

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

March 19, 2017

Third Sunday in Lent



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)

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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

*HYMN #

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: People of God, Where do we put our trust?

All: We lift up our eyes to the hills.

One: We are sons and daughters of Abraham and Sarah.

All: We are followers of Jesus, who proclaimed God's realm.

One: Our lives are a gift from God, who loves us.

All: By the grace of God, we are born anew each day.

*INVOCATION

Let the winds of the Spirit blow in our midst today, loving God. Let us hear the sound and feel the power. Open our hearts in new ways to the promise of your healing grace so we may be a blessing to one another and to your world. 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 #327

"Jesus Loves Me"

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Margie Ives

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 #473

"Blessed Assurance"

WE HEAR A CALL TO MISSION and SERVICE

MOMENT FOR MISSION: Community Caregivers Director Cindee Tanuma

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A GIRL SCOUT

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

OLD TESTAMENT Psalm 121 (O.T. p. 633)

NEW TESTAMENT John 3:1-17 (N.T.p. 96)

SERMON "Heavenly Hints to Majestic Metaphors" The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

CHOIR ANTHEM Standing on the Promises Carter, arr. Hayes

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHOIR RESPONSE

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

The faith that sustains us is not a commodity to be hoarded and protected. Rather, faith is an active dynamic relationship which God calls us to share with one another, not just in church, but with everyone. Our offerings make possible faithful ministries within the church and our outreach in the world.

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

Thank you, God, for glimpses of eternity in the daily experiences of life. We are grateful for encounters that lift the horizons of our vision. We rejoice in the teaching and care you have provided to us. Bless now the gifts we return to you for the programs and outreach of the church. Amen.

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

*HYMN #198

“Lift High the Cross”

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
Julie Dubisz and Joanne Worthen

Jaime Robinson

Brian Williams, Dee Deranian

John Bartel and Michael Bryan

Connie Cox

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

Susan Handy

Christine Lehoullier

Chris Ferrin

Hannah Collier



**Building girls of
courage, confidence,
and character,
who make the world
a better place.**

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

