

**November 8, 2015      Consecration Sunday      Proper 27**

**Welcome Visitors! Thank you for worshiping with us. We are glad to have you with us today.** 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.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS & JOYS AND CONCERNS

**WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Lighting the Candles

\*HYMN NO. 303

*"Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing"*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP RESPONSE (Frances A. Bogle)

One: This is God's house, and we can meet God here.  
We are brought together in the family of God.

**All: Come, all who are anxious or burdened.**

One: Come with expectancy and anticipation.  
God is present to greet you and change your life.

**All: In our eager waiting, there is fullness of joy.  
In our preparation for worship, we discover life.**

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in unison)

**In the security of your love, mighty God, it is well with us. Our work is fulfilling, our relationships reflect your faithfulness, and our ability to trust is strengthened. Be known to us now as we eagerly await your Word. Amen.**

\*SONG OF PRAISE #236 – **Halle, halle, halleluja. Halle, halle, halleluja.  
Halle, halle, halleluja. Halle, halle, halleluja.**

**WE INVITE FORWARD GOD'S CHILDREN**

CHILDREN'S OFFERING

*"Jesus Loves Me"*

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.**

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (see insert) – Anne Barlow Barry; Jane Barlow Roy;  
Kathy Holland; Christie Sawyer; Carol and Fred Bates

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

*"Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands"*

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.**

\*HYMN NO. 37

*"What Gift Can We Bring"*

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

HEBREW SCRIPTURES	Jeremiah 29:11; Habakkuk 2:1-4	(O.T. p. 813); (O.T. p. 975)
NEW TESTAMENT	Philippians 1:6	(N.T. p. 209)
GOSPEL	Mark 12:38-44	(N.T. p. 50)
SERMON	We Are Convinced	The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
CHOIR ANTHEM	<i>"My God's So Good to Me!"</i>	

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR PRAYERS

PASTORAL PRAYER  
CHORAL RESPONSE

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

With gratitude for grace upon grace offered to us from our loving God, we invite you to come forward with your **pledge cards** at this time. Ushers will be available to receive your pledge cards if you are unable to come forward.

CONSECRATION PRAYER

(The regular Sunday morning offering will now be accepted.)

**\*DOXOLOGY #785      We give you but your own, whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)**

**We dedicate to your service all the good things we have received from your hand. May our gifts carry the good news throughout our community, making a difference in the quality of life experienced by many, near and far. Amen.**

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

**\*HYMN NO. 474      *"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"***

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated.)

*\*Indicates all that are able may stand.*

FLOWERS    Offered by Margie Ives

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

DEACONS OF THE MONTH

LAY READER

USHERS

Members of the Congregation

Steve Davis and Reni Harnden

Julie Turner

Stanley and Holly Gorgol

Tom and Andrea Cooper

Michael Bryan

David and Lorie McGrath

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

Pastor Heidi Carrington Heath

Rev. Chester R. Ham

Susan Handy

Jeff DeLangie

Lindsey Roman

GREETER(s)

SENIOR PASTOR

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

AFFILIATE PASTOR

MUSIC DIRECTOR

ORGANIST

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

## Scriptures – November 8

### Jeremiah 29.11

<sup>11</sup>For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

### Habakkuk 2.1-4

2I will stand at my watch-post,  
and station myself on the rampart;  
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me,  
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

<sup>2</sup> Then the LORD answered me and said:

Write the vision;  
make it plain on tablets,  
so that a runner may read it.

<sup>3</sup> For there is still a vision for the appointed time;  
it speaks of the end, and does not lie.

If it seems to tarry, wait for it;  
it will surely come, it will not delay.

<sup>4</sup> Look at the proud!  
Their spirit is not right in them,  
but the righteous live by their faith.

### Philippians 1.6

<sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

### Mark 12.38-44

38 As he taught, he said, ‘Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the market-places,<sup>39</sup> and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honour at banquets! <sup>40</sup>They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.’

41 He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup>A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. <sup>43</sup>Then he called his disciples and said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup>For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.’

# First Parish Congregational Church

## General Announcements

November 8, 2015 Proper 27 Consecration Sunday

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.



### Today is Consecration Sunday!

During worship today, Consecration Sunday, there will be the opportunity to bring your pledge cards down the center aisle of the sanctuary to be blessed by the congregation and Pastor Deborah.

**Thanksgiving Baskets:** The mission committee will be in Currier after church with information about this year's Thanksgiving Baskets: 1. Adopt a family to purchase Thanksgiving dinner for. 2. Purchase items to help fill a Thanksgiving basket. We have brown grocery bags with a list of items written on each bag. 3. Donate cash or a check to help defray the cost 4. Donate any extra cloth/recyclable bags you may have that you do not use. We put food items in these to give to families.

**Christian Ed:** K-5th graders will start a new unit on the Lord is my Shepherd downstairs in John! The middle schoolers will continue to explore the Bible in A/B, and the high schoolers will meet for discussion in Luke.

**Veterans Day: November 15, 2015** we will celebrate Veterans Day by honoring our veterans both living and deceased. Please bring a picture of your beloved veteran and all will be arranged to display in the sanctuary. We would ask that you try to have them to a Deacon by **9:45** that morning at the latest.



**FINANCE CHALLENGE:** We have an anonymous offer to match the first gift of \$1004.15. Let's see how many of these gifts we can raise in the month of November. That is right, if yours is the first gift of \$1004.15 it will be matched by an anonymous donor. Game on!



**Parents Night Out: Save The Date!** On Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 PM, we will host a pre-holiday Parents Night Out at First Parish. If you're looking for a night out or time to do some Christmas shopping without the kids, this is your night! Children ages K-5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to join us at First Parish for an evening of age appropriate games and activities. Middle and High School students who would like to be helpers should see Pastor Heidi in

advance of the event. RSVPs ARE REQUIRED. Please RSVP to Pastor Heidi as soon as possible at [pastorheidiheath@gmail.com](mailto:pastorheidiheath@gmail.com).

**Keeping in Touch (K.I.T.):** On November 11, Veterans Day, K.I.T. will meet in MacGregor at 12:30 for lunch and birthday cake, then carpool to the Derry Museum of History!

**Bible Wonder and Alzheimer's Group:** Pastor Deborah will be holding Bible Wonder on "Gospel of John" on the following Tuesdays from 7:00-8:00pm in Cook; **November 10, and 17.**

**SoulCollage(R) Workshop - Gratitude and Thanksgiving:** Come together for a morning of creativity and meditation on themes of Gratitude and Thanksgiving! All materials and supplies will be provided for you to create collaged cards reflecting your thoughts and feelings about these themes. We will hear music, poems, and readings and choose from a wealth of images to stimulate our imaginations.! Join Liz Greenberg, SoulCollage(R) Facilitator in Currier on **Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 9-12.** Fee of \$20 covers all materials and tools. I'd like to know how many to prepare for, so please RSVP to: [lizgreenberg26@gmail.com](mailto:lizgreenberg26@gmail.com)