

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

November 5, 2017

All Saints' Day Celebration and Communion

WELCOME TO ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN



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)

November 5, 2017

All Saints' Day Celebration and Communion

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

CHIMES

GATHERING MUSIC: PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW!

LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT (Acolyte: Mikayla Henrick)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS; SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

(Reminder: On Communion Sunday Pastor Deborah makes the announcements.)

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

One: Come, all who hunger and thirst for truth.

All: Come to experience God's presence in community.

One: We have been called together as children of God.

All: What we may grow to become is not yet revealed.

*HYMN: #299 – For All the Saints

*INVOCATION

As we gather in this place, we join with all your saints in every time and place, O God, to celebrate your presence. You heal the brokenness within and among us. You rescue us from the cruelty we impose on one another amid our doubts and fears and frantic scrambling for attention. Help us in these moments to know your Spirit surrounding us, to sense your love embracing us, to realize your goodness, empowering us for joyous service. Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE #236

Halle, halle, halleluja. Halle, halle, halleluja.

Halle, halle, halleluja. Halle, halle, halleluja.

CALL TO CONFESSION

To be called saints evokes in us knowledge of the many ways we fall short of that title. Today we are summoned into God's Presence to give account to the One who knows us better than we know ourselves. We come to be purified and made whole.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Saving God, save us from ourselves. Rescue us from the fears that keep us from following where Jesus leads or trusting in your guidance. We have not hungered and thirsted for righteousness. We have not been pure in heart or humble-minded. We seek you now, O God. Redeem your children and fill us with the radiance of your self-giving love. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The realm of God is among us, and we are welcomed to experience its rewards here and now. Our Creator guides us to springs of living water, inviting us to quench our thirst. God feeds our hungers and wipes the tears from our eyes. Sing praise to the Spirit in whom we live and move and have our being.

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

"Come as a Child"

**Come as a child, when He calls you to follow. Just come as a child, for His love is untold.
Come as a child, when you seek His communion, for then, all His blessings unfold.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

In our hearts 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

Ken Williams

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

ANTHEM

"Table of Grace"

Pepper Choplin

OUR SACRED STORY with the PRAYER of CONSECRATION

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 morsel of bread into the cup). This morning we will use BOTH gluten AND **gluten free** bread for Communion. **The gluten free bread will be served by Pastor Deborah.** You are invited to come forward where you will be invited to receive a morsel 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 ARE CALLED INTO GOD'S SERVICE

Moment for Stewardship

"Friends of the Meetinghouse"

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

*HYMN #298 – O Savior, for the Saints

OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 107:1-7

(Insert)

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:1-12

(Insert)

GOSPEL

Matthew 23:1-12

(Insert)

SERMON

"Journey To Generosity"

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Shall We Gather at the River”

Arr. Patti Drennan

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE (insert) “We remember them”

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

We bring the first fruits of our labor and toil to honor our Creator and give thanks for the wonder of life. We want to share the steadfast love of God through the ministries of this church and through our mission for others near and far. Let us give with joy.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY #562 – Take My Gifts

**Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
gave me light and food and shelter, gave me life and set me free,
now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
now the bread of love is rising, loaves of love to multiply!**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Let your Word be at work in us, gracious God, and through the offerings we
present for your blessing. We are all your students. Let us also be your humble
servants, through the offering of our substance and ourselves. Amen.**

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

*HYMN #295 – I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

DEACONS OF THE MONTH

LAY READER

USHERS

GREETER(s)

MUSIC DIRECTOR

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

ACCOMPANIST/ORGANIST

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Members of the Congregation

Cindy Pingree and Reni Harnden

Pat Plouff

Diaconate and Michael Bryan

Verna Elwell and Shirley Dickason Roof

Susan Handy

Christine Lehoullier

Chris Ferrin

Hannah Collier