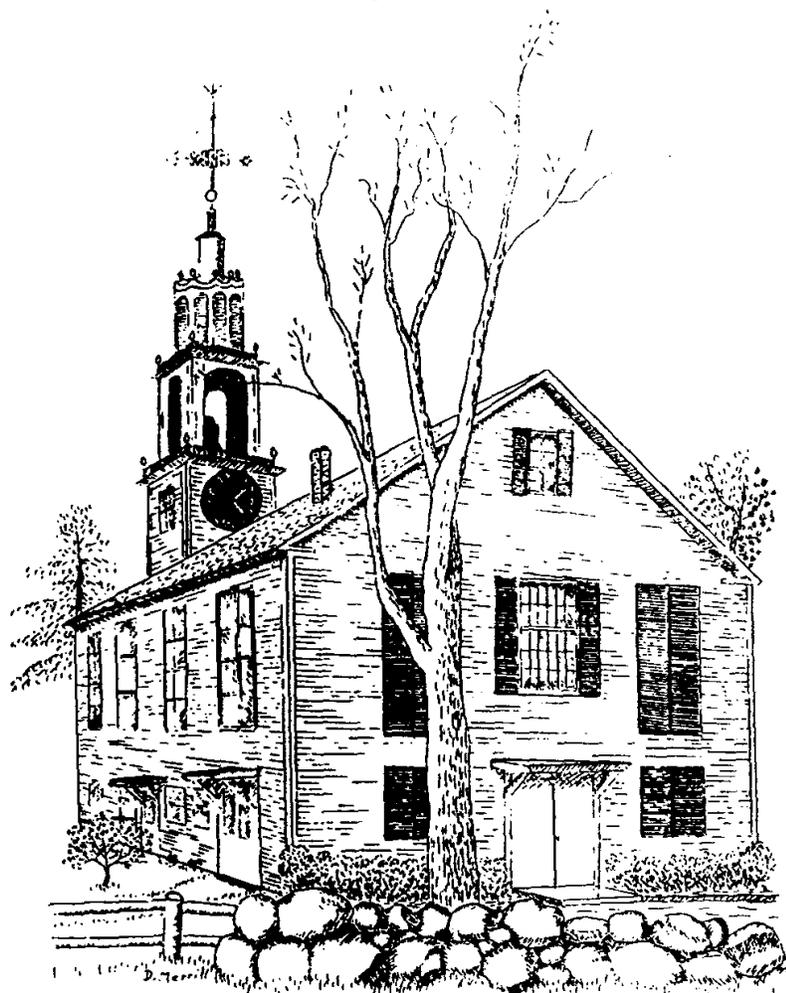


First Parish Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road
East Derry, New Hampshire 03041
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

July 5, 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)

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 worshipping 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. 379

“Come, We That Love the Lord”

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Great is our God and greatly to be praised.

All: We praise, with joy, God’s holy name.

One: God’s love is amazing, beyond our understanding.

All: We are here to be equipped for the journey of life.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in unison)

God of faithful elders and simple followers, our sure defense and faithful guide, we invoke your presence among us in this time of praise.

Your name is proclaimed through all the earth, and by your hand we are made victorious over the unclean spirits and unbeliefs that stalk our paths. How can we fulfill the covenant you offer us? Come, Spirit of truth, to show us the way. Amen.

*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.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us dare to confess the ways we fall short of God’s expectations. God already knows them, but we need to face them.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

When we ponder the vast universe at your command, O God, we are astounded.

We alternate between boasting over our personal accomplishments and near-panic at our inability to cope with life’s challenges. O God, we confess our desperate need for healing, forgiveness and a new perspective on life. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

When we recognize our weakness, God can strengthen us. When we accept the reign of love among us, we are empowered to be the church, reaching out to a sick and troubled world. 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

Pastor Deborah

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.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

HYMN NO. 342

"Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread"

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)

In deep gratitude, for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to You. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot remain the same.

Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. May we live the LOVE you have shown us - to God's glory and to the betterment of God's children of every kind. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

*HYMN NO. 591	<i>"This is My Song"</i>	
HEBREW SCRIPTURE	Psalms 150	(O.T. p. 646)
GOSPEL	Mark 6:1-13	(N.T. p. 41)
SERMON	Buy a Ticket!	The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
SPECIAL MUSIC		Debby McGrath

WE RESPOND WITH OUR PRAYERS

PASTORAL PRAYER

WE RESPOND WITH OUR MONETARY GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Some take offense when asked to give, but all of us are eager to receive. Jesus Christ turned these priorities around, giving thanks for the generosity of God's covenant with humanity, but finding greatest joy in the opportunity to share. In gratitude and joy, we bring our offerings.

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)

Thank you, God, for your steadfast love. We offer our praise; may it reach to the ends of the earth. We ask that our gifts empower ministry in this place and wherever our influence can reach. Let unbelief be turned to faith, ignorance to knowledge, sickness to health, brokenness to wholeness, both in us and in our neighbors near and far. Guide us, as we seek to invest our best for the sake of Christ. Amen.

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

*HYMN (insert) *"Let There Be Peace on Earth"*

BENEDICTION

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
Brian Williams and Sarah Keller
Harry Handy III
Diaconate
Michael Bryan
Verna Elwell
The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
Rev. Chester R. Ham
Susan Handy
Jeff DeLangie
Lindsey Roman
Heidi Carrington Heath