

First Church of Monson to Celebrate in Stories and Songs of Praise



The First Church of Monson is planning a worship service of song and praise, “Alleluia, Songs for Stories of Praise” on Sunday, May 20, at 10 a.m. Church member Doug, inspired by Bible verses taken from the lectionary, has been writing hymn texts formerly included in the Lenten Meditation Booklets and sung during worship. David had the idea that he would like to set the poems as anthems. He chose six of Doug’s texts and has arranged them for the choir as follows: “When Faithful People Gather;” “Jesus Came from Galilee;” “Come to Me;” “God Provides for Lowly Ravens;” “The Works That Jesus Has Performed;” and “Praise God, Creator of the Skies.”

Pastor Rob Gormbley will lead the service which will be organized as a series of stories, including Biblical texts with commentary on the subject of each anthem. All of the anthems are very traditional in tonality and treatment although varied from one to another. The prelude Variations on Bradbury (“Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us”), offertory Choral Prelude on Rest (“Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”), and postlude “Toccata from POE Organ Book” are all original compositions by David. The choir will be accompanied by Permie who will also play the prelude and offertory. David will conclude the service with the playing of the postlude. The public is invited to the Music Sunday service and to the reception following worship in Fellowship Hall.