



The _____
First Congregational Church
_____ of Woodstock _____

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

July 16th, 2023

The Order of Morning Worship

July 16th, 2023

Nine-thirty

Welcome

Elder Dennis Snider

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship

Psalm 122:1-4

Elder

❖ Hymn of Exultation #708

*O Love That Wilt
Not Let Me Go*

Congregation

Scriptural Call to Repentance

Matthew 5:13-16

Prayer of Collective Confession

based on Ezra 10:2-3

Congregation

We have broken faith with our God and have disobeyed His holy commands, but even now there is hope for God's People in spite of our sin. Therefore let us make a covenant with our God to flee from sin, according to the counsel of my lord and of those who tremble at the commandment of our God, and let it be done according to the Law.

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness

Psalm 32:1-2

Elder

Offering

(collected from back to front)

Congregation

Pastoral Prayer

Elder

Affirmation of Faith

*The Nicene Creed*¹

Congregation

Elder: Christian, what is it that we believe?

Congregation: We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and

¹ The Nicene Creed originated at the Council of Nicea (325). It was formulated to answer heresies that denied the biblical doctrine of the Trinity and of the person of Christ.

was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic² and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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|-------------------------|--|--------------------|
| ❖ Creedal Song #735 | <i>Barocha</i> | Congregation |
| ❖ Scripture Reading | Joshua 1:1-9 | Elder |
| ❖ Hymn of Reflection | <i>Isaiah 43</i> | Congregation |
| The Sermon | Haggai 2:1-9
<i>“The Glory is Here”</i> | Mr. Ernest Shipman |
| ❖ Hymn of Response #355 | <i>We Are God’s People</i> | Congregation |
| ❖ Benediction | Numbers 6:24-26 | |

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

Postlude

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

² The term “catholic” here means universal and does not mean any particular denomination.

Prelude: I Know That My Redeemer Liveth (Handel/Rawsthorne)
Offertory: Blessing and Honor and Glory and Power (Trinity Hymnal #300)
Postlude: Prelude in D Major (J. S. Bach)

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There will be no Young Adult Fellowship Group for the  
month of July.  
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Save the Date!

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
Saturday, July 29 — 11:00 am-1:00 pm Charlotte Croft Memorial Service
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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### Pastor Doug is Away

Pastor Doug will be in California from July 6-22 taking classes as a part of his Doctor of Ministry program. If you have an emergency, please contact one of the elders below:

Elder Peter Vanderhoof (Chair): 802-483-9430, [pdvanderhoof@gmail.com](mailto:pdvanderhoof@gmail.com)  
Elder Tom Johnston: 802-457-3012, [tajdmd1@gmail.com](mailto:tajdmd1@gmail.com)  
Elder Stephen Briggs: 802-775-8088, [briggsboat@gmail.com](mailto:briggsboat@gmail.com)  
Elder Dennis Snider: 719-492-7264, [denisssnider@msn.com](mailto:denisssnider@msn.com)

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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 9:10 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 [denisssnider@msn.com](mailto:dennisssnider@msn.com).
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Guest Speaker: Ernest Shipman

I was born in 1959 & grew up in Atlanta, GA. I was raised in a Christian home and came to faith at age 14. I moved to NH in 1985 to get married. I have been married to Wendy since 1986. We have two adult children: Sam, who lives in Chattanooga, and Emma, who is married & lives near us.

I have two other connections to the church! In the mid 1990's, Wendy's sister took a job at Dartmouth Hospital and she attended the church. We used to visit her often and Sunday mornings were always a treat. We got to be friends of the Koops as well. I am an ordained ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church in America, and I am friends with Pastor Warren as he and I are both members of the same presbytery.

In addition to being a ruling elder (and a member of Exeter Presbyterian church), I have been called to preach and have been licensed by the Presbytery. I do pulpit supply and preach as I am needed. To help facilitate this calling I have joined the staff of Reformed Evangelistic Fellowship as a missionary, non-ordained evangelistic worker. My passion is preaching the Gospel and doing one-on-one discipleship. I also recently published a book on discipleship for adults using the Westminster Shorter Catechism.

