## Worship Service on April 7, 2024

Welcome and Announcements ~ Linell Pike



Monday ~ Eclipse Day!

**Tuesday** ~ Prayer Group and Book Discussion of chapters 11-12 in *God Never Gives Up on You* at 7 pm via zoom.

Wednesday ~ The Seeking God Together group will meet at 11 am via zoom.

- $\sim$  There's a Deacon Meeting at 4:30 pm at the church
- **Thursday** ~ The Prudential Committee will meet at the church at 5 pm. ~ Choir Practice will be at 7 pm at the church.
- Friday & Saturday ~ The ABCVNH Annual Gather will take place in West Lebanon, NH.
- **Looking Ahead** ~ Next week the Mary and Martha women's group will meet at 8:30 am at the church for breakfast and their meeting.
  - ~ Alpha will also meet next Sunday at 5 pm for a potluck meal, video, and conversation.

Happy Birthday to Ashley Hess and Maurie Hill next Saturday!



Thank you to Lois Squires for the flowers today in loving memory of Nadine Hayes.

Word of Preparation ~ Linell Pike

**Prelude** ~ Please listen to this recording of Fernando Ortega singing *"Grace and Peace"* as we prepare our hearts for worship.

Call to Worship ~ selected verses from Psalm 103 (NIV)

read by Linell Pike. Please join in on the bold lines.

<sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. <sup>2</sup> Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits-<sup>3</sup> who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, <sup>4</sup> who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, <sup>5</sup> who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. <sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him; <sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. <sup>13</sup> As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him; <sup>14</sup> for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust. <sup>17</sup> But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children-<sup>18</sup> with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts. <sup>19</sup> The Lord has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all

### Song ~ "Crown Him with Many Crowns" (#234 in the blue hymnal)

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee And hail him as they matchless King through all eternity Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave

And rose victorious in the strife for those He came to save His glories now we sing who died, and rose on high Who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die

Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways From pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise His reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet Fair flower of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet

> Crown him the Lord of love, behold his hands and side Those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me Thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity

Words ~ Matthew Bridges, 1851, and Godfrey Thring, 1874, Music ~ George J. Elvey, 1868 | Public Domain

Praying Together ~

**Space for prayer requests** 

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 Song ~

#### "Who You Say I Am"

Who am I that the highest King would welcome me I was lost but He brought me in. Oh His love for me Oh His love for me Who the Son sets free, oh is free indeed I'm a child of God. Yes I am Free at last, He has ransomed me. His grace runs deep While I was a slave to sin, Jesus died for me Yes He died for me Who the Son sets free, oh is free indeed I'm a child of God. Yes I am In my Father's house there's a place for me I'm a child of God. Yes I am I am chosen not forsaken. I am who You say I am You are for me not against me. I am who You say I am I am chosen not forsaken. I am who You say I am You are for me not against me. I am who You say I am I am who You say I am Who the Son sets free, oh is free indeed I'm a child of God. Yes I am In my Father's house there's a place for me I'm a child of God. Yes I am Who the Son sets free, oh is free indeed I'm a child of God. Yes I am In my Father's house there's a place for me I'm a child of God. Yes I am

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Introducing the Sermon ~ Pastor Rebecca Sommons

## Scripture Text ~ Ephesians 1:1-14 (NLT) read by Linell Pike

<sup>1</sup> This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus. I am writing to God's holy people in Ephesus, who are faithful followers of Christ Jesus.
<sup>2</sup> May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace.

<sup>3</sup>All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. <sup>4</sup>Even before he made the world. God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. <sup>5</sup>God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. <sup>6</sup>So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. <sup>7</sup>He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. <sup>8</sup>He has showered his kindness on us. along with all wisdom and understanding. <sup>9</sup>God has now revealed to us his mysterious will regarding Christ which is to fulfill his own good plan. <sup>10</sup> And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ-everything in heaven and on earth.

(Continued on the next page)

<sup>11</sup> Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us in advance, and he makes everything work out according to his plan.
<sup>12</sup> God's purpose was that we Jews who were the first to trust in Christ would bring praise and glory to God.
<sup>13</sup> And now you Gentiles have also heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you.
And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago.
<sup>14</sup> The Spirit is God's guarantee that he will give us the inheritance he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. He did this so we would praise and glorify him.

# Sermon~ "United with the Risen Christ" ~ Pastor Rebecca Sommons

**The Lord's Supper** ~ Everyone is welcome to partake of the Communion bread and grape juice as we remember Jesus's death, resurrection, and promise to come again.



### "Cornerstone"

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly trust in Jesus' Name (REPEAT) Christ alone, Cornerstone, Weak made strong in the Savior's love Through the storm He is Lord, Lord of all

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When darkness seems to hide His face, I rest on His unchanging grace In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil Christ alone, Cornerstone, Weak made strong in the Savior's love Through the storm He is Lord, Lord of all He is Lord, Lord of all When He shall come with trumpet sound, oh may I then in Him be found Dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless stand before the throne Christ alone, Cornerstone, Weak made strong in the Savior's love Through the storm He is Lord, Lord of all

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## Benediction ~ Psalm 118: 22-23 (NIV) 103:22 (NIRV)

The stone the builders rejected has become the Cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

> Let everything the Lord has made praise him everywhere in his kingdom. I will praise the Lord.

Song ~