



Doris Merrill

First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road
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Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

ALL ARE WELCOME

*“Friend, you enter this church not as a stranger, but as a guest of God.
Come, then, with joy in your heart and thanks upon your lips,
and offer God today your love and your service.”*

(Adapted from a 12th Century Church in Hampshire, England)

April 19, 2015 Third Sunday of Easter

**First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is a community of faith
built upon a firm foundation of worship, prayer and education.**

**In affirming diversity, we are dedicated to welcoming all people who seek the Word of God, Christian
fellowship and service to others. In partnership with Christ and led by the Holy Spirit,
we reach out to the ever-widening community through active and loving ministry.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS & JOYS AND CONCERNS

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Lighting the Candles

*HYMN NO. 436

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(taken from the Iona Community)*

One: Gather us in, O God. Gather us in: the lost and the lonely, the broken and breaking, the
tired and aching, who long for the nourishment held in your hands.

All: Gather us in!

One: The done and the doubting, the wishing and wondering, the puzzled and pondering,
who long for the company held in your hands.

All: Gather us in!

One: The proud and pretentious, the sure and superior, the never inferior, who long for the
leveling held in your hands.

All: Gather us in!

One: The bright and the bustling, the stirrers, the shakers, the kind laughter-makers, who long
for greater joys held in your hands.

All: Gather us in!

One: From corner or limelight, from mansion or campsite, from fears and obsession,
from tears and depression, from untold excesses, from treasured successes, to meet, to
greet, to be given a seat, to be joined to the vine, to be offered new wine, to become like
the least to be found at the feast.

All: Gather us in!

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in unison)

**Gracious God, giver of life and breath, be present to us this day and shower us with your love.
In your nearness, call us forth. Help us to see your blessings upon our lives, numerous as the
stars above, and share those blessings with others. May your presence bring praise from our
open hearts, service from our willing hands, and joyful spirits ready to go where you send us.
In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.**

*SONG OF PRAISE #756 - **Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo ;**

Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia.

WE INVITE FORWARD GOD'S LITTLE CHILDREN

CHILDREN'S OFFERING

"This Little Light of Mine"

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine (x4)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

In our thanks, these gifts we bring, for you give us everything. Teach us how to follow you, in all we say, and all we do. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Heidi Heath

Followed by THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. 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 now go on to their classes.)

*HYMN NO. 242

"The Strife is O'er"

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Exodus 20:1-21

(O.T. pp. 73-74)

GOSPEL

Luke 24:36b-48

(N.T. p. 92-93)

SERMON

God's Love Language

Pastor Heidi Heath

CHOIR ANTHEM

"Crown Him Lord of All"

arr. Parks

WE RESPOND WITH OUR STEWARDSHIP AND OUR PRAYERS

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Jesus, Remember Me"

WE RESPOND WITH OUR MONETARY GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY #785

**We give you but your own, what-e'er the gift may be;
All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord, richly bless and multiply these offerings of gratitude, that all whose lives they touch may know the grace and power of your love. Amen.

WE ARE SENT OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE A LOVING, SERVING GOD

*HYMN NO. 253

"Yours is the Glory"

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"We Will Take What You Offer"

Bell

POSTLUDE

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH
DEACONS OF THE MONTH
LAY READER
USHERS

GREETER(s)
PASTOR
AFFILIATE PASTOR
MUSIC DIRECTOR
ACCOMPANIST/ORGANIST
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
CE DIRECTOR

Members of the Congregation
Pat and Dick Plouff
Steve Davis
Ross and Linda Webber
Kevin and Diane Gordon
Michael Bryan
Ruth Honnors
The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
Rev. Chester R. Ham
Susan Handy
Jeff DeLangie
Lindsey Roman
Heidi Heath

First Parish Activity Calendar

Sunday, April 19

7:00am Best Breakfast ~ Currier
8:00am HPC ~ Archive
9:00am Sr. Choir Rehearsal ~
Music Room
10:00am Worship ~ Sanctuary
10:15am Kids Church Program ~ John
11:15am Hand Chime Choir Rehearsal
~ MacGregor
11:30am Mission ~ A/B
6:00pm Youth Group, led by Pastor Heidi
(pizza and games) ~ Luke

Monday, April 20

1:00pm Derry Ecumenical Assoc. ~ A/B
7:00pm Trp 405 Meeting ~ Currier
7:00pm Trp 405 Board of Review ~ A/B
7:00pm Trp 405 Patrol Leaders Council
~ John

Tuesday, April 21

9:15am Nutfield Gym ~ Currier
4:00pm GS Troop 20993 ~ Currier
6:15pm GS Troop 20321 ~ Luke
6:30pm GS 20570/BSA Venture 570
~ John
6:30pm AA ~ Library
7:00pm OA ~ A/B
7:00pm Trp 405 Committee Mtg. ~ Currier

Wednesday, April 22

6:00pm GS Troop 13152 ~ Luke
7:00pm Facilities ~ Cook

Thursday, April 23

6:30pm CS Pack 405 ~
A/B/John/Luke/Currier
7:00pm Sr. Choir ~ Music Room

Friday, April 24

5:00pm Spaghetti Supper ~ Currier
7:00pm AA Serenity Sisters ~ A/B
9:30pm AA Fri Night Assoc. ~ A/B

Saturday, April 25

9:00am Ian Graham Celebration of Life
~ Currier
7:30pm AA ~ Currier

Sunday, April 26

7:00am Best Breakfast ~ Currier
8:00am Youth Ministry ~ A/B
7:30am Nominating ~ Currier
9:00am Sr. Choir Rehearsal ~
Music Room
10:00am Worship ~ Sanctuary
10:15am Kids Church Program ~ John
11:15am Hand Chime Choir Rehearsal ~
MacGregor
11:30am Congregational Meeting ~ Currier
12:30pm Rev. Mollie Landers Presentation
~ A/B
4:00pm Margarita's Fundraiser ~ Offsite
6:00pm Youth Group (activity TBD) ~
Luke

Scriptures – April 19

Exodus 20.1-21

20 Then God spoke all these words:

2 I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

4 You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

7 You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

8 Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹For six days you shall labour and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

12 Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

13 You shall not murder.

14 You shall not commit adultery.

15 You shall not steal.

16 You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

17 You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

18 When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, ¹⁹and said to Moses, 'You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die.'²⁰ Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin.'²¹ Then the people stood at a distance, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

Luke 24.36b-48

36 While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’³⁷ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost.³⁸ He said to them, ‘Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?’³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish,⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.

44 Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,⁴⁶ and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.’⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.