

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

**October 29, 2017      10:00am      Proper 25**

**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)

**WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

PRELUDE

PROCESSION LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT (Acolyte: Emily Raymond)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS; SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS  
(Please introduce yourself; give a brief description at this time; ask people to seek you out after worship.)

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

One: We gather together to hear stories of faith and courage.

**All: Let us listen for the ways God has acted among us.**

One: Our ancestors in the faith listen for God's word.

**All: They dared to believe God's promises.**

One: Let us seek community centered in Christ.

**All: Let us feel God's presence as we worship.**

\*HYMN: #25 – O God, Our Help on Ages Past

\*INVOCATION

**God, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the earth formed, long before there were people on this planet you were fashioning life in its myriad forms. We stand in awe before you, O God, and we want our lives to count for something. Show us how we pray. Amen.**

\*SONG OF PRAISE #236

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

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

**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

Sarah Keller

## 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 ARE CALLED INTO GOD'S SERVICE

Moment for Stewardship

Sarah Keller

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

\*HYMN #503 – O Savior, Let Me Walk with You

### OLD TESTAMENT

#### Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the LORD showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, <sup>2</sup> all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, <sup>3</sup> the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. <sup>4</sup> The LORD said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants’; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.” <sup>5</sup> Then Moses, the servant of the LORD, died there in the land of Moab, at the LORD's command. <sup>6</sup> He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. <sup>7</sup> Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. <sup>8</sup> The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. <sup>9</sup> Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the LORD had commanded Moses. <sup>10</sup> Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face. <sup>11</sup> He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, <sup>12</sup> and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

### NEW TESTAMENT

#### Matthew 22:34-40

<sup>34</sup> When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, <sup>35</sup> and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.

<sup>36</sup> “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” <sup>37</sup> He said to him, “‘you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ <sup>38</sup> This is the greatest and first commandment. <sup>39</sup> And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ <sup>40</sup> On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

SERMON

“Journey To Generosity”

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Reap What You Sow”

Pepper Choplin

\*Soloist: Larry Krantz

## WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

We who have been entrusted with the message of the gospel have the means to make it known to the world. Our tithes and offerings are dedicated to that purpose. As we present them, we also submit ourselves to God's purposes and direction.

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

**As we give ourselves and our offerings, we pray, O God, that they may reveal your love in such a way that many will respond. Awaken in us a love for you and for one another that is contagious. Remove from us all apathy, pretension, and greed that we may grow in holiness and compassion, living joyously in communion with you. Amen.**

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

\*HYMN #81 – God Be With You

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

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

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

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

DEACONS OF THE MONTH

Joanne Worthen and Ryan Lehoullier

LAY READER

Joanne Worthen

USHERS

Holly & Stanley Gorgol, Tom & Andrea Cooper and Michael Bryan

GREETER(s)

Connie Cox

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