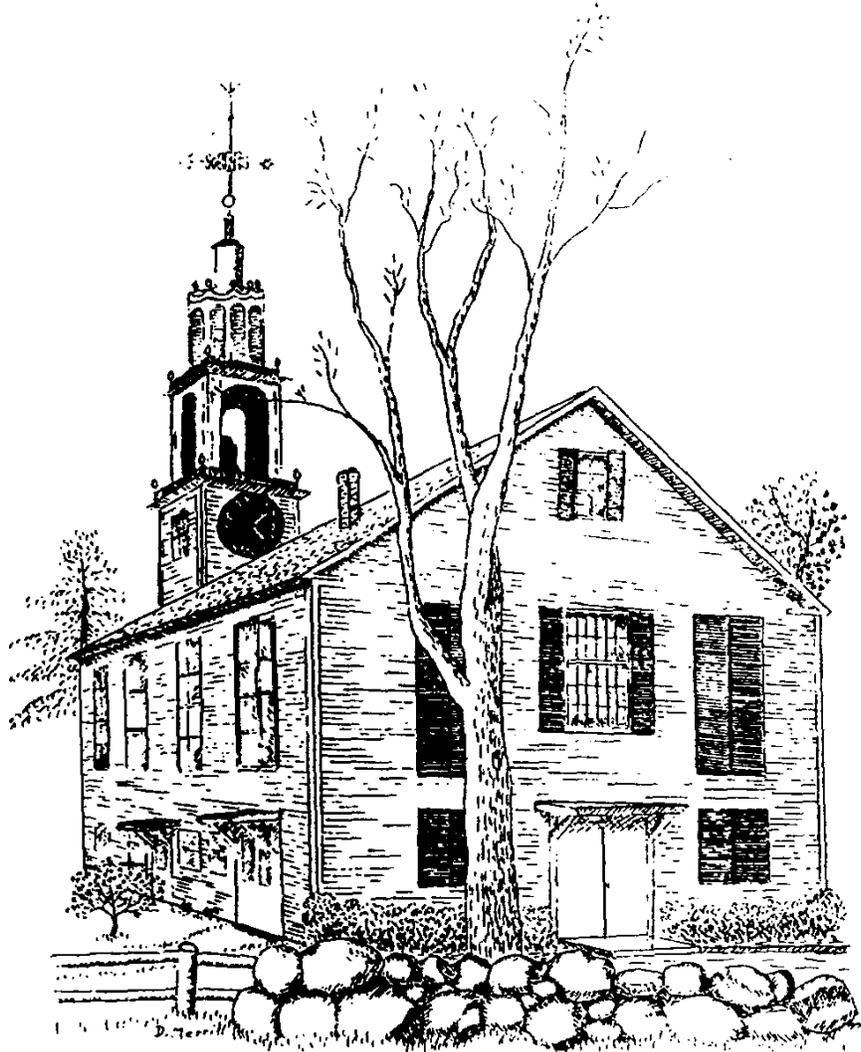


First Parish Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road  
East Derry, New Hampshire 03041  
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

**July 31, 2016**

**Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



*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)

**July 31, 2016**

**Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**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 TO ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

### **WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

\*HYMN NO. 6

*"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns"*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Creator is waiting to claim us now as God's own.

**All: We have come to meet the God who welcome's us.**

One: Listen, for God will speak to those who want to hear.

**All: Let us gather to experience God's steadfast love.**

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**Living God, we come as your children to be reclaimed and blessed. We need the inner strength that comes to us through worship. Take away the noisy clamor that would make us captives of human traditions. Turn us toward the source of our salvation, toward your steadfast love and faithfulness. Amen.**

\*SONG OF PRAISE #759

**Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit,  
Three-in-One; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen. Amen.**

### **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

*"Jesus Loves Me"*

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 and youth may now go to their classes.)

\*HYMN NO. 410

*"If Thou but Suffer God to Guide You"*

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

OLD TESTAMENT	Psalms 107: 1-9, 43	(O.T. pp. 619-620)
NEW TESTAMENT	Luke 11: 1-13	(N.T. p. 74)
SERMON	"Prayer Power"	The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

## WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

The faithfulness of God elicits our answering faithfulness. The good gifts of our heavenly Parent call for an outpouring of gratitude. May our offerings give evidence of abounding thankfulness.

