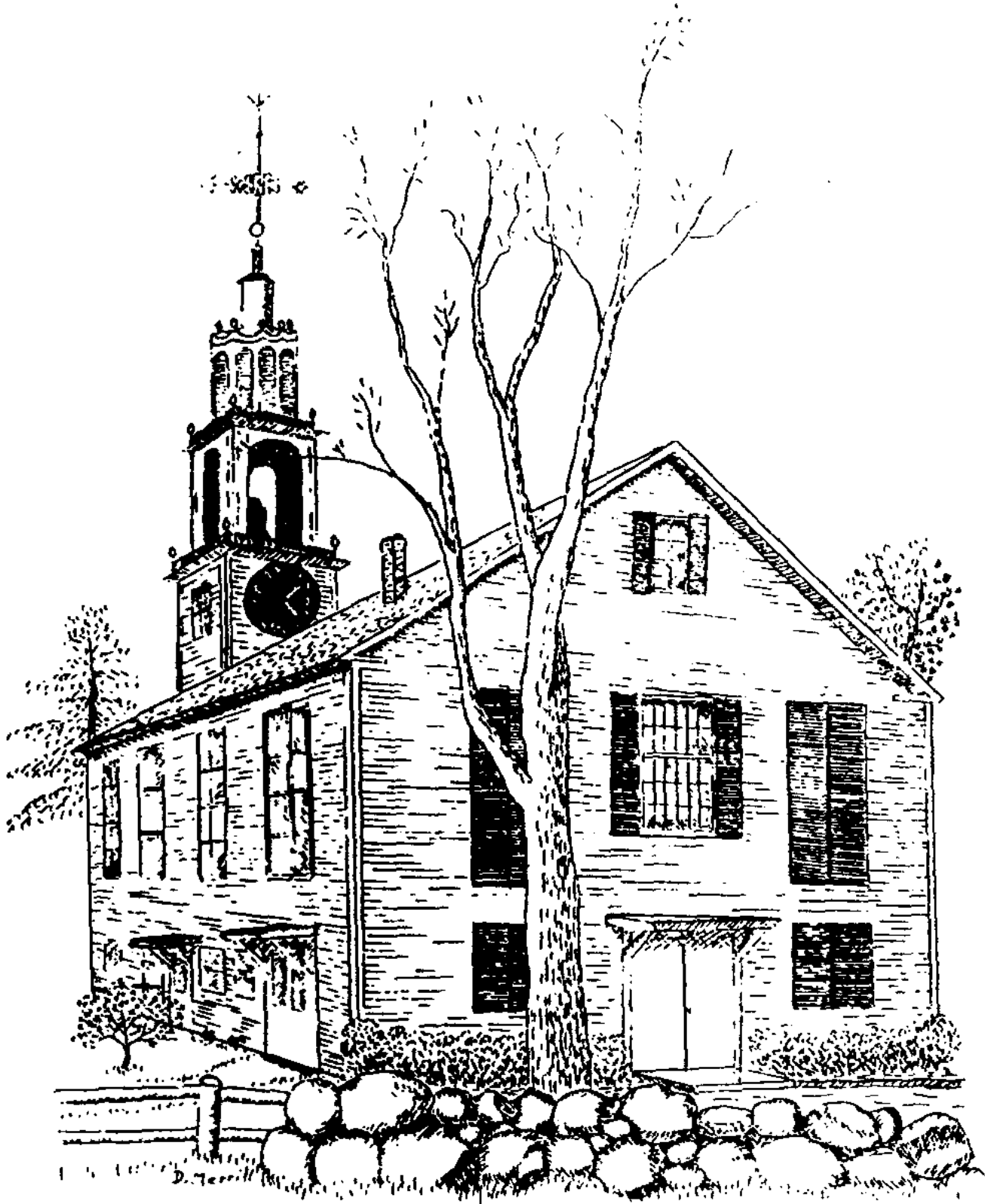


First Parish Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road  
East Derry, New Hampshire 03041  
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

**October 16, 2016      Twenty-Ninth 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)

**October 16, 2016**

**Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is a community of faith built upon a firm foundation of worship, prayer and education. In affirming diversity, we are dedicated to welcoming all people who seek the Word of God, Christian fellowship and service to others.**

**In partnership with Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, we reach out to the ever-widening community through active and loving ministry.**

**WELCOME TO ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS; SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS**

**WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

**\*HYMN #43**

*"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We gather to worship the God who has covenanted with us;

**All: Out help comes from God who made heaven and earth**

One: Let us open our eyes to meet God face to face.

**All: Let us open our ears to hear God's instruction.**

One: Come to taste God's Word, which is sweeter than honey.

**All: Let us walk with new understanding of truth.**

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**Sow your seed in our midst, O God, for we are prepared to receive what you offer. We want to know you and to bear fruit for your reign among us. We want to meditate on your law and keep your commandments. Draw us into the new covenant you have fashioned for us in Jesus Christ so that we may fulfill our ministry. Amen.**

**\*SONG OF PRAISE #756**

**Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo**

**Gloria, Gloria, Alleluia, Alleluia**

**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**

*"Come as a Child"*

**Come as a child, when He calls you to follow.**

**Just come as a child, for His love is untold.**

**Come as a child, when you seek His communion,**

**For then, all His blessings unfold.**

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

Sue Handy

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 #506

*"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"*

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE WITH STEWARDSHIP**

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US**

OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 121 (O.T. p. 633)

GOSPEL

Luke 18:1-8 (N.T. p. 83)

SERMON

*"Ask Boldly, Live Justly"*

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

CHOIR ANTHEM

*"Lord, Lord"*

Scott

**WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER**

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

**WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS**

OFFERTORY INVITATION

We do not lose heart amid all the problems that compete for our attention. We have the resources to make a difference in our work of evangelism, teaching, and outreach. What we dedicate here is a symbol of our larger commitment of time and talents to the work of ministry.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

\*DOXOLOGY #562, verse 1

**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

**With thanksgiving for your presence in all our coming and going,  
through all our work and leisure, in our times of faithfulness and when  
we break covenant, we bring our offerings. May these resources help  
your people to know you more fully and serve you more effectively.  
Equip us for every good work, that your church may witness boldly  
and influence profoundly. Amen.**

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

\*HYMN #531

*“God Speak to Me”*

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

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

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

Members of the Congregation

DEACONS OF THE MONTH

Fred Merrill & Jo Worthen

LAY READER

Sarah Keller

USHERS

John Bartel, Kevin Gordon, Diane Gordon & Michael Bryan

GREETER(s)

Connie Cox

PASTOR

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

The Rev. Heidi Carrington Heath

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Susan Handy

ACCOMPANIST/ORGANIST

Jeff DeLangie

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

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Office Hours: Monday -Thursday 9:00 AM – 3:00 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)



## Scripture Readings:

### Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills—  
from where will my help come?  
<sup>2</sup> My help comes from the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.  
<sup>3</sup> He will not let your foot be moved;  
he who keeps you will not slumber.  
<sup>4</sup> He who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.  
<sup>5</sup> The LORD is your keeper;  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.  
<sup>6</sup> The sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.  
<sup>7</sup> The LORD will keep you from all evil;  
he will keep your life.  
<sup>8</sup> The LORD will keep  
your going out and your coming in  
from this time on and forevermore.

### Luke 18:9-14

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. <sup>2</sup> He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. <sup>3</sup> In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my opponent.’ <sup>4</sup> For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, <sup>5</sup> yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’” <sup>6</sup> And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup> And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? <sup>8</sup> I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”