

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 2, 2017**



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 2, 2017*

**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**

PRELUDE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand in body or Spirit.)

One: Early in the morning our thoughts turn toward God.

**All: We come, trusting in God's steadfast love.**

One: Let us bring our sorrow and pain to this healing time – and

**All: May God provide what we need to grow in Christ.**

\*HYMN #24 - The God of Abraham Praise

\*INVOCATION

**Eternal God, your provision for us is generous and compassionate, and your will for us is a commitment in love of you, of neighbor, and of self. May we give genuine welcome to all of your children, in your name and to your honor. Amen.**

\*SONG OF PRAISE #756

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

Do we believe that God will provide what we most need?

Are we willing to trust God?

This time of confession is not meant to weigh us down with guilt,  
but to free us to respond to God's love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**Free us, O God, from the weight of our own concerns that we forget your loving intention for us. We find it hard to view what is happening around us through any eyes but our own. It is hard for us, who so value our autonomy, to speak of obedience – even to You. Yet we have failed to love all of our neighbors and we have fallen short in forgiving those who sin against us. Help us, loving God. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God comes to us, not only from the past, but in every moment when we welcome another with even a cup of water in Christ's name. We are forgiven and renewed!

## **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 gonna sing when the Spirit says sing (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

\*HYMN #292 - Breathe on Me, Breath of God

## ***THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION***

INVITATION TO THE TABLE with the PRAYER of CONSECRATION

### **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 wafer into the cup). This morning we use **gluten free** wafers for Communion. You are invited to come forward where you will be invited to receive a wafer 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.**

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

OLD TESTAMENT	Psalm 13	(O.T. p.545)
NEW TESTAMENT	Matthew 10:37-42	(N.T. p. 11)
SERMON	Holy Hospitality	The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

## WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

What God has provided, we are now invited to invest in the disciple-making business of the church. Let us offer with generous hearts.

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

**We bring our offering, not with thought of reward, but because we are grateful. We give, not from guilt over having so much, but because it is such a privilege and joy to share. We dedicate these gifts, not to pay bills, but to enable a ministry that meets basic human needs with the good news of the gospel. Amen.**

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

\*HYMN #294 - There's a Spirit in the Air

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated until the postlude has concluded.)

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

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

DEACONS OF THE MONTH

Cindy Pingree and Reni Harnden

LAY READER

Pat Plouff

USHERS

Diaconate and Michael Bryan

GREETER(s)

Shirley Dickason and Verna Elwell

SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Susan Handy

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Christine Lehoullier

ACCOMPANIST/ORGANIST

Chris Ferrin

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Hannah Collier