

**Order of Worship for
October 11, 2020
The First Congregational Church of Hanover
The Rev. Dr. John A. Terry, Interim Pastor
Mr. Chad Weirick, Minister of Music**

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Call to Worship: (based on Psalm 106)

Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord, or declare all his praise? Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times. Remember me, O Lord, when you show favor to your people; help me when you deliver them; that I may see the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of your nation, that I may glory in your heritage.

Invocation

Merciful God, in Jesus Christ you do not call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. Draw us away from the easy road that leads to destruction, and guide us into paths that lead to life abundant, that in seeking your truth, and obeying your will, we may know the joy of being a disciple of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Scripture Introduction



Scripture Lesson: Matthew 22:1-14

22Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, “Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.” ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, “The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.” ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?” And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants,

“Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.’

***Gloria Patri**

(Children may leave for an activity)

Hymn: *The Church's One Foundation*

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the Word: from heav'n he came and sought her to be his
holy bride; with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth; one holy ^{name} she blesses, partakes one
holy food, and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore; till with the vision glorious her longing
eyes are blest, and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Sermon: *Showing Up*

Signs of Friendship and Peace

Hymn: *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*

Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways;
re clothe us in our rightful mind, in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise.

Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.

5 Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm!

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer from the Anglican Church in New Zealand.

Eternal Spirit, Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver

Source of all that is and all that shall be, Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven: The hallowing of your name echoes through the
universe! The way of your justice be followed by people of the world! Your heavenly will
be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our
hopes and come on earth. With bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb
from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too
great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. May it be so. Amen.

The Offering

The Doxology

Benediction

Postlude