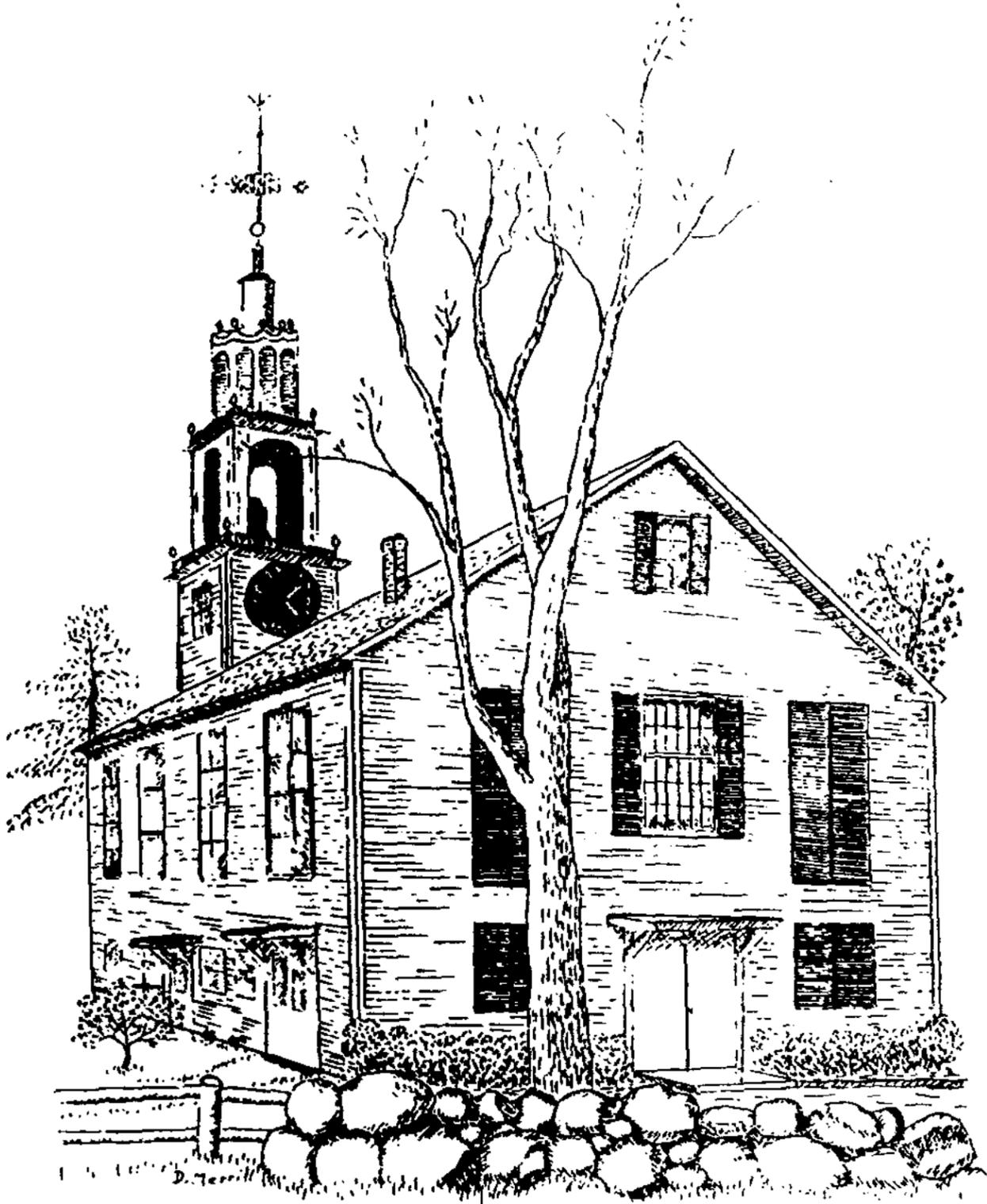


First Parish Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road
East Derry, New Hampshire 03041
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

November 6, 2016

All Saints Day



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)

WELCOME TO ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS; SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

*HYMN #298 I Sing A Song of the Saints of God

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We remember, O God...

