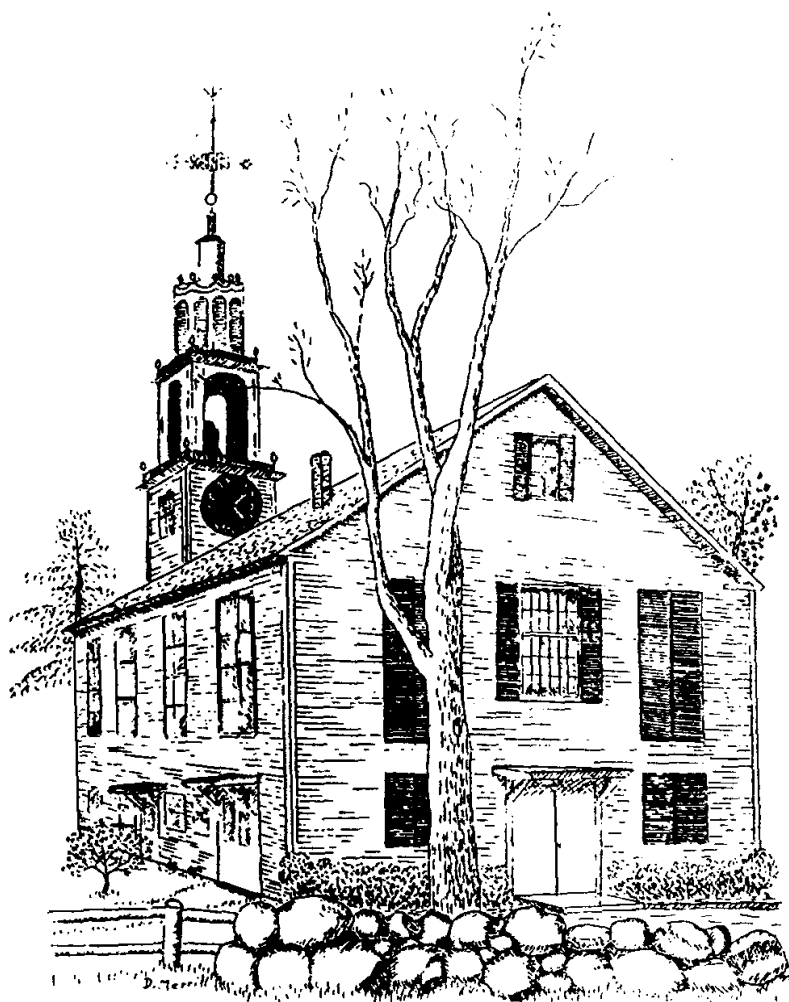


First Parish Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road
East Derry, New Hampshire 03041
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

January 24, 2016 Third Sunday After Epiphany



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)

January 24, 2016

Third Sunday After Epiphany

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. 42

"O, For A Thousand Tongues to Sing"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Let the ears of all people be attentive;
the heavens are telling the glory of God.

All: Everything around us proclaims God's handiwork.

Let us bow down and worship our Creator.

One: Day and night, God is at work among us.

All: Let us be drawn together into one body, the church.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in unison)

On this holy day, we come together to make sense of our lives. We look to your Word, O God, as a source of understanding. Revive our souls that our hearts may rejoice in your presence. Cleanse and enlighten us with your truth and liberate us from self-imposed limitations.

*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

Pastor Heidi

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 and youth may now go to their classes in the Noyes Building.)

*HYMN NO. 396

"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

HEBREW SCRIPTURES	Psalm 29 and 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	(O.T. p. 557) (N.T. pp. 182-183)
GOSPEL	Luke 4:14-21	(N.T. pp. 62-63)
SERMON		The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
CHOIR ANTHEM	<i>"Gather Us In"</i>	Haugen, arr. Hayes

WE RESPOND WITH OUR PRAYERS

PASTORAL PRAYER		
CHORAL RESPONSE	<i>"Word of the Father"</i>	Iona

WE RESPOND WITH OUR MONETARY GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

We are part of the body of Christ which extends around the world. May our offerings preach good news, proclaim liberty, and recover among us all the ability to see and hear and respond.

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)**

In the spirit of Christ, we give our best for the world. This is only the beginning of our offering, for we dedicate here our varied gifts as apostles, prophets, teachers, healers, helpers, administrators, speakers, workers. In all we do, we will seek to serve you by sharing your love. Amen.

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

***HYMN NO. 393** *"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"*

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH
DEACONS OF THE MONTH
LAY READER
USHERS

Members of the Congregation
Pat Plouff and Cyndi Gray
Pat Plouff
Becky Fleury, Verna Elwell
Joe Weaver, Suzanne Hunt
Michael Bryan
Beth Hunter

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

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
The Rev. Heidi Carrington Heath
The Rev. Chester R. Ham
Susan Handy
Jeff DeLangie
Lindsey Roman

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 or Pastor Heidi. Thank you for worshiping with us. We are honored to have you with us today.

First Parish Activity Calendar

Sunday, January 24

No Best Breakfast

- 9:00am Sr. Choir Rehearsal ~ Music Rm
10:00am Worship ~ Sanctuary
10:15am Sunday School ~ John
**1:00pm Rev. Chester R. Ham
Celebration of Life ~
Sanctuary**
Luncheon following
Celebration of Life ~ Currier

Monday, January 25

- 6:30pm Mother Support Group ~
Cook
7:00pm Troop 405 ~
Currier/AB/Nursery

Tuesday, January 26

- 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 OA ~ A/B

Wednesday, January 27

- 6:00pm GS Troop 13152 ~ Luke
7:00pm AA 12 Step Workshop ~ A/B
7:00pm Facilities ~ Cook

Thursday, January 28

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

Friday, January 29

- 5:00pm Spaghetti Supper ~ Currier
7:00pm AA Serenity Sisters ~ A/B

Saturday, January 30

- 7:30pm AA ~ Currier

Sunday, January 31

- 7:00am Best Breakfast ~ Currier
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
**11:45am ANNUAL MEETING ~
CURRIER**

Scriptures – January 24

Psalm 29

A Psalm of David.

- ¹ Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- ² Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
worship the LORD in holy splendour.

- ³ The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over mighty waters.
- ⁴ The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

- ⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
- ⁶ He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.

- ⁷ The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.
- ⁸ The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

- ⁹ The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,
and strips the forest bare;
and in his temple all say, ‘Glory!’

- ¹⁰ The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king for ever.
- ¹¹ May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

1 Corinthians 12.12-31a

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

14 Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many.¹⁵ If the foot were to say, ‘Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body’, that would not make it any less a part of the body.¹⁶ And if the ear were to say, ‘Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body’, that would not make it any less a part of the body.¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be?²⁰ As it is, there are many members, yet one body.²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I have no need of you’, nor again the head to the feet, ‘I have no need of you.’²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,²³ and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect;²⁴ whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member,²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another.²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues.²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles?³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?³¹ But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Luke 4.14-21

14 Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country.¹⁵ He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read,¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ ‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,

¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him.²¹ Then he began to say to them, ‘Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’

