

First Congregational Church

Our Church in Worship

October 24, 2021 10:00 AM

Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

PRELUDE *Morning Has Broken* – arr. Larry Shackley Adam Peithmann

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Barbara Papagian

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT John Rowe

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble.

People: We give thanks for God's presence, the Sovereign who dwells with us in humility, accepting our pain and our weakness in love.

Leader: So, we will not fear, even if earthquakes come, and the mountains crumble into the sea.

People: We give thanks for God's promises, that allow us to let go of the fears and anxiety that keep us paralyzed, that give the darkness such power over us.

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

O God who is greater than the most powerful forces in this world, enable us to be still and know that you are God. Open our ears to hear your answers that come to us out of the whirlwind of everyday life, and breathe into us your Holy Spirit to strengthen, comfort, and guide us in the midst of uncertainty and change. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN NO. 542 *Jesus, Lover of My Soul*

MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART *My Cup Overflows* 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 *Be Strong in the Lord* – L. L. Johnson/T. Fettke Chancel Choir
Be strong in the lord, and be of good courage; Your defender is He who is always the same. Mount up with wings as the eagle ascending; Vict'ry is sure when you call on His name.

Refrain: Be strong in the Lord; And be of good courage for He is your guide. Be strong in the Lord; And rejoice for the vict'ry is yours.

Put on the armour the Lord has provided; Place your defense in His unfailing care. Trust Him for He will be with you in battle, Lighting your path to avoid every snare. Refrain

Be strong in the Lord and be of good courage; Your mighty commander will vanquish the foe. Fear not the battle, for the vict'ry is always His; He will protect you wherever you go. Refrain

SCRIPTURE READINGS Vicki Tinsley
Job 40:1-14; Mark 11:13-15a, 19-21

SERMON *Overflowing with Loss and Anger* Rev. Carolyn Keilig

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 16 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

BENEDICTION (Responsive) (inspired by Ephesians 4:25-5:2)

Leader: Go out and imitate God, living in love. Put your hope in God's Word and let your own words be truthful and constructive. May sin rouse your anger, but never let anger cause you to sin.

And may God always hear your voice. May Christ Jesus raise you to new life; and may the Holy Spirit nourish you for the life of love.

People: We go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Amen.

POSTLUDE *The Emperor's Fanfare* – Antonio Soler

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.

The Call to Worship was written by Eliza Buchakjian-Tweedy, Pastor at First Church Congregational, Rochester, NH. and the Benediction by Nathan Nettleton <http://www.laughingbird.net/> © 2003

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Job 40:1-14

And the LORD said to Job: "Shall a faultfinder contend with the Almighty? Anyone who argues with God must respond." Then Job answered the LORD: "See, I am of small account; what shall I answer you? I lay my hand on my mouth. I have spoken once, and I will not answer; twice, but will proceed no further."

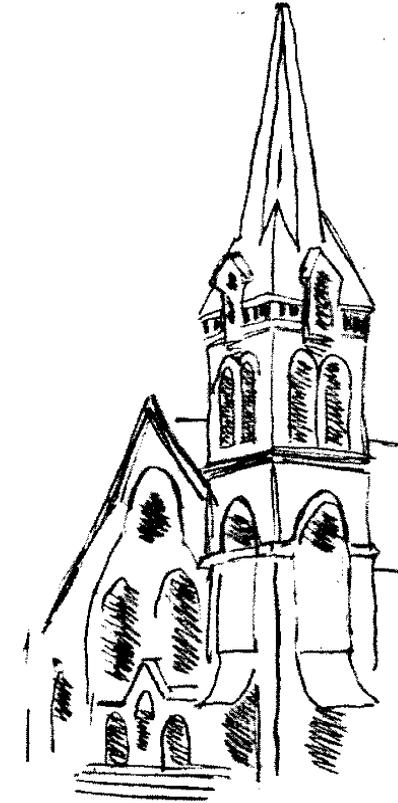
Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind: "Gird up your loins like a man; I will question you, and you declare to me. Will you even put me in the wrong? Will you condemn me that you may be justified? Have you an arm like God, and can you thunder with a voice like his? "Deck yourself with majesty and dignity; clothe yourself with glory and splendor. Pour out the overflowings of your anger, and look on all who are proud, and abase them. Look on all who are proud, and bring them low; tread down the wicked where they stand. Hide them all in the dust together; bind their faces in the world below. Then I will also acknowledge to you that your own right hand can give you victory."

Mark 11:13-15a, 19-21

Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to see whether perhaps he would find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. He said to it, 'May no one ever eat fruit from you again.' And his disciples heard it. Then they came to Jerusalem.

In the morning as they passed by, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots. Then Peter remembered and said to him, 'Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered.'

First Congregational Church



October 24, 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