

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 27, 2018 Pentecost 2 Sunday



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 27, 2018 Pentecost 2 & Memorial Day

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT

Acolyte: Katelyn Raymond

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS; SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

MEMORIAL DAY MOMENT OF SILENCE

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

One: Let us worship God in holy splendor.

Many: We are filled with awe before our God.

One: The voice of God offers strength and peace to all people.

Many: God is always creating, redeeming and sustaining God's children.

One: The universe is God's dwelling place.

Many: There is no place from which God is absent.

*HYMN: #277- Holy, Holy, Holy

*INVOCATION (unison)

O God, you are greater than our wildest imagining. When we speak of you, there are no words to describe your majesty and power. We know you best in Jesus of Nazareth who shared your love with everyone he met. We come together seeking renewal of the vows made at our baptism. Bless our worship that we may be a blessing to others. Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE #759

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three-in-One; As it is in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

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

"Jesus Loves Me"

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

Liz Greenberg

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 GOD'S WORD FOR US

*HYMN: #63 – Holy Spirit, Truth Divine

OLD TESTAMENT: Deuteronomy 6: 4-9

⁴ Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. ⁵ You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.

⁶ Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. ⁷ Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. ⁸ Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, ⁹ and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

NEW TESTAMENT: John 14:15-31

¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.” ²² Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us, and not to the world?” ²³ Jesus answered him, “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe. ³⁰ I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no power over me; ³¹ but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us be on our way.

SERMON: Creating, Redeeming, Sustaining God

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

CHOIR ANTHEM “Canon of Praise”

Pachelbel, arr. Hopson

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL PRAYER

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

As a sign of our rebirth in the Spirit, we offer back to God all that we have received in this life. This time of giving is a sacred symbol of our intent to live as God intends. We lift up our tiny tokens of thanksgiving, entrusting to the ministry of this church, here and around the world, not only these gifts but ourselves as well. The morning offering will now be received.

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

Receive our offering, God of glory, that our church may come alive in the Spirit. May these gifts, and the way we live our lives each day, proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. Strengthen us in our giving. Help us to be generous enough to experience the joy you find in showering us with more than we can ever give away. Thank you for the gift of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

*HYMN: #267 – Holy Spirit, Come Confirm Us

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated during the Postlude)



**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

DEACONS OF THE MONTH

LAY READER:

USHERS

GREETER

SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER

MUSIC DIRECTOR

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

ACCOMPANIST/ORGANIST

INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Members of the Congregation

Diane Dunn and Ryan Lehoullier

Reni Harnden

Pat Cefaly, Ken Gould, Dee Deranian,

Beth Hunter

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

Susan Handy

Christine Lehoullier

Chris Ferrin

Michelle Guerrin