

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

United Church of Christ

July 11, 2021

Ministry of the Acolyte

Gathering Music #105 "We Will Glorify"

Welcome Announcements and Opening Prayer *Mary Menzies*

Prelude

Responsive Reading from Psalm 85

One: In the past, O God, you favored our land.

You restored our fortunes, forgave our sins,  
and turned from your hot anger.

**All: Restore us again, that we may rejoice.  
Show us your steadfast love, O God,  
and grant us your salvation.**

One: Let us hear what you will speak, O God,  
for you are about to speak peace to your people,  
to your faithful, as we turn to you in our hearts.

**All: Surely salvation is now at hand  
for those who tremble before you, O God,  
so that your glory may dwell in our land.**

One: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;  
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

**All: Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,  
righteousness will look down from the sky.**

One: You will bless us with what is good, O God,  
our land will yield abundant fruit,

**All: righteousness will go before you, God,  
and make a path for your steps.**

\*Hymn: #430 "There Shall Be Showers of Blessing"

We Lift Up Our Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer with the Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

Special Music

We Dedicate our Gifts

\*Doxology and Offering prayer

\*Hymn #56 "To God Be the Glory"

Scripture 2 Samuel 6:1-5; 12b-19

Sermon "dancing with all our might"

\*Hymn (*back of bulletin*) "Lord of the Dance"

\*Benediction

\*Response #764 "The Trees of the Field"

Postlude

*Thank you for joining us for worship today!  
It is our sincere hope that all who gather in  
this place will know and experience the love,  
forgiveness, hope, and new life available  
through Jesus Christ.*

*Scriptures for Sunday, July 18: 2 Samuel 7:1-14a;  
Psalm 89:20-37; Ephesians 2:11-22;  
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56, 1-13.*

## Lord of the Dance

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,  
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,  
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth:  
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Refrain: Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,  
But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me;  
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;  
They came with me and the dance went on: (Refrain)

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame:  
The holy people said it was a shame.  
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,  
And they left me there on a cross to die: (Refrain)

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;  
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.  
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;  
But I am the dance, and I still go on: (Refrain)

They cut me down and I leapt up high;  
I am the life that'll never, never die.  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me:  
I am the Lord of the dance, said he. (Refrain)

*First Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Littleton, New Hampshire  
July 11, 2021*



*"You have turned my mourning into  
joyful dancing. You have taken away  
my clothes of mourning and clothed me  
with joy."*

Psalm 30:11 NLT

**Pastor:**  
Rev. W. David Weddington  
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**Music Director & Organist**  
Dorothy Morton  
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

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### *Our Mission Statement:*

*As followers of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, we are called to provide a loving invitation and welcome to all, to inspire and uplift through the worship of God, to reach out to heal and enrich lives through the Holy Spirit, and to nurture people at various stages of their spiritual growth.*