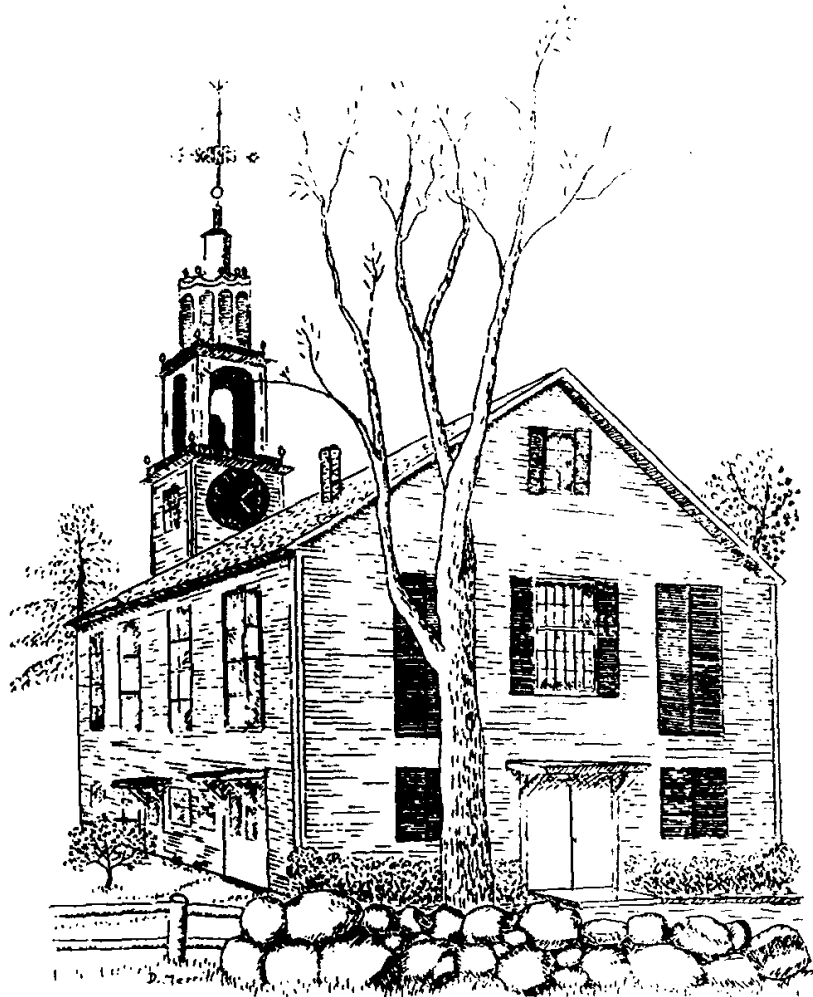


First Parish Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road
East Derry, New Hampshire 03041
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

May 8, 2016

(Ascension) Seventh Sunday of Easter



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)

WE ARE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST

MISSION MOMENT: STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH – Beth Hunter

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

OLD TESTAMENT	Psalm 47	(O.T. p. 572)
NEW TESTAMENT	Gospel of Luke 24:44-53	(N.T. p. 93)
	Gospel of John 17:20-26	(N.T. p. 116)
SERMON	"That They May All Be One"	The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
CHOIR ANTHEM	<i>"I Will Give You Rest"</i>	Larry Shackley

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER		
CHORAL RESPONSE	<i>"Be Still and Know that I Am God"</i>	Bell

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

There is a time when it is appropriate to stand gazing into the heavens. There are seasons for withdrawing to pray. But there are also times to get to work. As we offer ourselves in the service of Jesus Christ, we return our tithes and extra gifts to extend ministry beyond the limits of our own reach.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY #780 **Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

With joy and gladness we dedicate our gifts to the service of Jesus Christ. May the abused find solace and courage; abusers be led to new awareness, sensitivity, and change; prisoners know the release from bondage; and all humankind be led to accept the saving grace of Jesus Christ. To this end, we offer ourselves with these gifts. Use us as ambassadors of your love. Amen.

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

*HYMN NO. 393	<i>"Blest Be the Tie that Binds"</i>	
BENEDICTION RESPONSE	<i>"May You Run and Not Be Weary"</i>	Murekami
POSTLUDE		

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

FLOWERS – The flowers today are given by Wendy and Mike Staggs in honor of their 11th wedding anniversary!

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH
DEACONS OF THE MONTH
LAY READER
USHERS

GREETER(s)
PASTOR
ASSOCIATE PASTOR
MUSIC DIRECTOR
ACCOMPANIST/ORGANIST
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Members of the Congregation
Carol Bates and Cyndi Gray
Diane Gordon
Stanley and Holly Gorgol
Tom and Andrea Cooper
Michael Bryan
Betsy McCall
The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
The Rev. Heidi Carrington Heath
Susan Handy
Jeff DeLangie
Lindsey Roman

First Parish Activity Calendar

Sunday, May 8

9:00am Sr. Choir Rehearsal ~ Luke
10:00am Worship ~ Currier
10:15am Sunday School ~ John
11:15am Children's Choir ~ Luke
11:30am Mission ~ A/B
11:35am Handchime Rehearsal ~ Luke
12:00pm Christian Ed ~ Nursery

Monday, May 9

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

Tuesday, May 10

9:30am Nutfield Gym ~ Currier
4:00pm GS Troop 20993 ~ Currier
6:15pm GS Troop 20321 ~ Luke
6:30pm Bible Study ~ Currier
7:00pm Music Committee ~ A/B
7:00pm OA ~ Nursery
6:30pm AA Book Study ~ Nursery

Wednesday, May 11

8:30am Rehab Fundraising Com. ~ A/B
12:30pm K.I.T. ~ Currier
6:00pm GS Troop 13152 ~ John

Thursday, May 12

4:30pm Daisy Trp 11080 ~ John
6:30pm CS Pack 405 ~ Currier/Luke/AB
7:00pm Sr. Choir ~ Luke

Friday, May 13

7:00pm AA Serenity Sisters ~ A/B

Saturday, May 14

2:30pm Tri-Ess ~ Classroom/John
7:30pm AA ~ Currier

Sunday, May 15

8:00am Historic Preservation ~ Archive
8:00am Youth Ministry ~ A/B
9:00am Sr. Choir Rehearsal ~ Luke
10:00am Worship ~ Currier
10:15am Sunday School ~ John
11:15am Children's Choir ~ Luke
11:30am Mission ~ A/B
11:35am Handchime Rehearsal ~ Luke

Scriptures – May 8

Psalm 47

To the leader. Of the Korahites. A Psalm.

¹ Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with loud songs of joy.

² For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome,
a great king over all the earth.

³ He subdued peoples under us,
and nations under our feet.

⁴ He chose our heritage for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

Selah

⁵ God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

⁶ Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

⁷ For God is the king of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm.

⁸ God is king over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.

⁹ The princes of the peoples gather
as the people of the God of Abraham.

For the shields of the earth belong to God;
he is highly exalted.

Luke 24.44-53

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.’

⁵⁰ Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵² And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³ and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

John 17.20-26

20 'I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word,²¹ that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.²² The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one,²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.²⁴ Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

25 'Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me.²⁶ I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.'