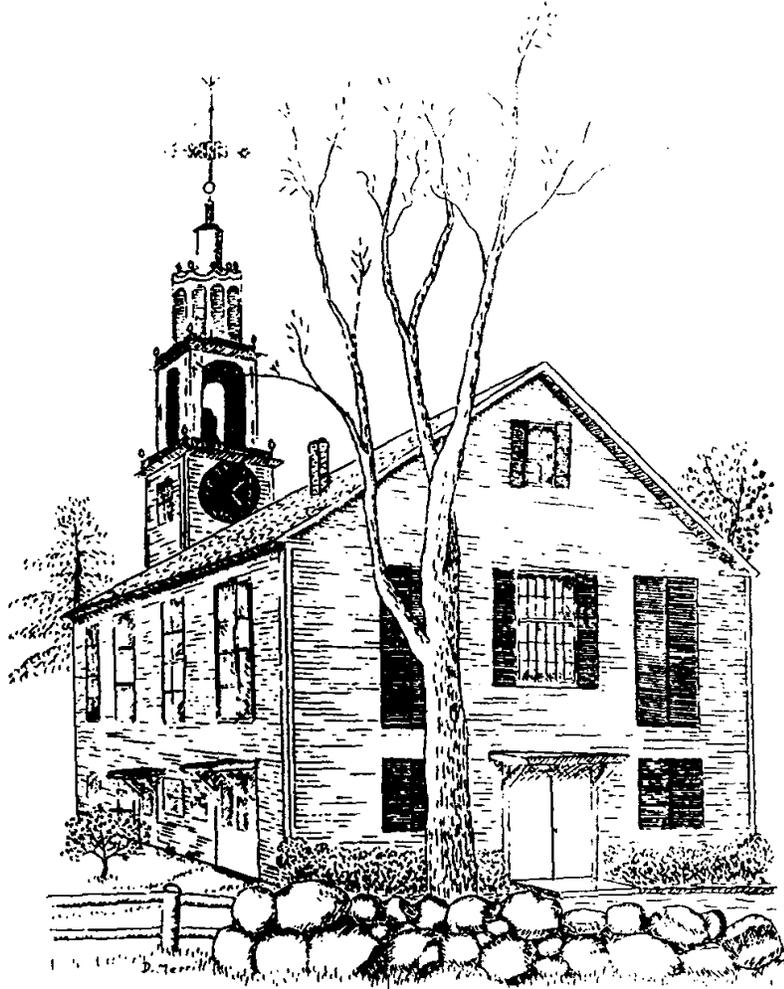


First Parish Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road  
East Derry, New Hampshire 03041  
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

**August 2, 2015**



*Doris Merrill*

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)

## August 2, 2015 Proper 13

### Welcome Visitors!

As members of the United Church of Christ we say: "No matter **who** you are or **where** you are on life's journey, **you** are welcome here! We mean it!"

Please introduce yourself to an usher and come meet Pastor Deborah.

Feel free to join us for refreshments in Currier Hall immediately following the service.

**If you would like** information about our church or would like to be added to our mailing list, please fill out a bright yellow "How May We Serve You"/ "Communication Options" card located in the pews and at the back of the Sanctuary. We also have cards available in the church office.

**Thank you for worshiping with us. We are honored to have you with us today.**

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS & JOYS AND CONCERNS

#### WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

#### MOMENT OF SILENCE

Lighting the Candles

\*HYMN NO. 386

*"The Church's One Foundation"*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Taken from the Iona Community)

Leader: In the beginning, before time, before people, before the world began,

**People: God was.**

Leader: Here and now among us, beside us, enlisting the people of earth for the purposes of heaven,

**People: God is.**

Leader: In the future, when we have turned to dust, and all we know has found its fulfillment,

**People: God will be.**

Leader: Not denying the world but delighting in it, not understanding the world, but redeeming it, through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit,

**People: God was, God is, God will be.**

\*SONG OF PRAISE #759 – **Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three in One; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Beloved, hear now this good news. There is nowhere we can go, and nothing we can do to separate ourselves from the love of our big, wild, beautiful God. We are a new people this day. Say Amen!

