



The _____
First Congregational Church
_____ of Woodstock _____

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

June 11th, 2023

The Order of Morning Worship

June 11th, 2023

Nine-thirty

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship based on Psalm 86 Pastor

❖ Hymn of Exultation #604 *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart* Congregation

Scriptural Call to Repentance Psalm 46:8-9 Pastor

Prayer of 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.¹

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness Psalm 130:3, 7-8 Pastor

Pastoral Prayer Pastor

Offering (collected from back to front) Congregation

Christian Education Presentation Audrey Emery

Deacons' Offering (collected from back to front) Congregation

❖ Scripture Reading First Corinthians 6:9-11 Pastor

❖ Hymn of Reflection *Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder* Congregation

¹ Written by Pastor Doug Warren

The Sermon

Ruth 4:11-12

Pastor

“Blessings Through the Offspring”

❖ Hymn of Response #264 *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross* Congregation

❖ Benediction Jude 24-25 Pastor

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

Postlude

~~ Organist: Jonathan Denham ~~

~~ Please ensure cell phones are off ~~

Prelude: Prelude on Marion (Haan)

Offertory: Mighty to Save (Morgan/Fielding)

Deacon's Offering: Variations on Slane, II. Meditation & IV. Fugato (Lasky)

Postlude: Lift High the Cross (Busarow)

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**Vespers Today**

Vespers will be held today, Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, at the Homestead at 3:30 pm and at Mertens House at 4:00 pm. **Masks are no longer required** but they would like to have **no more than 10 attendees** so please let Rosmarie know if you are planning to attend!

Vespers will be held the second Sunday of each month, and the Woodstock Terrace will be added in July.

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Deacons' Offering – Today, June 11th

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.

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Greeters Needed

Would you like to help welcome folks to worship on Sunday mornings? We need two volunteers each Sunday from 10:10 until the beginning of worship. If you would like to serve in this way there is a sign-up sheet in the Billings Room near the punch bowl. Questions? Contact Diana Snider at dennisssnider@msn.com.

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The June Prayer letter is available on the back table.

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Community Outreach Opportunity

Friday June 16: Hotdogs and S'mores on the lawn at FCCW, 5:00pm-7:00pm. We'll be cooking hotdogs, enjoying a firepit for s'mores, fellowship and conversation with our friends and neighbors. We'd love to have 4 or more folks to mingle, cook, or help set up and clean up.

Please contact Keri Bristow via phone 603 359-3948 or email kerilynbristow@gmail.com if you can help. No experience needed and you will be blessed!

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Updated Members & Friends lists are on the table  
in the Billings Room.

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Save the Date!

Friday, June 16 — 5:00-7:00 pm COT Hot Dogs & S'mores on the FCCW lawn

Friday, July 21 — 5:00-7:00 pm COT Hot Dogs & S'mores on the FCCW lawn

Wednesday, July 26 — 5:30-8:30 pm Church History Supper Talk

Friday, August 25 — 5:00-7:00 pm COT Hot Dogs & S'mores on the FCCW lawn

Saturday, August 26 — 8:00 am-6:30 pm Jonathan Edwards Historical Bus Tour

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## Congratulations, Graduates!

It's Spring and time for graduation! We at FCCW are happy to have several graduates in our midst. They have worked hard, and we want to honor them and their accomplishments. Let's shower them with congratulations by sending them a card, a note, or a message to let them know that we are celebrating with them. The graduates are listed below. Addresses may be found in the Membership list.

Graduate School – Rachel Emery, Ian Schmidt

College – Isaac Emery

High School – Audrey Emery

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## **Blessings Through the Offspring**

- 1. God's People Are Witnesses (11a).**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 2. They Offer Boaz a Tri-Fold Blessing (11-12).**
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 3. Because of the Coming Offspring (12b).**

Conclusion: Everything about a Christian's inheritance is backwards. Christ has secured for us our eternal position of honor. We have contributed nothing to it apart from debts and shame. Yet the covenant blessings of fruitfulness, character, renown, and abundance are all ours in Christ. We experience these in various measure even now and in superabundance with our Redeemer forever. Let all God's people bear witness!

## Read the Account of Israel's children

Their births are recorded in Genesis 29:1-35; 30:1-24; 35:16-26.

### Colossians 3:23-25

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord *you will receive the inheritance as your reward*. You are serving the Lord Christ. <sup>25</sup> For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality.

