

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

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*The Easter Plants Were Given*  
*in Loving Memory of:*

Florence Rice by Denny and Diana Snider

Richard and Evelyn Englishmen by Elaine Brown

Arthur and Olga Rolland by Tom and Elaine Johnston

C. Everett Koop by Cora Koop

Ruth Vanderhoof and Mary Ellen Nicholas by Peter and Rosemarie Vanderhoof

Robert L. Powell and Janet L. Slater by Carol Powell

David B. Johnston by Doris Johnston

Maryann Allcroft and Elizabeth Audsley by Gil and Ruth Emery

Bill, Ruth and Fred Beebee by Dan and Rhonda Bruce

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Easter Offering Recipient

As the recipient of this year's *Easter Sacrificial Offering* the Mission Board has chosen Samaritan's Purse International Relief to help with the crisis in the Ukraine and Poland. They are the "boots on the ground" providing medical and physical humanitarian relief in the name of Jesus Christ. As of March 23, 2022, Samaritan's Purse has done five airlifts with their DC8 plane. They have set up an emergency field hospital in Lviv, Ukraine that provides trauma and maternity care, and has an intensive care unit, emergency room and two operating rooms. Samaritan's Purse has set up two clinics at the train and bus station in Lviv for the refugees. They also have an emergency clinic set up in southern Ukraine. In Moldova they have a mobile unit to treat refugees at the transit center.

Samaritan's Purse provides and distributes food, blankets, clothing, and hygiene kits to displaced Ukrainians in Moldova, Poland, and Ukraine. The doctors, nurses, and volunteers all volunteer in the name of Christ to help in this war crisis to those in need.

Samaritan's Purse has put together a video to show what it is like for the Ukrainians and Samaritan's Purse volunteers as they minister in the Ukraine and at the border. Here is the link: <https://video.samaritanspurse.org/a-fight-for-life/>

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There will be no Young Adult Fellowship Group tonight.

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## Leadership Training—May 14, 2022

Want to know why we do what we do in the worship service? Come join an explanation and discussion of the elements of worship, repetition, and spiritual formation as a community. Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am-noon. Hope you can join us! To register, please email Kristen at [fccwinfo@gmail.com](mailto:fccwinfo@gmail.com).

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## 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](mailto:karlhuck@gmail.com) for more details or to submit an application. Thank you.

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## Teachers Needed

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

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*Educating for Impact*

**Calling missionaries to MVCS!**

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Music Director & Teacher (band & chorus teaching could be split into two part time positions), Elementary School Teacher, JSH Foreign Language Teacher, JSH Mathematics Teacher and part-time High School Art.

Please inquire through the school office ~ [mvcs@mvcs.info](mailto:mvcs@mvcs.info) or 802-295-6800.

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## **Sense and Sovereignty**

### **1. How Do You Decide What Is Sensible?**

### **2. We Want Sovereignty, not Sensibility.**

### **3. Brought to Our Senses, We Are to Bring Others.**

CONCLUSION: How do you separate what makes sense from nonsense? How can you tell? God has not left us in the dark. His resurrection from the dead illuminates the truth that He alone is the victor over death. This comes in conflict with our desire to be autonomous. But just as He conquered death He is able to conquer our rebellion and give us new life and hearts that joyfully submit to His lordship. In the power of the Holy Spirit let us be instruments in His hands to bring others to such gracious sensibility.

## Second Corinthians 5:14-21

<sup>14</sup> For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; <sup>15</sup> and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. <sup>16</sup> From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. <sup>17</sup> Therefore, *if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation*. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who *through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation*; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> Therefore, *we are ambassadors for Christ*, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

## Isaiah 30:1-3

“Ah, *stubborn children*,” declares the Lord, “who carry out a plan, but *not mine*, and who make an alliance, but not of my Spirit, that they may add sin to sin; who set out to go down to Egypt, without asking for my direction, to *take refuge* in the protection of Pharaoh and to *seek shelter* in the shadow of Egypt! Therefore shall the protection of Pharaoh turn to your shame, and the shelter in the shadow of Egypt to your humiliation.

## John 14:15-24

<sup>15</sup> “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup> even *the Spirit of truth*, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. *You know him*, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

<sup>18</sup> “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup> Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. *Because I live, you also will live*. <sup>20</sup> In that day *you will know* that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and *manifest myself to him*.” <sup>22</sup> Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?” <sup>23</sup> Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. <sup>24</sup> Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father’s who sent me.



# Taking Gathered Worship Home

How do you know what is true? Real? Reliable? In evaluating Christ's resurrection from the dead are we even asking the right questions? The women going to the tomb were simply carrying on with what they knew, but they were about to have their entire world changed. What does that have to do with you?

*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 Luke 24:1-11; Second Corinthians 5:14-21; Isaiah 30:1-3; John 14:15-24.** DISCUSS Who questioned the women's sense? Why? Which made more sense? Did Jesus rise from the dead? How do you know? What part does your own desire for autonomy play in your decision? How are we to help our neighbors? PRAY "Lord, You have died on the cross so that we don't need to pay for our rebellion against the Father. You have risen to bring us eternal life. Help us to truly live in that new life as agents of Your reconciliation."

## Sunday Evening

There will be no *Young Adults' Fellowship* tonight.

## Monday

**READ Luke 24:1-11; Second Corinthians 5:14-21; Isaiah 30:1-3.** DISCUSS How is the love of God supposed to control us? How does the life of Christ apply to us? How are you no longer living for yourself? SERVE someone selflessly in Christ's name! MEDITATE on **Galatians 2:20**. PRAY, "Lord, help us to decrease that You may increase."

## Tuesday

**READ Luke 24:1-11; Isaiah 30:1-3; John 14:15-24.** DISCUSS How does this passage in Isaiah typify our wanting autonomy? How are you tempted to ignore God's ways today? How can you take refuge in Christ instead? SERVE a neighbor in Christ's name! MEDITATE on **Galatians 2:20**. PRAY, "Lord, deliver us from our rebellion."

### Wednesday

READ **Luke 24:1-11; Second Corinthians 5:14-21; Isaiah 30:1-3.** DISCUSS How does this understanding of serving as God's ambassadors connect with what we saw last week in Philippians 1:27-30? SERVE with someone at FCCW to help someone else in Christ's name! MEDITATE on **Galatians 2:20.** PRAY, "Lord, help us to represent You faithfully."

### Thursday

READ **Luke 24:1-11; Second Corinthians 5:14-21; John 14:15-24.** DISCUSS How is Christ's love transforming you? BE RECONCILED with someone you have wronged. MEDITATE on **Galatians 2:20.** PRAY, "Lord, forgive us."

### Friday

READ **Luke 24:1-11; Second Corinthians 5:14-21; Isaiah 30:1-3; John 14:15-24.** DISCUSS How reliable is the biblical account of Christ's resurrection? How do you know? How is it changing you? SERVE someone you know who is at odds with someone else. How can you be an instrument of reconciliation? MEDITATE on **Galatians 2:20.** PRAY, "Lord Christ, You have reconciled us with the Father through Your life, death, and resurrection. Help us to be similarly selfless in our care for others whom you have placed in our lives."

### Saturday

PREPARE today for the worship service tomorrow which is *available both in-person and via live-stream.* READ **Philippians 2:1-30; Colossians 3:12-13.** Invite others to join you tomorrow for the service. Ask Jesus to gather us together joyfully to praise Him.

## Galatians 2:20

"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh  
I live by faith in the Son of God,  
who loved me and gave himself for me."