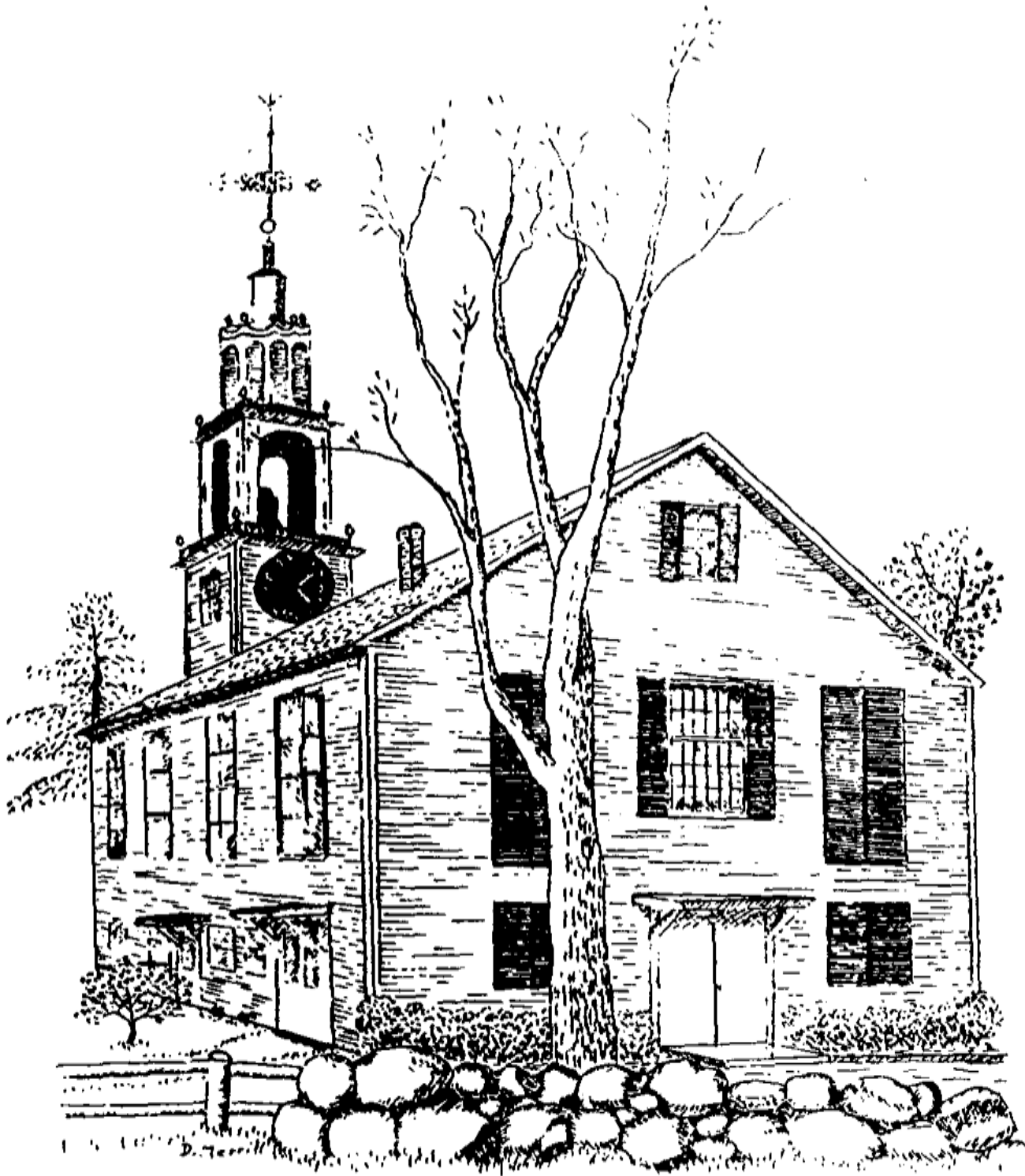


First Parish Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road  
East Derry, New Hampshire 03041  
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

**February 26, 2017**

**Transfiguration Sunday**



*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)

**February 26, 2017      Transfiguration Sunday**

**Thought for the day:** “One day our descendants will think it incredible that we paid so much attention to things like the amount of melanin in our skin or the shape of our eyes or our gender instead of the unique identities of each of us as complex human beings.”

Franklin Augustine Thomas (born 1934) is an American businessman and philanthropist. He was named Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York in 1964. He later served as Deputy Police Commissioner in Charge of Legal Matters for the New York City Police Department; he was the first African-American to hold the position.

**WELCOME TO ALL OF GOD’S CHILDREN**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS; SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

**WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

PRELUDE

\*HYMN #26

*“We Worship You, God”*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come up to the mountain of God’s presence.

Wait for God to reveal divine intentions for us.

**All: We are eyewitnesses to God’s majesty.**

**We have sensed God’s presence in stories of Jesus.**

One: Look up, and do not be afraid.

Jesus, whom you seek, is transfigured before you.

**All: We will serve our God with awe and trembling.**

**Happy are those who refuge is in God.**

\*INVOCATION

**Amazing God, as leaders of old sought high places of encounter with you, lift us up above the fogs of our technology that we might meet you in this hour. If our lives need a change of direction, turn us around. If there is a prophecy we have ignored, reveal to us its meaning for us. If the Scriptures hold truth we have overlooked, awaken our attention and grant us courage to respond in new and positive ways. Amen**

\*SONG OF PRAISE #759 Gloria Patri

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

**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

*“I’m Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing”*

I'm going to sing when the Spirit says sing (repeat 3x)

And obey the Spirit of the Lord

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**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

Ken Williams

## 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.**

## HYMN #183

*"Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain"*

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

OLD TESTAMENT	Exodus 24:12-18	(O.T. p. 76)
NEW TESTAMENT	Matthew 17:1-9	(N.T.p.19)
SERMON	"Walk in The Light"	The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
CHOIR ANTHEM	Take Me to Higher Ground	Carl Strommen

## WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHOIR RESPONSE

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

## OFFERTORY INVITATION

Our church seeks to strengthen its ministry, not only among those already committed to the journey with Christ, but to our neighbors and friends. Our giving is a symbol of our willingness to invest our time and best efforts to bring God's vision for humanity to life.

## 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

**God of clouds and dazzling light, we are amazed by the experiences of Moses and the disciples of Jesus. They point us beyond our everyday attempts to be faithful to you. May we sense the morning star rising in our hearts, giving hope to a world reclaiming the values of your reign among us. Amen.**

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

\*HYMN #282

*“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

DEACONS OF THE MONTH

LAY READER

USHERS

GREETER(s)

SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER

MUSIC DIRECTOR

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

ACCOMPANIST/ORGANIST

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Members of the Congregation

Ken Gould and Julie Turner

Ken Gould

Becky Fleury, Verna Elwell, Sue Hunt and Michael Bryan

Betsy McCall

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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Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9:00 AM – 4:00 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)