**The countless saints of history
who have blazed a trail of courage through time,**

We remember, O God...

**The tender touch of loved ones, the example of heroes,
the healing words of comforters, the remarkable acts of fearless ones.**

We remember, O God...

**The gentle strength of grandmothers, the loyalty of friends,
the kindness of strangers, the joy of children, the sacrifice of parents.**

We remember, O God...

**The supreme love of Jesus, shown forth in the lives of his disciples,
young and old, dead and living, articulate and silent, strange and familiar,
brilliant and ordinary.**

We remember in every time and place the saints of God
who have shown us the Lord.

***Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...
let us worship God with joy!***

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of peace and courage, amidst the pounding of our hearts and the chaos of our
lives, we confess that we have not listened for your still small voice. We confess
that in the face of division and strife, we have allowed our fear to speak louder than
your love. We confess the fear that love can be vanquished, the light cannot shine
in the darkness, and that evil can overcome them both. Help us to hear the great
Communion of saints singing to us of forgiveness and help us to forgive. In Jesus
name we pray, 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

The Pastors

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.

(There is no church school today. All are invited to remain in worship.)

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION and HONORING OUR CLOUD OF WITNESSES

CHOIR ANTHEM In Remembrance arr. Buryl Red

INVITATION TO THE TABLE with the PRAYER of CONSECRATION

OUR SACRED STORY

SHARING the MEAL

*We celebrate Communion this morning by Intinction (dipping your bread into the cup of grape juice). All of the bread we use for Communion is now **gluten free**. You are invited to come forward where you will be invited to **receive a morsel of bread and dip it** into the grape juice. Your children are invited to participate and we trust that you will teach them the sacred meaning of this holy meal.*

REMEMBERING OUR GREAT CLOUD OF WITNESSES

As you approach the Communion table you are invited to hang your chime.

PRAYER of THANKSGIVING (in unison)

Thank you, God, for life in the Spirit of Jesus:

For gladness in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die,

For peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends,

For the glory of creation, for the mission of justice you have made our own. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

HYMN #298

O Savior for the Saints

OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 98

GOSPEL

Luke 20:27-38

SERMON

"Until We Meet Again"

Rev. Heidi Carrington Heath

CHOIR ANTHEM

For All the Saints

arr. Larson

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

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

**Lord, richly bless and multiply these offerings of gratitude; that all whose
lives they touch may know the grace and power of your love. Amen.**

WE SAY FAREWELL

A LITANY OF LEAVE TAKING the Pastors and the congregation

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

*HYMN Let There Be Peace on Earth

**Let there be Peace on Earth and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth - The peace that was meant to be.
With God, our Creator; Family all are we.
Let me walk with my Neighbor In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me - Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take -Let this be my solemn vow.
To take each moment And live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, And let it begin with me.**

BENEDICTION RESPONSE (Sung by the entire congregation)

***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

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

Psalm 98

1 Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.
2 The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations.
3 He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
4 Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music;
5 make music to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing,
6 with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn – shout for joy before the LORD, the King.
7 Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.
8 Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy;
9 let them sing before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Luke 20:27-38

27 Some of the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Jesus with a question.
28 “Teacher,” they said, “Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies and leaves a wife but no children, the man must marry the widow and raise up offspring for his brother.
29 Now there were seven brothers. The first one married a woman and died childless.
30 The second
31 and then the third married her, and in the same way the seven died, leaving no children.
32 Finally, the woman died too.
33 Now then, at the resurrection whose wife will she be, since the seven were married to her?”
34 Jesus replied, “The people of this age marry and are given in marriage.
35 But those who are considered worthy of taking part in the age to come and in the resurrection from the dead will neither marry nor be given in marriage,
36 and they can no longer die; for they are like the angels. They are God's children, since they are children of the resurrection.
37 But in the account of the burning bush, even Moses showed that the dead rise, for he calls the Lord ‘the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’
38 He is not the God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive.”