When not in ministry, Wendy & I have a mini farm (really a former blueberry farm) in New Durham, NH. I am now retired from the business world, having been self-employed since 1991. I recently sold both of my businesses: I used to own a commercial sign shop (my wife is very artistic), and I used to also own a small retail firearms store.

God has been very faithful to us!

My life verse is:

Only fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things he has done for you. 1st Samuel 12:24

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The July Prayer Letter is available on the back table.

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## 250 Years of Amazing Grace

### Wednesday, July 26

*Digital slide show in the Sanctuary (with AC) at 6:30 pm.*

Did you know that the first gathering for worship that led to the formation of our church occurred 250 years ago? And did you know that 1773 was also the year that John Newton penned Amazing Grace? Come join Preston Bristow for an evening of historic photos and fun facts in a digital slideshow format that traces the amazing grace that founded and preserves our church. Preston's greatest fear is that an audience might be bored, and this will not be a tedious history lecture! The presentation will be under an hour with ample time for questions. This talk is free followed by “real” home-made marshmallows made with marshmallow root and switchel to drink, two old-time favorites. No food contributions needed, just bring yourselves! And a friend!

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Jonathan Edwards History and Fellowship Retreat

Jonathan Edwards, a leading figure in the American Enlightenment, was a great theologian, writer, philosopher, and missionary to the Mohican Indians. After we explore his stomping grounds and delve into the history of the First Great Awakening, you will have time to visit the vibrant Main Street of Stockbridge, MA that has the look and feel of a 1950's movie. A Parisian Patisserie, an eclectic General Store, a chocolatier, a timeless Music Shop, plus a variety of other unique shops provide opportunities to experience the culture and flavor of Stockbridge. There is also the Norman Rockwell Museum (an additional admission fee is required), which encompasses 10 galleries and a scenic 36-acre campus, offering engaging programs and exhibits of this American artist. Join Paul Hoehner as our tour guide leading us through the history and teachings of Jonathan Edwards as we ride on a luxury bus to Stockbridge. We will meet at the Woodstock Union High School at 7:45 am on Saturday, August 26. Depart for Stockbridge, MA and return around 6:30 pm. Bring a bag lunch or eat in one of the quaint local cafes. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased from Terri DeDell. Cash, check, or Venmo accepted. If you have any questions or would like to purchase tickets, Terri can be contacted at dedellcrew@gmail.com.

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Nursery Volunteers Needed

Can you give one Sunday to help minister to the youngest members of our church family? We have a full-time nursery attendant, but we need a volunteer to help her each Sunday from 9-11 (July-August) or 10-12 (September-December). If you are willing to help one Sunday or more, you can find the sign-up sheet in the Billings Room, or contact Karis Warren at karis.warren@gmail.com or (207) 329-4190. Thank you!

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## Woodstock Christian Child Care Job Opportunities

Looking for summer work, part or full time? Want to plug in some extra hours for college or fill in some more work hours? Woodstock Christian Child Care needs more summer workers, with the option of continuing in the fall, to help care for our extra summer preK - grade 1 classes and classes for ages 6 weeks to preK. If you are 18 years old or older, enjoy children, and have hours available, please contact WCCC Executive Director at [rbrissonwccc@gmail.com](mailto:rbrissonwccc@gmail.com). Positions available immediately. Thank you!

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9:30 Morning Worship Service:

Haggai 2:1-9

The Glory is Here

I. The Glory of God Appears to be Gone. (1-3)

II. Do Not Despair! (4-5)

- A. Be strong! (note: repeated 3x)
- B. Work hard!
- C. God is still with us.
- D. His Spirit is among you.

III. God's Glory Will Again Appear Abundantly. (6-9)

- A. The Messiah will bring all the nations into the kingdom.
- B. His glory will be greater than any past glory seen in Israel.
- C. His peace will be an everlasting peace.