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

**Holy God, whose name is before all names, we worship you with our offerings. They represent our labor, our investment of time and energy. We want them to be put to the best possible use. May they save many from the course of evil and turn them to faithful discipleship. May they provide bread for body and soul, that your people may be preserved and strengthened for ministry. Bless and multiply our efforts, we pray. Amen.**

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

\*HYMN NO. 419      *"Now Thank We All Our God"*

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE      **God be with you till we meet again;  
By good counsel guide, uphold you,  
With a shepherd's care enfold you:  
God be with you till we meet again.**

POSTLUDE

*\*Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH  
DEACONS OF THE MONTH  
LAY READER  
USHERS

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

Members of the Congregation  
Sarah Keller and Diane Dunn  
Diana Sweeney  
Ross and Linda Webber  
Kevin and Diane Gordon  
Michael Bryan  
Lisa and Wayne Hall  
The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof  
The Rev. Heidi Carrington Heath  
Susan Handy  
Jeff DeLangie  
Rebecca Cobban

**First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ**

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Interim Office Manager: Rebecca Cobban Email: [officemgr@fpc-ucc.org](mailto:officemgr@fpc-ucc.org)

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Our website [www.fpc-ucc.org](http://www.fpc-ucc.org) Find us and 'friend us' on Facebook [www.facebook.com/fpcucc](http://www.facebook.com/fpcucc)



**Food Pantry Donations** – We are in need of food pantry donations, they must be nonperishable and non-glass. Please help us support our local food pantry, every donation counts.

**NOT TOO LATE: Join us for Summer Faith Formation reading *The Shack* by William Paul Young!**\*\*

Tuesday evenings: July 26th-Tuesday, August 16th from 7-8:30 PM. And:

Wednesday morning: August 3rd-August 24th from 9:30-11 AM. All are welcome!

Books are still available in the office. Even if you can't join a reading group, come grab a book and enjoy!

**Slow-Flow Yoga** – Join Ali Bowen for slow-flow yoga on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.! Ali is a registered 200-hour YTT yoga instructor who has been attending First Parish since February. This three-week session will run from August 4th - August 18th, and the cost is \$25 for all three classes or \$10 per class. Twenty percent of the proceeds will benefit First Parish. No prior yoga experience required, but you will need to bring your own mat! Please sign up by Sunday, July 24th.

**Fireworks Cruise!!** – Join us on August 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm for the annual Youth Ministry Fireworks Cruise. Tickets are being sold after church, \$15 each or 4 for \$50. Please see Reni Harnden for more information.

**Congregational Information Gathering** – *August 14 after worship!*

We will hear important updates from the Building Advisory Committee regarding the plans for the connector. Please plan to attend.

**Do you play a musical instrument?** See Sue Handy or Bill Cheyne for more information. We will play during worship on Aug 14!

## **Psalms 107:1-9, 43**

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. <sup>2</sup> Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story— those he redeemed from the hand of the foe, <sup>3</sup> those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south. <sup>4</sup> Some wandered in desert wastelands, finding no way to a city where they could settle. <sup>5</sup> They were hungry and thirsty, and their lives ebbed away. <sup>6</sup> Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. <sup>7</sup> He led them by a straight way to a city where they could settle. <sup>8</sup> Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind, <sup>9</sup> for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.

<sup>43</sup> Let the one who is wise heed these things and ponder the loving deeds of the LORD.

## **Luke 11:1-13**

<sup>1</sup> One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.” <sup>2</sup> He said to them, “When you pray, say: ‘Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. <sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread. <sup>4</sup> Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.’ ” <sup>5</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup> a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him.’ <sup>7</sup> And suppose the one inside answers, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can’t get up and give you anything.’ <sup>8</sup> I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity he will surely get up and give you as much as you need. <sup>9</sup> “So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

<sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup> “Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? <sup>12</sup> Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”