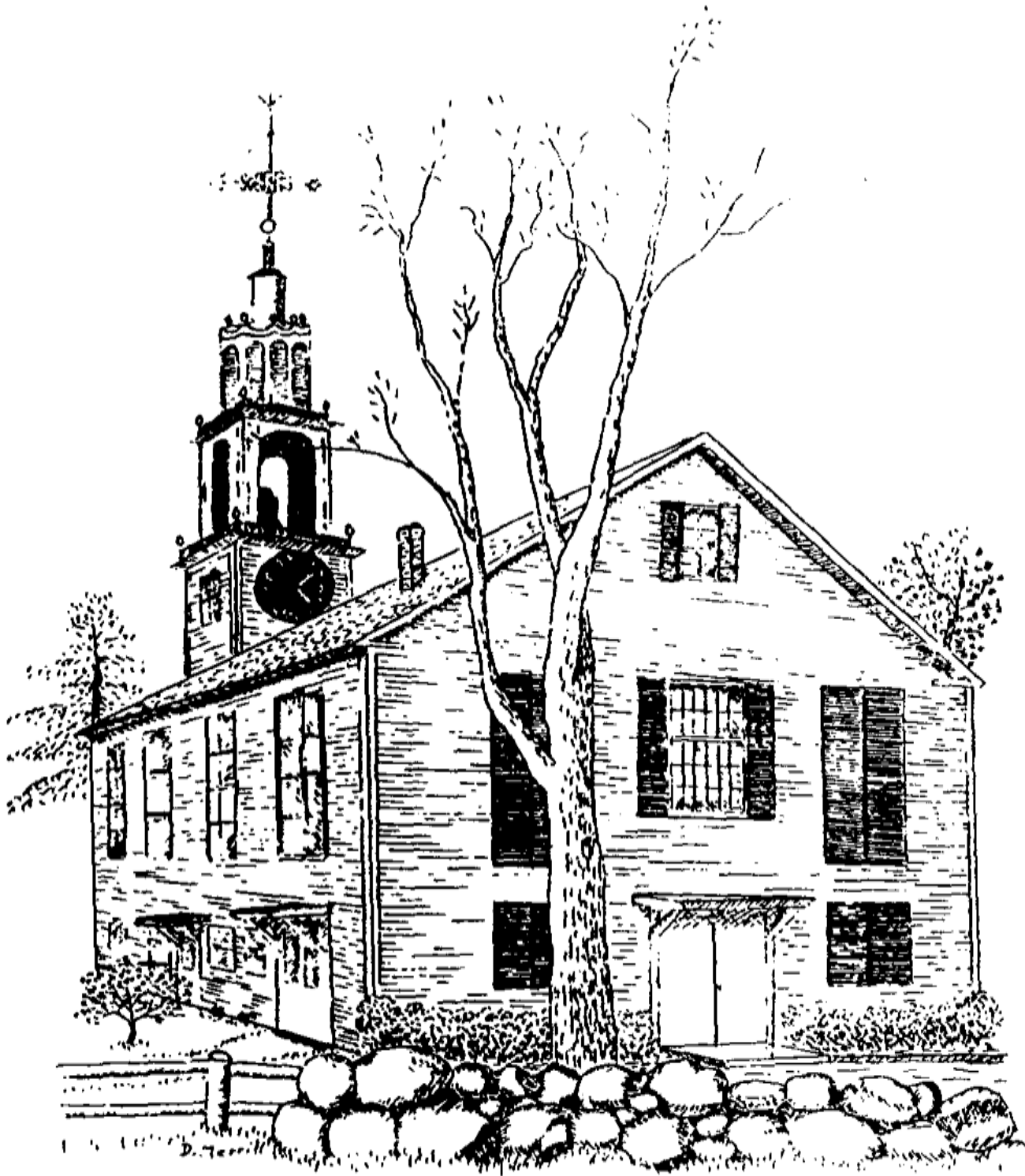


First Parish Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road
East Derry, New Hampshire 03041
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

April 2, 2017

Fifth Sunday In Lent



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)

April 2, 2017

Fifth Sunday In Lent

WELCOME TO ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our New Testament Gospel lesson will weave throughout this morning's service. It is a well-known story that is rather lengthy. Think of it as a 4-act play unfolding before you.

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

PRELUDE and CANDLE LIGHTING

*HYMN (Insert) *"Lord of the Dance"*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Come, listen for a word from our God.

All: The Spirit breathes life into our dry bones.

One: God offers hope when we have lost our way.

All: Our souls wait for the refreshment God offers..

***INVOCATION**

God of steadfast love, bring new life to this community of your people. We are eager to hear your voice and be filled with your spirit. Come from the four winds, O Breath, and bring vitality and purpose to our gathering, that we might be energized and encouraged. Amen.

***SONG OF PRAISE #756**

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

A READING FROM JOHN 11:1-16 – The Death of Lazarus

One: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord

Many: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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 #327

"Jesus Loves Me"

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Ken Williams

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

A READING FROM JOHN 11:17-29 - Jesus the Resurrection and the Life

One: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord

Many: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE with the PRAYER of CONSECRATION

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Break the Bread, Pour the Wine”

Mark Hayes

OUR SACRED STORY

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.

SHARING the MEAL

We celebrate Communion this morning by Intinction (dipping your bread into the cup). 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.

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.

(Children up through grade 4 are excused to go to their classes at this time.)

GOD’S WORD AND OUR PRAYERFUL RESPONSE

A READING FROM JOHN 11:30-37 – Jesus Weeps

One: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord

Many: Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Mercy

Boersma/Courtney

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHOIR RESPONSE

OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

We here offer ourselves and our resources that the winds of God might blow through our world with life-giving energy.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY #785

**We give you but your own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lift us up, O God, from the graves of our self-interest as we invest ourselves in sharing the good news with the world. Increase our gifts of time and treasure, that all who are drained of hope might have their minds set on the Spirit. May the Spirit raise them to new life as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus promised to Lazarus and to all who trust and follow where God leads. Amen.

GOD'S WORD

A READING FROM JOHN 11:38 - 45 – Jesus Raises Lazarus to Life

One: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord

Many: **Praise be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

PASTORAL MEDITATION - Divine Foreshadowing

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

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

*HYMN #433

"Hymn of Promise"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

DEACONS OF THE MONTH

LAY READERS

USHERS

GREETER(s)

SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER

MUSIC DIRECTOR

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

ACCOMPANIST/ORGANIST

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Members of the Congregation

Cyndi Gray and Diane Breeden

Cindy Pingree, Ken Gould, Diane Dunn, Cyndi Gray

Diaconate and Michael Bryan

Verna Elwell and Shirley Dickason

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

Susan Handy

Christine Lehoullier

Chris Ferrin

Hannah Collier

First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

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Our website www.fpc-ucc.org Find us and 'friend us' on Facebook www.facebook.com/fpcucc

