

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

June 3, 2018 Communion 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)

June 3, 2018 Communion and Celebration

Celebration Sunday: together we celebrate the Call of Christ to work in and for the Kingdom of God here on Earth.

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD WITH JOY

LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT

Acolyte: Mikayla Henrick

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS; SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

PRESENTATION FROM THE BOY SCOUTS

PROCLAMATION I **Ephesians 1:15-19**

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

One: Listen, for your name is being called.

Many: Beyond the range of human voices, God is calling.

One: We have come to observe a Sabbath time.

Many: We have gathered to worship at God's command.

One: Let us listen for the unfamiliar voice you have ignored.

Many: We will listen for the solemn charge God gives.

HYMN # 495 Called as Partners in Christ's Service

***INVOCATION (unison)**

Speak to us, O God, for your servants are trying to listen. Amid the noisy claimants for our attention, our ears tingle at the prospect that you have a message for us. Here we are, gathered that you might search us and know us. We are wonderfully made in your image. Inspire us to live up to that image. Show us how to proclaim Jesus Christ in our daily decisions so we can witness to your love through deeds of kindness and words that empower. 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

CHILDREN'S CHOIR "God Made Me" by Jothen

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 Want 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

Anne-Marie Merrill

PRESENTATION OF PRAYER SHAWL TO HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

PROCLAMATION II 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3 Matt Gerling

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

CHOIR ANTHEM "In Remembrance" by Courtney and Red

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

This morning we will celebrate communion by coming forward, starting in the back of the sanctuary. You will receive bread (**gluten free** option will be served by the middle server) and a cup of grape juice. You will come forward to receive your morsel of bread. Eat it upon as soon as you receive it. Move to the next server where you will receive your cup of grape juice. Drink it as soon as you receive it. You may then leave the empty cup in the basket provided before returning to your seat. 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. (Children are excused

to their classes)

MOMENT FOR MISSION

PROCLAMATION III Philippians 1:3-4; 9-11 Marie Greene

Mission Guest Speaker: Jack Kennedy, HAS Health Access Sumbawa

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

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

OLD TESTAMENT: I Samuel 3:1-20

GOSPEL: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

SERMON: Thanking God is Celebration!

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

CHOIR ANTHEM "We are Called" Haas, arr. Hayes

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL PRAYER

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

PROCLAMATION IV 2 Thessalonians 1:3-4 Steve Davis

OFFERTORY INVITATION

We are people whom God has blessed with many gifts. God has done marvelous things for us. How will we, who have been baptized by water and the Spirit, respond to God's generosity? 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

Generous and loving God, we dedicate to your service the work of our hands, the earnings of our time and efforts, and our vision for the future. May faith sustain us as we offer our best to you in praise and thanksgiving and joyous dedication. Let our offering bear fruit in the lives of all who are helped by it. Amen.

WE GO OUT TO LAUGH AND LOVE AND SERVE A SMILING GOD

*HYMN: #584 I Am the Light of the World

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Members of the Congregation

Sue Hunt

Harry Handy

Diaconate

Verna Elwell, Diane Dunn

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

Susan Handy

Christine Lehoullier

Chris Ferrin

Michelle Guerrin

I Samuel 3:1-20

3 Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

² At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³ the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was.

⁴ Then the Lord called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵ and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶ The Lord called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again."

⁷ Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸ The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. ⁹ Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰ Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." ¹¹ Then the Lord said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle.

¹² On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³ For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴ Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

¹⁵ Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶ But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am."

¹⁷ Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." ¹⁸ So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the Lord; let him do what seems good to him."

¹⁹ As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰ And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

²⁶ "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷ You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

16:4b: "I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you.

⁵ But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts.

⁷ Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.

⁸ And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰ about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹ about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

¹² "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.