

**Order of Worship for
October 18, 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 65)

Praise is due to you, O God; and to you shall vows be performed, you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come. We all arrive at your doorstep sooner or later, loaded with guilt; our sins too much for us but you get rid of them once and for all.

Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple. By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation; you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might. You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples. Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs; you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.

You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it. You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

You crown the year with your bounty. The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy, the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

Invocation

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations. Preserve the works of your mercy, that your church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

Scripture Introduction



Scripture Lesson: Matthew 22:15-22

15 Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, ‘Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?’ ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, ‘Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.’ And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, ‘Whose head is this, and whose title?’ ²¹They answered, ‘The emperor’s.’ Then he said to them, ‘Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’ ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

***Gloria Patri**

(Children may leave for an activity)

Hymn: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of love; Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You, Op'ning to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away; Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day!

All Your works with joy surround You, Earth and heav'n reflect Your rays, Stars and angels sing around You, Center of unbroken praise; Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea, Chanting bird and flowing fountain Praising You eternally!

Always giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest, Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest! Loving Father, Christ our Brother, Let Your light upon us shine; Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the joy divine.

Sermon: *Taxing Question*

Signs of Friendship and Peace

Hymn: *Rejoice, the Lord Is King*

Rejoice, the Lord is King: Your Lord and King adore!

Rejoice, give thanks and sing, And triumph evermore. Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
The keys of death and hell Are to our Jesus giv'n: Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord and judge shall come
And take His servants up To their eternal home: Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

The Offering

The Doxology

Benediction

Postlude