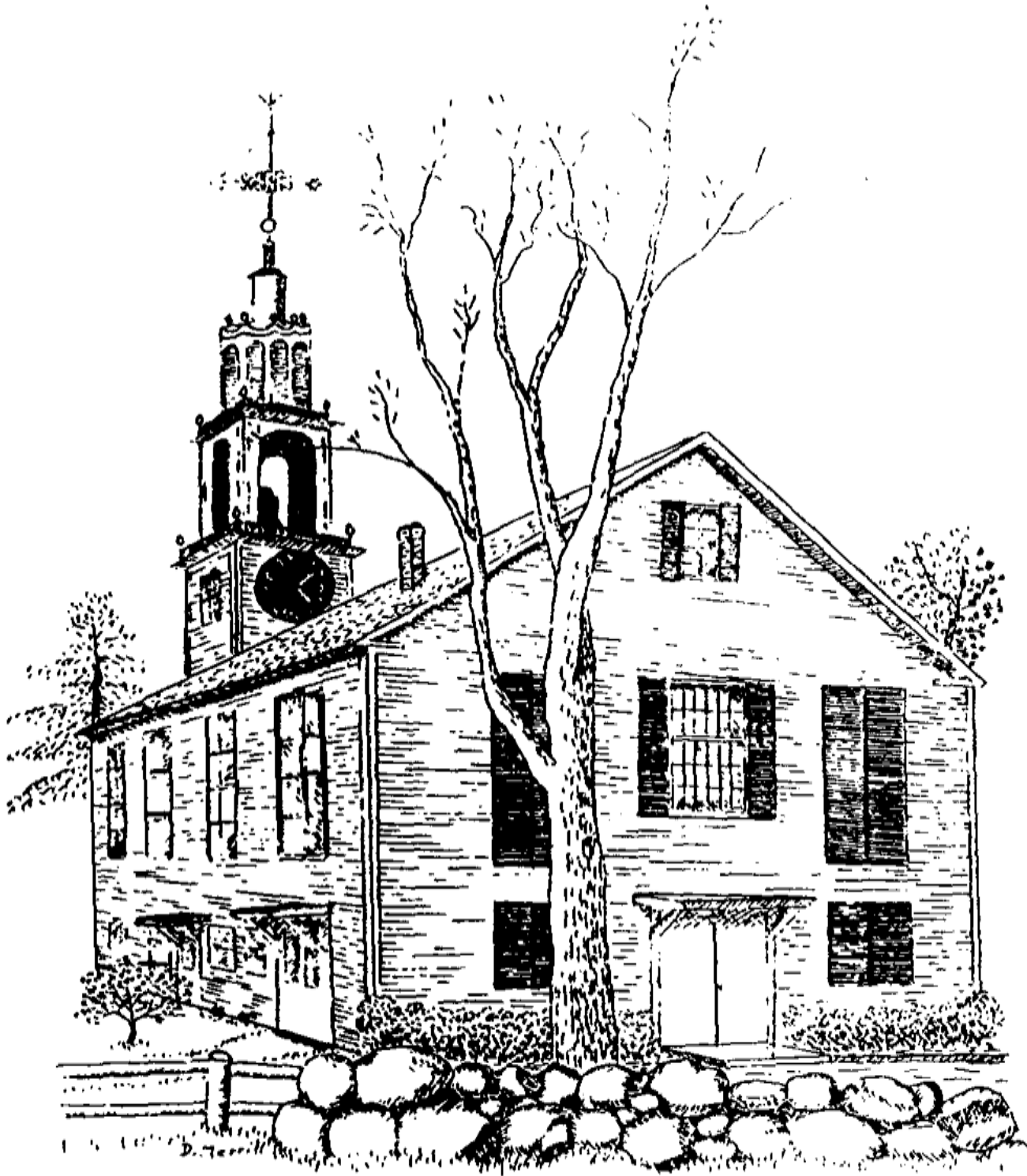


First Parish Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road
East Derry, New Hampshire 03041
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

May 14, 2017 **Fifth Sunday of Easter**



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)

May 14, 2017

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

*HYMN NO. 70

"God is Here"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God is our rock and refuge, a strong fortress.

All: Christ leads us and guides us every day.

One: Indeed, we have tasted the goodness of God.

All: We have known the presence of Christ, God's chosen one.

One: Each day, we are inspired by the living Christ.

All: We are here to ask and receive and to serve.

*INVOCATION

Open your heavens to us, God of all worlds. We are your people, sisters and brothers of your Chosen One. Let us this day be built into a spiritual house, a community of your faithful people. Keep us from judging those whose views differ from our own, or from throwing stones at those with whom we disagree. Rescue us from ourselves, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE #756

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

CHIME CHOIR

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

**In our thanks, these gifts we bring. For You give us everything.
Teach us how to follow You ~ in all we say, and all we do. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Katie Cobban

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 NO. 407

"How Firm a Foundation"

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

(O.T. p.558)

NEW TESTAMENT

Gospel of John 14:1-14

(N.T. p.112)

SERMON

Diana Sweeney

SPECIAL MUSIC

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

There are moments when the heavens seem to open up to us, and we sense the vast possibilities for life that God offers. We long to reach our God-given potential and to offer that opportunity to others. The tithes and offerings we bring are devoted to that purpose.

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**

We commit ourselves to you, gracious God, as we dedicate material gifts that represent our labor. Let your face shine on us and on this offering that your mighty acts may be proclaimed to all the world. Amen.

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

*HYMN NO. 436 *“God of Grace and God of Glory”*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH | Members of the Congregation |
| DEACONS OF THE MONTH | Ryan Lehoullier and Diane Dunn |
| LAY READER | Diane Dunn |
| USHERS | Verna Elwell, Sue Hunt and Michael Bryan |
| GREETER(s) | |
| 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 |

Pastor Deborah is on Study Leave from May 13th – 21st. While she is out of town you may reach out to Diana Sweeney (603) 965-5480 or your Deacon if you have a Pastoral Concern.

First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

PO BOX 114, 47 East Derry Rd East Derry, NH 03041 Tel. 603.434.0628 Fax. 603.437.3001

Email: officemgr@fpc-ucc.org

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

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