



Welcome to a church where everyone matters  
and everyone belongs.

**Prelude** **3/19/17**

**Welcome**

*It's me, it's me, oh Lord, standing in the need of prayer  
It's me, it's me, oh Lord, standing in the need of prayer  
Not my father, not my mother, but it's me, oh Lord,  
standing in the need of prayer  
Not my sister, not my brother, but it's me, oh Lord,  
standing in the need of prayer*

**Light of Christ**

***\*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world  
without end. Amen.***

**Call to Worship/Prayer** Sue Langone

Leader: Praise God for the Lord who loves.

**People: Praise God for the Lord who cares.**

Leader: When I am lost, unable to find even myself,

**People: There is One who seeks, One who finds Me - the lost.**

Leader: And rejoices, rejoices with the angels, rejoices with song.

**People: Rejoices for us and with us often before we are aware  
we were lost.**

Leader: Rejoice and be glad,

**People: For that which was lost has been found!**

Leader: Let us pray ...

**Rejoicing God, you celebrate when one of your lost children is  
found because no one is worthless to you. We stand humbled  
and in awe that you would count us among your most prized  
possessions. Give us eyes to see the priceless value of every  
living soul, for the sake of the one who became human for the**

**sake of our souls, Jesus Christ our seeker. Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn** #72 "To God Be the Glory"

**Anthem** "A Lenten Love Song" H. Kemp

*Junior Choir, Althea Madigan, director*

**Children's Message**

**The 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.***

*(Children may leave for Sunday School.)*

**Reception of New Members**

Congregational Response

**We welcome you with joy into the life of this church. We  
promise our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and  
labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy  
Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge  
and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

**Covenant of Membership** *(see insert)*

Scripture Luke 15:1-10

Sermon Rev. Robin Bird

\*Hymn #583 "Lead me, Guide Me" *(sing twice)*

Diminish the Light – Lenten Wreath Rev. Carol Mento

Sharing of Joys and Concerns/Morning Prayer

Call to Offering

Offertory "Just a Little Talk with Jesus" C. Derricks

\*Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures  
here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son  
and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

\*Prayer of Dedication

Great Provider, bless these offerings and multiply them according

to your will. May they restore hope and wholeness to those who benefit from them. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

\*Closing Hymn #190 "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus"

\*Benediction

Postlude "Sortie" Guilmant

\*All who are able are invited to stand.

**Welcome to our New Members:** Barbara Folstad; Bonnie King, Robert and Suzanne Langone, Lynann Podolski, Linda St. Cyr and Rev. Dr. Sara Worcester.

**Please join us downstairs after the service for coffee and refreshments in Fellowship Hall.**

### In Our Ongoing Prayers

The **Lazeren** and **Turner families** on the loss of Janina Majkowski; the Chase family (Arnold, Eric, Emily and Phyllis) on the loss of Debbie; Janet Boucher recovering from surgery; David Nelson (our former Field Placement Student) and his wife, Judy; the unborn child of Steve and Leah, friends of Louise Theriault, who will need surgery upon birth; Mark McPartland and Doug Penhall, friends of Shar Christman; newborn Dylan Patrick Watkins and his parents Kate and Kevin (grandparents, John and Marlene Bennett); Elizabeth Fry; David Drouin; Doris Brown; Gregg Moffatt; Shirley Bryant; Amy Robinson; Dean Hockenberry awaiting a new kidney; Evelyn Marinani; Steve Carr, Sr.; James Purnell; Linda Dayton; Sara Levy; Julie, friend of the Turner family; Geraldine Strong; Pat Lazeren; Helen Dyar; Dave Hollister; John Arthur; Dick Myer; Margaret Klukas; Paul Westerberg; people struggling with mental illness and their families; the people of Syria; Heidi Howie; Mason Bower; Martha Fowler; Michael Bebrin; Cooper Doyle *New additions in bold print*

### Today's Preludes

*James Burr, Organist*

"Spring Song"	Higgins
"Arioso"	Bach
"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"	arr. Hughes
"Harbinger of Spring"	Peery
"Boundless Mercy"	arr. Hughes

**Reminder...**Sunday School ends at 11:15 AM, *Debi Hockenberry, Director of Christian Education*

### Today's Activities

**Please Note:** If you would still like to donate to the **Les Childs Music Scholarship**, special envelopes are available on the table at the back of the Sanctuary. Checks may be made payable to FCCV with "Les Childs Fund" on the memo line (special offering envelopes are not needed for a check). The award will be made during the June 4 worship service.

**J\*Walkrz Jr Fundraising Event:** Are you in need of a new Tote, backpack or duffle bag? The J\*Walkrz Jrs will be selling Totes and bags from Thirty-One **today** and next Sunday **during Coffee Hour**. Thank you in advance for your support.

**Scrip-Your-All** sales continue during Coffee Hour. Presently we are behind target. Our goal is to earn \$60 a week toward our \$5,000 goal for the year (Thanksgiving to Christmas has its own goal.) This past week we made \$30. If you are not participating in this program, stop by at Coffee Hour for more information. Every card sold helps support FCCV programs! Gift cards may also be ordered.

**Junior Choir Rehearsal:** 11:30 AM, Kellogg Hall

**God and Family:** 12 PM

**God and Church:** 12 PM

**J\*Walkrz:** 3:30 PM, Upper Room

### This Week's Activities

**Bible Study:** Monday, March 20, 11 AM, Kellogg Hall. Join us for a Lenten study based on Adam Hamilton's "Final Words."

