

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

February 14, 2016 First Sunday in Lent

FIRST SUNDAY IN
LENT



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)

February 14, 2016 First Sunday in Lent

Jesus said: 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and **you gave me food**, I was thirsty and **you gave me something to drink**, I was a stranger and **you welcomed me**, I was naked and **you gave me clothing**, I was sick and **you took care of me**, I was in prison and **you visited me.**'

(Matthew 25:34-36)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS & JOYS AND CONCERNS

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Lighting the Candles

*HYMN NO. 434

"All Beautiful the March of Days"

*CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from the music and lyrics by Fran McKendree)

One: When the winds upon chaos blew, when the world from nothing grew,
when the first glimmers of hope were new,

Many: God was there.

One: In each darkness, cloud, and fire, in our lost and best desire, in the quiet
as words retire,

Many: God is there.

One: Not for what we say or do, not for what we journey through, but for all
you call us to,

Many: God be there.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in unison)

Holy One, we come before you this morning to seek your presence.

We turn our hearts to you in hope knowing you are near. Surely you are in this place. Guardian of our way, tend and befriend us in this hour. Let your Spirit move among us that we might recognize your presence and in our own lives. May we worship you with open hands, willing hearts, and songs of praise. Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE #760 (Ma-si-thi) Amen siyakudumisa (repeat x1)

Amen Bawo, Amen Bawo, Amen siyakudumisa

(Sing Amen) Amen, we praise your name, O God (repeat x1)

Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen we praise your name, O God.

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)

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

Rev. Mollie Landers Hatt

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. 211

"Lord Jesus, Who Through Forty Days"

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

(O.T. pp. 606-607)

EPISTLE

Romans 8:35-39

(N.T. p. 165)

SERMON

Mountain Top Moments

The Revs. Heidi Carrington Heath
and Mollie Landers Hatt

CHOIR ANTHEM

"On Eagle's Wings"
Given in memory of Velma Allen

Joncas, arr. Hayes

WE RESPOND WITH OUR PRAYERS

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

"Word of the Father"

Iona

WE RESPOND WITH OUR MONETARY GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." So too are we called to share and give our financial gifts in service to God and one another. The morning offering will now be given and received.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY #562

**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 (UNISON)

Lord, richly bless and multiply this offering 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. 522

"I Love to Tell the Story"

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

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 or come meet Pastor Deborah

or Pastor Heidi. Thank you for worshiping with us. We are so glad that you with us today.

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH
DEACONS OF THE MONTH
LAY READER
USHERS

GREETER(s)
SENIOR PASTOR
ASSOCIATE PASTOR
MUSIC DIRECTOR
ORGANIST
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Members of the Congregation
Brian Williams and Diana Sweeney
Brian Williams
Ken Gould, Diane Breeden
Dee Deranian, Shirley Dickason
Michael Bryan
Becky Fleury
The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
The Rev. Heidi Carrington Heath
Susan Handy
Jeff DeLangie
Lindsey Roman

First Parish Activity Calendar

Sunday, February 14

9:00am Sr. Choir Rehearsal ~
Music Rm
10:00am Worship ~ Sanctuary
10:15am Sunday School ~ John
11:15am Children's Choir ~ Music Room
11:35am Handchime Rehearsal ~
MacGregor
2:00pm Troop 405 Workshop ~ Currier

Monday, February 15

7:00pm Troop 405 ~ Currier/AB/Nursery

Tuesday, February 16

9:30am Nutfield Gym ~ Currier
4:00pm GS Troop 20993 ~ Currier
6:15pm GS Troop 20321 ~ Luke
6:30pm Faith & Television ~ Cook
6:30pm AA ~ Library
7:00pm Council ~ Cook
7:00pm OA ~ A/B

Wednesday, February 17

6:00pm Lenten Supper ~ Currier
6:00pm GS Troop 13152 ~ John
7:00pm Lenten Service ~ Currier
7:00pm AA 12 Step Workshop ~ Nursery

Thursday, February 18

4:30pm Daisy Trp 11080 ~ John
6:30pm BSA Venture Crew 570 ~
MacGregor
6:30pm CS Pack 405 ~
A/B/Currier/John
7:00pm Sr. Choir ~ Music Room

Friday, February 19

1:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive ~ Currier
7:00pm AA Serenity Sisters ~ A/B

Saturday, February 20

PREPARED TO SERVE

7:30pm AA ~ Currier

Sunday, February 21

7:00am Best Breakfast ~ Currier
8:00am Historic Preservation ~ Archive
8:00am Youth Ministry ~ A/B
9:00am Sr. Choir Rehearsal ~ Music Rm
10:00am Worship ~ Sanctuary
10:15am Sunday School ~ John
11:15am Children's Choir ~ Music Room
11:30am Mission ~ A/B
11:35am Handchime Rehearsal ~
MacGregor

Scriptures – February 14

Psalm 91

- ¹ You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
² will say to the LORD, ‘My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust.’
⁹ Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
the Most High your dwelling-place,
¹⁰ no evil shall befall you,
no scourge come near your tent.
- ¹¹ For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.
¹² On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.
¹³ You will tread on the lion and the adder,
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.
- ¹⁴ Those who love me, I will deliver;
I will protect those who know my name.
¹⁵ When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,
I will rescue them and honour them.
¹⁶ With long life I will satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.

Romans 8.35-39

- ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, ‘For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.’
³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.