

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

March 13, 2016

Fifth Sunday in Lent

FIFTH 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)

March 13, 2016

Fifth Sunday in Lent

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS & JOYS AND CONCERNS

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Lighting the Candles

*HYMN NO. 6

"Sing Praise to God Our Highest Good"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God's spirit is moving among us; give thanks!

All: Our God is about to do a new thing in our midst.

One: Let us gather to sing our praises and thanks.

All: God has done great things for us; we are glad!

One: Now God is pointing us toward new goals.

All: We yearn to hear what God would have us do.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in unison)

Powerful God, we give thanks that you have called us to be your people. In our times of gloom, you have sent your light. When we are weary and discouraged, you lift us up. In our thirst for meaning and purpose, you bring us to living water in Jesus Christ. Set before us now the joy of discovery and a vision of future possibilities. Unite us in friendship with one another, with Christ as our center and inspiration. 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.

HANDCHIME CHOIR

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

arr. Derek K. Hakes

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

Katie Cobban

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 may now go to their Sunday School classes).

*HYMN NO. 224

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

HEBREW SCRIPTURE	Isaiah 43:16-21	(O.T. p. 746)
GOSPEL	John 12:1-11	(N.T. pp. 109-110)
SERMON	You Can't Hold Back the Spring!	The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
CHOIR ANTHEM	<i>"Sing to the Lord"</i>	Mozart, arr. Wagner

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER	
CHORAL RESPONSE	<i>"Out of the Depths"</i>

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

The most lavish gifts we can bring are never enough to thank God for all we have received. Yet the tiniest offerings we present do not escape God's notice when presented with full commitment and devotion. Let us give as we are able.

*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

Beneficent God, we are glad for all the good things you have done for us. We count everything as loss before the surpassing value of knowing Jesus Christ. May Christ be proclaimed and the poor be saved from the terrors of suffering and neglect. Fill the hearts of all your children with laughter and joy. To that end, bless our offerings. Amen.

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

*HYMN NO. 190 *"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"*

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE "Lo, I am with you"

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
Cindy Pingree and Reni Harnden
Dee Deranian
Ross and Linda Webber
Kevin and Diane Gordon
Michael Bryan
David and Lorie McGrath
The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
The Rev. Heidi Carrington Heath
Susan Handy
Jeff DeLangie
Lindsey Roman

First Parish Activity Calendar

Sunday, March 13

Daylight Savings Time

9:00am Sr. Choir Rehearsal ~ Luke
10:00am Worship ~ Sanctuary
10:15am Sunday School ~ John
11:15am Children's Choir ~ Luke
11:35am Handchime Rehearsal ~ Luke
1:30pm Installation of the Rev. Heidi
Carrington Heath ~ Sanctuary
2:30pm Reception following installation ~
Currier

Monday, March 14

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

Tuesday, March 15

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, March 16

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

Thursday, March 17

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

Friday, March 18

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

Saturday, March 19

7:30pm AA ~ Currier

Sunday, March 20

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 ~ Luke
11:30am Mission ~ A/B
11:35am Handchime Rehearsal ~ Luke
4:00pm Outside group gathering ~ Currier

Scriptures – March 13

Isaiah 43.16-21

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD,
who makes a way in the sea,
a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse,
army and warrior;
they lie down, they cannot rise,
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸ Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
²⁰ The wild animals will honour me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
²¹ the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

John 12.1-11

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

⁹ When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death as well, ¹¹since it was on account of him that many of the Jews were deserting and were believing in Jesus.