**Men's Breakfast Group:** Tuesday, March 21, 6:30 AM, Vernon Diner

**AA:** Tuesday, March 21, 7 AM, Kellogg Hall

**Grief Support Group:** Tuesday, March 21, 10:30 AM in Kellogg Hall

**BCE:** Tuesday, March 21, 7 PM, Kellogg Hall

**Trustees:** Wednesday, March 22, 6:30 PM, Kellogg Hall

**S & E:** Wednesday, March 22, 6:30 PM, Fellowship Hall

**Theology on Tap:** Thursday, March 23, 6 PM, Mitchell's Restaurant. Join us for a special Lenten discussion based on John Ortberg's "Who Is This Man?"

**Sanct. Choir Rehearsal:** Thursday, March 23, 7:30 PM, Kellogg Hall

**Caring & Sharing Support Group:** Friday, March 24, 10:30 AM, Kellogg Hall. This group is for those further along in their grief journey.

**Chicken Marsala Dinner:** Friday, March 24, 5-6:30 PM. Dinner includes noodles, green beans, wacky cake and beverage. Cost: adults \$12; kids \$6

**Coffee and Conversation:** Join members of the Safe Church Committee next Sunday for a briefing of our Safe Church Policy and Procedures manual. This is an opportunity to ask questions and discuss the committee's activities.

**The Grounds Committee is selling spring flowers, herbs, and seeds from Flower Power** online to help finance the refurbishment of the Center Road Garden. Catalogs are available in Fellowship Hall at our table or go to our church website and click on the Flower Power link.

**Evening Circle** is collecting items for a Center Road School family - kids band aids, disinfectant spray or Clorox wipes, hand soap, body wash, shampoo or gift cards (from our Scrip Table) for Stop & Shop, Walmart, etc. Leave them in the large purple bin in the Church Office during the week or on the Scrip Table on Sundays. Thank you.

**The Sunday School is collecting macaroni and cheese during the month of March.**

**Do you need a Name Tag?** Three options are available - magnet, pin or clip. You can also include a hang tag should you belong to a board/committee. A \$3 to \$5 donation is recommended, but not required. Orders are taken at the Scrip-Your-All table or email Kate Fowler (kfowler64@yahoo).

**Church-Wide Tag Sale, April 29, 9 AM-2 PM:** The J\*Walkrz will once again be running the Tag Sale as a fundraiser for their Summer Mission Trip to Washington DC, so please keep us in mind while doing your Spring cleaning! Items will be collected the week of April 24-28.

**Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt, April 9:** Donations of Easter candy or toys are greatly appreciated. Please give them to any member of the BCE, or Debi Hockenberry. Thank you!

**Women's Fellowship Retreat, October 13-14** at the Evangelical Christian Center in Ashford. Cost for overnight and meals is \$78. If interested, sign up on the sheet posted on the Women's Fellowship bulletin board. Questions? Contact Millie Oliphant (860-872-7106). Check out the venue at [www.eccministries.org](http://www.eccministries.org).

**Pay It Forward:** Last month Barbara Melander "Paid It Forward" to *Donors Choose* ([donorschoose.org](http://donorschoose.org)), a program that allows you to "Support a classroom. Build a future." Teachers from all over the U.S. post projects for which they need monetary support. Barbara choose a

teacher's project at Maple Street School here in town. The teacher needed Wiggle Seats to provide alternative seating to help her children focus better in the classroom. With the help of Barbara's Pay It Forward donation, the project has been fully funded and the class will soon be getting their Wiggle seats! Thank you to the congregation for your support of the Pay It Forward Program. Come next week to hear how Dave Bower has paid it forward. If you would like to be included in the selection for March, add your name to an index card located in the Narthex or at Coffee Hour.

**Save the Date!!!** 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament, June 3 at Willow Brook golf course in South Windsor. Please consider how you can be a part of this event. There is a need for golfers and also people to sponsor a hole, a contest and lunch. Donations are needed for raffle prizes and silent auction items. If you have any ideas to help make this year a success, contact a committee member or Michelle Bower (860-872-7274).

**Teddy Bear Ministry:** Teddy Bears are sitting in the pews for you to take and give to someone in need of a bit of caring love. In order to keep this ministry going, we are asking for monetary donations to the Women's Fellowship Teddy Bear Ministry Fund or you may buy a bear (10"-12") and leave it in the Church Office. Contact Joanne Myer at 860-872-9222 or [jmyer0146@yahoo.com](mailto:jmyer0146@yahoo.com) if you have questions.

**Child Care is available** for church activities when notice is given 3 days prior to the event. Call Child Care Coordinator, Jen Jensen, 860-836-5824.

**To request a visit with the pastor,** please call the Church Office, 860-875-7580.

<b>Church Office</b>	860-875-7580
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:church.secretary@firstchurchofvernon.org">church.secretary@firstchurchofvernon.org</a>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.firstchurchofvernon.org">www.firstchurchofvernon.org</a>

## A Lenten Love Song

by Helen Kemp

Now Jesus went into the garden,

The garden of Gethsemane.  
He went there sad and very weary  
To be alone, to pray.

“Dear God I am so sorrowful, is there no other way?  
Dear God, if it is possible, let this cup pass away.”

Now Jesus went into the garden, The garden of Gethsemane.  
The olive tree bent over him, And heard him sadly pray:

“Dear God, your Son is sorrowful, but know your way is best.  
Let love take hold of me!

Help me to be bold and free to do your will,  
To do your will,  
To do your will and rest.”

Ubi caritas et amor,  
Ubi caritas Deus ibi est.

Translation: Where charity and love are found, God is there.  
Text based on I John 4:16

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