

*First Congregational Church*

*Our Church in Worship*

October 10, 2021 10:00 AM

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

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PRELUDE *Andante Espressivo* – Dudley Buck Adam Peithmann

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Barbara Papagian

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT Alyson McKay, Young Athletes

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive) Rev. Carolyn Keilig

Leader: God has called all God's people to lives of hope and service.

**People: We want to serve God, but sometimes life gets to be too difficult for us.**

Leader: Place your trust in God's power and love.

**People: God understands our needs, our sorrows, and our joys.**

Leader: Come, let us worship God who is with us always.

**All: Praise God for God's eternal presence.**

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

**God of life who hears our prayers, you have said that you will be present whenever two or three are gathered in your name. We welcome your presence and grace in our lives. We ask that you shine your light on us and that through that light we may illuminate the lives of those around us. As we feel your presence in worship today, may our knowledge of you continue to grow and change our lives forever. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN NO. 544 *No, Not One!*

MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART *A Two Edged Sword* Rev. Carolyn Keilig

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Barbara Papagian

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

SILENT MEDITATION

OUR LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy 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 thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

MUSICAL OFFERING *Offertory* – John Ness Beck Chancel Choir

With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, Shall I come before Him with yearling calves? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I give Him my firstborn for my transgressions, the fruit of my bode for the sin of my soul? He has shown you, O man; He has shown you what is good. And what does the lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

SCRIPTURE READINGS Lisa Allen

Job 23:1-9,16-17; Hebrews 4:12-16

SERMON *Finding God* Rev. Barbara Papagian

\*CLOSING HYMN NO. 578 *I Need Thee Every Hour*

BENEDICTION (Unison)

**May the strength of God sustain us;**

**May the power of God preserve us;**

**May the hands of God protect us;**

**May the love of God go with us this day and forever. Amen.**

POSTLUDE *Praeludium in D Major* – Dieterich Buxtehude

During these challenging times, we gratefully accept your financial offering to support Christ's mission in the heart of our city. Your gift may be left in any of the offering plates located at the exits.

\*You are invited to stand if you wish.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

**Job 23:1-9,16-17**

Then Job answered: "Today also my complaint is bitter; his hand is heavy despite my groaning.

Oh, that I knew where I might find him, that I might come even to his dwelling!

I would lay my case before him, and fill my mouth with arguments. I would learn what he would answer me, and understand what he would say to me. Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power? No; but he would give heed to me. There an upright person could reason with him, and I should be acquitted forever by my judge. "If I go forward, he is not there; or backward, I cannot perceive him; on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him; I turn to the right, but I cannot see him.

**Hebrews 4:12-16**

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

# First Congregational Church



October 10, 2021

Manchester, New Hampshire  
United Church of Christ

508 Union Street, Manchester, NH \* 603-625-5093  
Sunday Worship 10:00 AM

You are welcome here!

An Open & Affirming Congregation