Do we think of ourselves as members of the body of Christ? As members of FCCW? Yes (well, maybe), but of something much larger? As adopted into the Family of God? As being the 'crown jewels' in the crown of Christ? His earthly ministry, his life here, his sufferings, his death, his resurrection, were all given gladly by him to obtain us and present us as his most treasured possession to the Father. We look at the horror of what Christ went through for us. He saw it as a joy. May we meditate on the words of Hebrews 12:2 this week, "*Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.*"

Joshua 1:1-9

After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. *Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses ...* No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so *I will be with you*. I will not leave you or forsake you. *Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them.* Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? *Be strong and courageous.* Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

First Samuel 4:19-22

Now his daughter-in-law, the wife of Phinehas, was pregnant, about to give birth. And when she heard the news that *the ark of God was captured*, and that her father-in-law and her husband were dead, she bowed and gave birth, for her pains came upon her. And about the time of her death the women attending her said to her, "Do not be afraid, for you have borne a son." But she did not answer or pay attention. And she named the child Ichabod, saying, "*The glory has departed from Israel!*" because the ark of God had been captured and because of her father-in-law and her husband. And she said, "The glory has departed from Israel, for the ark of God has been captured."

Revelation 21:22-27

And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for *the glory of God gives it light*, and its lamp is the Lamb. By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Philippians 2:5-7

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, *by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.*

Taking Gathered Worship Home

Life is so difficult and at times we get frustrated at the way God is working. How are we supposed to react to discouragement? What does His Word tell us about God's revealed glory? How do we wait to see it by faith?

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 **Haggai 2:1-9; Joshua 1:1-9; First Samuel 4:19-22; Revelation 21:22-27; Philippians 2:5-7; Psalm 24:1-10**. DISCUSS Where will God's glory appear? What difference will that make? Why? MEDITATE on **Hebrews 12:1-2**. PRAY "Lord, *You* are glorious throughout all Creation. Allow us to delight in You."

Sunday Evening

Young Adult Fellowship will not meet for the month of July.

Monday

READ **Haggai 2:1-9; Joshua 1:1-9; Psalm 24:1-10**. DISCUSS What were the difficulties they were facing that required them to be strong? What about you? What difference does it make to have God with us? Why? SERVE by putting someone else's interests *above your own!* MEDITATE on **Hebrews 12:1-2**. PRAY, "Father God, show us our security in You. Please give us boldness to proclaim Your name."

Tuesday

READ **Haggai 2:1-9; First Samuel 4:19-22; Psalm 24:1-10**. DISCUSS Why was the capture of the ark so horrific? What might make us likewise despondent today? MEDITATE on **Hebrews 12:1-2**. PRAY, "Lord our God, Thank You for establishing Your glory forever. Because of Your resurrection, Your glory can never be totally hidden."

Wednesday

READ **Haggai 2:1-9; Revelation 21:22-27; Psalm 24:1-10**. DISCUSS When will the nations know the glory of God? Why *must* His glory be manifest throughout all Creation? *How are you giving God glory?* MEDITATE on **Hebrews 12:1-2**. PRAY, “Lord of Glory, You are more magnificent than we can ever truly comprehend. *Thank You for Your faithfulness to make Your glory known throughout all the earth!*”

Thursday

READ **Haggai 2:1-9; Philippians 2:5-7; Psalm 24:1-10**. DISCUSS How is God’s glory demonstrated at the cross? How about in His resurrection? How about His ascension? How about His return? MEDITATE on **Hebrews 12:1-2**. PRAY, “Christ Jesus, You are all glorious. We praise and magnify Your name!”

Friday

READ **Haggai 2:1-9; Joshua 1:1-9; First Samuel 4:19-22; Revelation 21:22-27; Philippians 2:5-7; Psalm 24:1-10**. DISCUSS What has God been teaching you this week through these passages? MEDITATE on Hebrews 12:1-2. SERVE by putting someone else’s interests *above your own!* PRAY that we at FCCW would *trust Christ together*.

Saturday

PREPARE today for *gathered Sunday worship tomorrow*. CONSIDER What can you do today to be better prepared for gathering with God’s people tomorrow? READ **Second Timothy 3:16-17**. *Invite others to join you tomorrow for worship services @ 9:30 am*. PRAY, “Lord, prepare Your people for Your praises. Gather us together to delight in You.”

Hebrews 12:1-2

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”