

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 21, 2017 Sixth Sunday of Easter



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 21, 2017

Sixth 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. 28

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The God of Heaven and Earth calls us together.

All: We come to explore matters of the Spirit.

One: There is so much we do not know or understand.

All: So much of God is unknown to us.

One: Let us worship the One who gives us breath.

All: Let us reach for the Reality beyond our knowing.

*INVOCATION

O God, we believe you are present with us even when we cannot feel or see or hear you as we would like. We thank you for the times when you have caught our attention. Hold us in your steadfast love and call forth within us an awareness of all your blessings. Stimulate among us an eagerness to live as you intend. 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

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.

WE HEAR A CALL TO MISSION

MOMENT FOR MISSION: Carol Bowen from the Friendship Center, Derry

*HYMN NO. 27 *"From All the Beauty of the Earth"*

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

OLD TESTAMENT	Psalm 66:8-20	(O.T. p.558)
NEW TESTAMENT	John 14:15-21	(N.T. p.112)
GUEST REFLECTION	Horton Center	Rev. Leslie Anne Chatfield
CHOIR ANTHEM	My Hope is Built on Nothing Less	Craig Courtney

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Our spiritual ancestors brought sacrifices as offerings to God. We are invited to join them in bringing our best to proclaim God's rule over all things. God claims our labors and the fruit of our labors. In response, we offer them gladly.

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**

May all that we give today be used to express your love among us and beyond us, God of all people. We are thankful for your gift to us in Christ Jesus, who was so committed to sharing your love that he risked rejection and death. May Christ live today through us, in our caring, in our giving in our speaking, in our doing. In your service. Amen.

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

***HYMN NO. 454**

“Lord I want to Be a Christian”

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

Julie Turner

USHERS

John Bartel, Brian Williams and Michael Bryan

GREETER(s)

Diane Breeden

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

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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