## WE INVITE FORWARD GOD'S LITTLE CHILDREN

CHILDREN'S OFFERING

*"I'm Gonna Sing"*

**I'm goin' a sing when the Spirit says sing (x2)**

**I'm goin' a sing when the Spirit says sing, and obey the Spirit of the Lord.**

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

Ken Williams

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 onto their classes.)

\*HYMN NO. 207

*"Just As I Am, Without One Plea"*

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

SCRIPTURE 1

John 6:24-35

(N.T. p. 101)

SCRIPTURE 2

1 Corinthians 11:17-24

(N.T. p. 181)

SERMON

"Presente!"

Pastor Heidi Carrington Heath

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR PRAYERS

PASTORAL PRAYER

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR MONETARY GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

We have gladly taken more than our share of the world's good. Let us give in proportion to the blessings we have received. May the church be at the forefront of feeding, healing, caring for, and loving God's people. We are the church, the body of Christ, making a difference in the world.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

\*DOXOLOGY #780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, you heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

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

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

HYMN NO. 346

*"Bread of the World"*

PRAYER of CONSECRATION

OUR SACRED STORY: JESUS in the BREAKING of the BREAD and CUP Poured OUT

## SHARING the MEAL

We celebrate Communion this morning by bringing you the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation. As you pass the trays, try to make eye contact with your neighbor.

As you pass the bread, please say the words **“The Bread of Life”** or **“Take and eat.”** The appropriate response when receiving the gifts or elements is **“Amen”** or **“Thanks be to God.”** You may eat the bread when you receive it. This symbolizes that we, each, have a private relationship with God.

As you pass the tray of grape juice, please say the words **“The Cup of Salvation”** or **“The Cup of Love”**. Again, your response will be **“Amen”** or **“Thanks be to God.”** Please hold the cup until everyone is served. We will drink the Cup of Salvation in unison, which symbolizes that we are together in a community of faith.

If you are accompanying your children: they are invited to participate and we trust that you will teach them the meaning of this sacred meal.

Gluten-free bread is available. Let the server know.

## PRAYER of THANKSGIVING (in unison)

**Thank you, God, for life in the Spirit of Jesus:  
For gladness in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die,  
For peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends,  
For the glory of creation, for the mission of justice you have made our own.  
In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

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

\*HYMN NO. 295

*“I Sing a Song of the Saints of God”*

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE NO. 81

*“God Be with You” (v.1)*

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated.)

*\*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

ORGANIST

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

CE DIRECTOR

Members of the Congregation

Diana Sweeney and Reni Harnden

Jennifer Robinson

Diaconate

Michael Bryan

Verna Elwell

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

Rev. Chester R. Ham

Susan Handy

Jeff DeLangie

Lindsey Roman

Heidi Carrington Heath

## Scriptures – August 2

### John 6.24-35

<sup>24</sup>So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

25 When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, ‘Rabbi, when did you come here?’ <sup>26</sup>Jesus answered them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. <sup>27</sup>Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.’ <sup>28</sup>Then they said to him, ‘What must we do to perform the works of God?’ <sup>29</sup>Jesus answered them, ‘This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.’ <sup>30</sup>So they said to him, ‘What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?’ <sup>31</sup>Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, “He gave them bread from heaven to eat.” <sup>32</sup>Then Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup>For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.’ <sup>34</sup>They said to him, ‘Sir, give us this bread always.’

35 Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.’

### 1 Corinthians 11.17-24

17 Now in the following instructions I do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse. <sup>18</sup>For, to begin with, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you; and to some extent I believe it. <sup>19</sup>Indeed, there have to be factions among you, for only so will it become clear who among you are genuine. <sup>20</sup>When you come together, it is not really to eat the Lord’s supper. <sup>21</sup>For when the time comes to eat, each of you goes ahead with your own supper, and one goes hungry and another becomes drunk. <sup>22</sup>What! Do you not have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you show contempt for the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What should I say to you? Should I commend you? In this matter I do not commend you!

23 For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, <sup>24</sup>and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, ‘This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’