### Acts 7:2-5; 51-53

And Stephen said: “Brothers and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, <sup>3</sup> and said to him, ‘Go out from your land and from your kindred and *go into the land that I will show you*.’ <sup>4</sup> Then he went out from the land of the Chaldeans and lived in Haran. And after his father died, God removed him from there into this land in which you are now living. <sup>5</sup> Yet he gave him no *inheritance* in it, not even a foot's length, but *promised to give it to him as a possession and to his offspring after him*, though he had no child ... <sup>51</sup> “You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. <sup>52</sup> Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand *the coming of the Righteous One*, whom *you have now betrayed and murdered*, <sup>53</sup> you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

### Acts 13:16-33

“Men of Israel and you who fear God, listen. <sup>17</sup> The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. <sup>18</sup> And for about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. <sup>19</sup> And after destroying seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land *as an inheritance*. <sup>20</sup> All this took about 450 years. And after that he gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. <sup>21</sup> 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. <sup>22</sup> And when he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, ‘I have found in **David** the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.’ <sup>23</sup> *Of this man's offspring God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised*. <sup>24</sup> Before his coming, John had proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. <sup>25</sup> And as John was finishing his course, he said, ‘What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but behold, after me one is coming, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie.’ <sup>26</sup> “Brothers, *sons of the family of Abraham*, and those among you who fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation. <sup>27</sup> For those who live in Jerusalem and their rulers, because they did not recognize him nor understand the utterances of the prophets, which are read every Sabbath, fulfilled them by condemning him. <sup>28</sup> And though they found in him no guilt worthy of death, they asked Pilate to have him executed. <sup>29</sup> And when they had carried out all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb. <sup>30</sup> But *God raised him from the dead*, <sup>31</sup> and for many days he appeared to those who had come up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, *who are now his witnesses* to the people. <sup>32</sup> And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, <sup>33</sup> this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus ...”

### First Corinthians 6:9-11

<sup>9</sup> Or do you not know that **the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God**? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, <sup>10</sup> nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup> And *such were some of you*. But you were washed, you were sanctified, *you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God*.

# Taking Gathered Worship Home

How did God's people inherit from *their offspring*? God's way of working inheritance is upside down. But He has secured it forever in Christ.

*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 **Ruth 4:11-12; First Corinthians 6:9-11; Genesis 29:1-35; Colossians 3:23-25; Acts 7:2-5; 51-53; 13:16-33.** DISCUSS How does this blessing in Ruth mirror covenant blessings? How does Jesus secure our covenant blessings? MEDITATE on **First Kings 3:6-9.** PRAY "Jesus, thank You for *coming as the promised offspring*. Teach us to find our fulfillment in You alone."

## Sunday Evening

**Young Adult Fellowship** meets tonight @ 6pm in the church library.

## Monday

READ **Ruth 4:11-12; Genesis 29:1-35; First Corinthians 6:9-11.** DISCUSS How do we inherit the Kingdom of God? How are you acting like a co-heir to Christ? SERVE by putting someone else's interests *above your own!* MEDITATE on **First Kings 3:6-9.** PRAY, "Father, thank You for not leaving us as we were, but delivering us in Christ."

## Tuesday

READ **Ruth 4:11-12; Genesis 32:1-12; 35:16-26; Colossians 3:23-25.** DISCUSS How do we benefit from Boaz's blessing? What has his offspring accomplished for us? MEDITATE on **First Kings 3:6-9.** PRAY, "Lord, thank You for washing us, setting us apart, justifying us through coming to redeem us as only You could do."

## Wednesday

READ **Ruth 4:11-12; Genesis 32:1-12; 35:16-26; First Corinthians 6:9-11.** DISCUSS How do we benefit from Boaz's blessing? What has his offspring accomplished for us? MEDITATE on **First Kings 3:6-9.** PRAY, "Lord, thank You for washing us, setting us apart, justifying us through coming to redeem us as only You could do."



### Thursday

READ **Ruth 4:11-12; Genesis 22:15-18; 38:1-30; Numbers 26:1-56; Colossians 3:23-25**. DISCUSS What is significant about Perez? How do his descendants compare with his brothers' in the census? What about this would be seen as a blessing for Ruth and Boaz to emulate? Why? SERVE by putting someone else's interests *above your own!* MEDITATE on **First Kings 3:6-9**. PRAY, "Father God, make us to resemble Christ more and more, we pray."

### Friday

READ **Ruth 4:11-12; First Corinthians 6:9-11; Genesis 29:1-35; Colossians 3:23-25; Acts 7:2-5; 51-53; 13:16-33**. DISCUSS What has God been teaching you this week through these passages? MEDITATE on **First Kings 3:6-9**. PRAY that we at FCCW would *trust Christ together*.

### Saturday

PREPARE today for *gathered Sunday worship tomorrow*. READ **Ruth 4:1-22**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for *worship services @ the NEW TIME 9:30 am*.

## First Kings 3:6-9

And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although *I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in*. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, *a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude*. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, *that I may discern between good and evil*, for who is able to govern this your great people?"