



The _____
First Congregational Church
of Woodstock _____

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

July 24th, 2022

The Order of Morning Worship

July 24th, 2022

Nine-thirty

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Doug Warren

Prelude & Silent Prayer

❖ Call to Worship Romans 10:8-13 Pastor

What does the Word of God say? It says, “if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” So let us call upon the one true God, believing Him in our hearts and confessing Him with our mouths.

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

Scriptural Call to Repentance Exodus 2:2-27 Pastor

Prayer of Collective Confession Micah 7:18-20 Congregation

Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of His inheritance? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; He will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. You will show faithfulness to Jacob and steadfast love to Abraham, as You have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.

Silent Reflection and Confession

Proclamation of Forgiveness 1 Timothy 1:15-17 Pastor

Offering (collected from back to front) Congregation

Pastoral Prayer Pastor

Affirmation of Faith *The Heidelberg Catechism¹, Q. 116* Congregation

Pastor: Why is prayer necessary for Christians?

Congregation: Because it is the chief part of thankfulness which God requires of us; and also, because God will give His grace and Holy Spirit to those only, who with

¹ Catechisms are a question and answer format used for teaching in the church. The Heidelberg Catechism was written in 1563 and approved by the Church at the Synod of Dort (1618-1619).

sincere desires continually ask them of Him, and are thankful for them.

❖ Creedal Song *Holy Holy Holy is the Lord of Hosts* Congregation

❖ Scripture Reading Psalm 149:1-9 Pastor

❖ Hymn of Reflection #332 *Come Holy Spirit* Congregation

The Sermon Philippians 3:1-3 Pastor
 “Watchful Rejoicing”

❖ Hymn of Response # 94 *How Firm a Foundation* Congregation

❖ Benediction Philippians 4:7 Pastor

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

Postlude

~~ Organist: Jonathan Denham ~~

~~ Please ensure cell phones are off ~~

Pre-service music: Foundation (Held)

Offertory: From All that Dwell below the Skies (Watts)

Int. note - this was included in George Whitefield's hymnbook

Postlude: Exultemus (Rawsthorne)

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**Young Adult Fellowship Group will meet tonight  
at 6 pm in the church library.**

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## Market on the Green

The 2022 season of our face painting booth at Market on the Green is well underway! Volunteers from FCCW are at the park every **Wednesday**, June 1-Oct 12 from **3-6 pm**, offering free face painting for all ages. We also have coloring books, and story time for the kids. Each Wednesday we serve between 20 and 40 families. We often hear comments like “Your face painting is a highlight of our kids’ week!” and “We love that you guys are here serving the community!”

More helping hands are always welcome! If you would like to help in any way with this amazing outreach opportunity please contact Hayley Bauer at [hayleylgriffith@gmail.com](mailto:hayleylgriffith@gmail.com).

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The July Prayer Letter is available in the narthex.

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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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Mid Vermont Christian School

Educating for Impact

Calling missionaries to MVCS!

We are seeking qualified and enthusiastic individuals who have a passion for Christian education!

MVCS has full-time and part-time positions available:

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 or 802-295-6800.

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## **Watchful Rejoicing**

### **1. Jesus Is the Source of Our Joy (1a).**

### **2. False Confidence Steals This Joy (1b-2).**

### **3. Rejoice in Christ—*Worship by Spirit, Glory in Jesus, Brag Not in Flesh* (3).**

CONCLUSION: Do you struggle to rejoice? How are we to obey God's command to rejoice in Christ? We have seen how the completed work of Jesus is all that we need for a lifetime of abundant, overflowing, contagious joy. We also know that God's enemies are intent on robbing us of that joy. It is imperative that we continue together worshipping Christ by the Holy Spirit, finding our glory in Jesus, and refusing all temptations to boast in the flesh. Let us pledge anew to faithfully rejoice in Christ together in these godly ways! Amen.

### **Luke 6:20-23**

20 And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

21 “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

22 “Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! 23 Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

### **Psalm 16:11**

11 You make known to me the path of life;

in your presence there is fullness of joy;

at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

### **Psalm 28:6-9**

6 I wash my hands in innocence

and go around your altar, O Lord,

7 proclaiming thanksgiving aloud,

and telling all your wondrous deeds.

