

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

July 8, 2018 Proper 9



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)

July 8, 2018

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT

Acolyte: Laila Barcomb

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS; HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JULY BABIES;
SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

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

One: Great is our God and greatly to be praised!
Let us worship the One whose grace covers all our needs.

Many: The God of hosts is with us here.

We praise, with joy, God's holy name.

One: Ponder God's steadfast love in the temple.
Practice sharing that love while we are together.

**Many: God's love is amazing, beyond our understanding.
Let us seek to share the love we are receiving.**

*HYMN: #459 Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

***INVOCATION (unison)**

God of faithful elders and lowly followers, our sure defense and faithful guide, we invoke Your Presence among us in this time of praise. When we ponder your greatness, we are filled with awe. When we come to your holy mountain, we are amazed. Who are we to approach your majesty? How can we fulfill the covenant you offer us? Come, Spirit of truth, to show us the way. Amen.

***SONG OF PRAISE #759**

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three-in-One; As it was 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

I'm Going to Sing When the Spirit Says Sing!

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

Christine Lehoullier

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: #379 Come, We Who Love God's Name

OLD TESTAMENT: Psalm 48

GOSPEL: Mark 6: 1-13

SERMON: "From Astonishment to Amazement"

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

SPECIAL MUSIC: "What a Wonderful World" by Weiss/Thiele

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL PRAYER

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Some take offense when asked to give, but all of us are eager to receive. Jesus Christ turned these priorities around, giving thanks for the generosity of God's covenant with humanity but finding greatest joy in the opportunity to share. The morning offering will now be received.

OFFERTORY MUSIC: "I Love You" by Cole Porter

*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

Thank you, God, for your steadfast love. We offer our praise; may it reach to the ends of the earth. We ask that our gifts empower your ministry in this place and wherever our influence can reach. Let unbelief be turned to faith, ignorance to knowledge, sickness to health, brokenness to wholeness, both in us and in our neighbors near and far. Guide us, as we seek to invest our best for the sake of Christ. Amen.

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

*HYMN: #76 Sent Fourth by God's Blessing

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "God Bless America" Played by Bill Cheyne

CHORUS

God bless America, land that I love.
Stand beside her and guide her,
Thru the night with a light from above.
From the mountains, to the prairies,
To the oceans white with foam.
God bless America, my home sweet home.
God bless America, my home sweet home.

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

Members of the Congregation

DEACONS OF THE MONTH

Diane Breeden

LAY READER:

Anne Engelhardt LaDuke

USHERS

Ken Gould, Dee Deranian, Joan Crimlisk, Michael Bryan

GREETER

Liz Greenberg

SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Susan Handy

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Christine Lehoullier

ACCOMPANIST/ORGANIST

Chris Ferrin

INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Michelle Guerrin

GUEST MUSICIANS THIS MORNING

Dani Allen, Ben Allen, Bill Cheyne