

November 20, 2016

Thirty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 TO ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS; SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

*HYMN #422

"Come, O Thankful People, Come"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Bless God, all people of faith and hope.

All: God has looked on us with great favor.

One: God is our refuge and strength in times of trouble.

All: God is our guide and inspiration when things go well.

One: God gives light to those who live in the shadows.

All: God offers stillness amid the turbulence of our times.

*INVOCATION

We worship you with gladness, O God our Shepherd, for you have gathered us as your beloved flock. You have sent your son who has demonstrated among us the power of love. Send your Spirit now to remind us of your ongoing presence.

*SONG OF PRAISE #756

Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo; Gloria, Gloria, Alleluia, Alleluia

HANDCHIMES CHIOR

"Grace and Thanksgiving"

Anna Laura Page

WE INVITE FORWARD GOD'S YOUNGER DISCIPLES

At this time, all children are invited to come forward for the children's offering, and children's time. An offering is not required for participation. All are welcome, especially first time visitors.

CHILDREN'S OFFERING *"Come as a Child"*

Come as a child, when He calls you to follow. Just come as a child, for His love is untold. Come as a child, when you seek His communion, For then, all His blessings unfold.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Dear God, we offer you our gifts with thanks and praise, be with us and guide us all of our days. Teach us how to love each other, and to shine your light into the world. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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 are excused to go to their classes at this time.)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM of Leah Riley Prunier

When invited by the Pastor please stand as you are able and let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

HYMN #425

"For The Fruit of all Creation"

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

OLD TESTAMENT Jeremiah 23:1-6 (O.T. p. 806)

GOSPEL Luke 1:68-79 and Luke 23:33-43 (N.T. p. 59 & 91)

SERMON "Attitude of Gratitude" The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

CHOIR ANTHEM "Now Thank We All Our God" arr. Hayes

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHOIR RESPONSE

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

The knowledge of God's Love is meant to be shared. We are a people called to extend this good news in every way we can. When we give our money, we give a part of ourselves.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY #562, verse 1

**Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
gave me light and food and shelter, gave me life and set me free,
now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
now the bread of love is rising, loaves of love to multiply!**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We rejoice, O God, in the new world you are creating within us and around us. We give thanks for the joy we find in the church as we draw water from the wells of salvation. It is our intention to share the joy, to proclaim your Word among all nations, to work quietly and enthusiastically for a world where your love reigns. To these ends, we dedicate our offerings. Amen.

WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE A LOVING, SERVING GOD

***HYMN #300**

“Jesus Shall Reign”

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH Members of the Congregation

DEACONS OF THE MONTH

Diaconate

LAY READER

Diana Sweeney

USHERS

John Bartel, Kevin & Diane Gordon, and Michael Bryan

GREETER(s)

Lisa & Wayne Hall

PASTOR

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Susan Handy

ACCOMPANIST/ORGANIST

Jeff DeLangie



First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

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