

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

**August 19, 2018      Proper 15**



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**

LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS; SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

**\*HYMN: #436 God of Grace, God of Glory**

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

One: We are called to faithfulness, as God is faithful.

We are the people of the covenant, gathered to please God.

**Many: Holy and awesome is God's name.**

**The "awe" of God is the beginning of wisdom.**

One: Come, then, as wise and faithful people.

Come as a beloved community of the redeemed.

**Many: We are amazed that God remembers us.**

**We reach out to the God who cares for us.**

**\*INVOCATION (unison)**

**God of steadfast love, your works delight our hearts and expand our thoughts. Your grace and mercy draw us together to praise you and to celebrate your wonderful deeds. Dwell among us today, and reign within the lives of each one gathered here, helping us to grow in discernment and understanding. Amen**

**\*SONG OF PRAISE #756: Gloria by Jaques Berthier**

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

Special Music "People Get Ready"- African American Gospel Tune

Dani Allen & Benjamin Allen

## **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

Anne-Marie Merrill

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. (Children are excused.)**

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

OLD TESTAMENT: Psalm 34:9-14

<sup>9</sup>O fear the Lord, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want.

<sup>10</sup>The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

<sup>11</sup>Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>Which of you desires life, and covets many days to enjoy good?

<sup>13</sup>Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit.

<sup>14</sup>Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

NEW TESTAMENT: **John 6:51-58**

<sup>51</sup>I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

<sup>52</sup>The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” <sup>53</sup>So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. <sup>54</sup>Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; <sup>55</sup>for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. <sup>56</sup>Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”

SERMON: You Are What You Eat

## WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN: #18 Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer (You may remain seated.)

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

As we make melody to God with our hearts and voices, let our hands also be employed in service. We can offer ourselves and the fruits of our labor that God may bless and multiply the good to be accomplished through them and us. The morning offering will now be received.

OFFERTORY MUSIC “Equinox”

John Coltrane

\*DOXOLOGY #760

(Masithi) Amen, siyakudumisa. (Masithi)

Amen, siyakudumisa. (Masithi)

Amen, Bawo, Amen, Bawo, Amen, siyakudumisa.

Amen, we praise your name, O God. (Sing amen.)

Amen, we praise your name, O God. (Sing amen.)

Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen,

Amen, we praise your name, O God. (Sing amen.)

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Your generosity, O God, is beyond our deserving. You surround us with vast resources and with people who love us. You allow us to make decisions about the use of our time and possessions and relationships. Thank you, God, for this opportunity to share with others some of what we have received. Amen.**

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

\*HYMN: #12 I Sing the Mighty Power of God

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated during the Postlude)

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

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

Members of the Congregation

DEACONS OF THE MONTH

Joanne Worthen and Carol Bates

LAY READER:

Cindy Pingree

USHERS

Stan & Holly Gorgol, Tom & Andrea Cooper

GREETER

Diane Dunn

SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

INTERIM DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Debbie Gline Allen

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Christine Lehoullier

ACCOMPANIST/ORGANIST

Chris Ferrin

INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Michelle Guerrin

**First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ,**

is a community of faith built upon a firm foundation of worship,  
prayer and education.

In affirming diversity, we are dedicated to welcoming all people who seek the  
Word of God, Christian fellowship  
and service to others.

In partnership with Christ and led by the Holy Spirit,  
we reach out to the ever-widening community  
through active and loving ministry.

**If you SHOP, help the church budget, just by doing what you already do!**

Remember that a percentage of the dollars that you are already spending at  
**Hannafords** and on **Amazon** could help the church financially – in a big way!

 gift cards are available for purchase or reload right after church!

OR go to  through our website: [www.fpc-ucc.org](http://www.fpc-ucc.org)

**BUT REMEMBER: Amazon Smile program does NOT offer us as much as going through our own website!! Don't be fooled by pop-ups!**