8 O Lord, I love the habitation of your house

and the place where your glory dwells.

9 Do not sweep my soul away with sinners,

nor my life with bloodthirsty men,

### **Psalm 149:4-9**

4 For the Lord takes pleasure in his people;

he adorns the humble with salvation.

5 Let the godly exult in glory;

let them sing for joy on their beds.

6 Let the high praises of God be in their throats

and two-edged swords in their hands,

7 to execute vengeance on the nations

and punishments on the peoples,

8 to bind their kings with chains

and their nobles with fetters of iron,

9 to execute on them the judgment written!

This is honor for all his godly ones.

Praise the Lord!

### **John 10:10**

10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

### **Ephesians 6:10-17**

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. 14 Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. 16 In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; 17 and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God,

# Taking Gathered Worship Home

We are commanded to rejoice in the Lord. Yet there are so many other things for us to rejoice in instead. One of the critical differences Christianity is to make in our daily lives is learning by the Holy Spirit how to *enjoy* God's many blessings *without allowing them to become the source* of our joy. Only Christ is to fill that role. Let's look at this together.

*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 **Philippians 3:1-3; Luke 6:20-23; Psalm 16:1-11; 28:6-9; 149:1-9; John 10:1-11; Ephesians 6:10-17**. DISCUSS How are you (we) celebrating in Christ today? What is our certainty? Why? What provides you confidence today and hope for tomorrow? PRAY "Jesus, thank You for blessing us so greatly with Your steadfast love. You are faithful to all Your promises forever."

## Sunday Evening

The *Young Adults' Fellowship* will meet at **6pm** in the FCCW Library.

## Monday

READ **Philippians 3:1-3; Luke 6:20-23; Psalm 149:1-9**. DISCUSS What victory are God's people to be celebrating joyfully? How has Jesus accomplished this victory? How certain are we of it? SERVE by putting someone else's interest *above your own!* MEDITATE on **Philippians 1:6**. PRAY, "Lord, thank You for all Your tender care, protection, and cultivation. Make us fruitful and grateful to You."

## Tuesday

READ **Philippians 3:1-3; 1:17; 2:3; John 10:1-11**. DISCUSS With whom is Jesus as the good Shepherd contrasted here? How do the enemies of God demonstrate *selfish ambition*? What care do they have for our joy? What about Christ? MEDITATE on **Philippians 1:6**. PRAY, "Lord, enable us to trust You in all things. Teach us to recognize the lie that calls Your faithfulness into question!"

### Wednesday

READ **Philippians 3:1-3; Psalm 16:1-11**. DISCUSS How does our confidence in Christ's faithfulness lead us to rejoice? How has Christ fulfilled v. 10? How does that fuel our joy facing death? MEDITATE on **Philippians 1:6**. PRAY, "Lord, teach us to trust Your faithfulness and to rejoice in You."

### Thursday

READ **Philippians 3:1-3; Psalm 28:6-9; Ephesians 6:10-17**. DISCUSS How does reliance upon Christ enable our hearts to leap for joy? How are you (we) trusting God's shepherding care today? MEDITATE on **Philippians 1:6**. PRAY, "Lord, enable us to rejoice in all things, knowing You are both *good* and *in control*. Make us to want no part of wickedness and to turn from it to You swiftly and consistently."

### Friday

READ **Philippians 3:1-3; Luke 6:20-23; Psalm 16:1-11; 28:6-9; 149:1-9; John 10:1-11; Ephesians 6:10-17**. DISCUSS, How has God been convicting you from these passages this week? MEDITATE on **John 15:4**. PRAY that we at FCCW would *bless the God who has so richly blessed us in Christ*.

### Saturday

PREPARE today for the service tomorrow which is *available both in-person and via live-stream*. READ **Philippians 3:1-21**. Invite others to join you tomorrow for the 9:30 service. Ask Jesus to gather us together joyfully to praise Him.

## Philippians 1:6

"I am sure of this,  
that He who began a good work in you  
will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ."