

First Parish Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road
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August 26, 2018 Proper 16



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)

PRELUDE

LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS; SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

*HYMN #4 — Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises; make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.
[Psalm 98:4 & 6b]

Many: [sing the 1st stanza of Joy To The World, #132]

One: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy
[Psalm 98:7 & 8]

Many: [sing the 2nd stanza of Joy To The World, #132]

One: He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.
[Psalm 98:9b]

Many: [sing the 3rd stanza of Joy To The World, #132]

*INVOCATION (unison)

**Come, O fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing your grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of endless praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unfailing love. Amen.**

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*SONG OF PRAISE (#759 tune)

**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.**

CHILDREN'S OFFERING Jesus Loves Me! #327

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

Debbie Gline Allen, C.M.C.F.

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.

OLD TESTAMENT: Psalm 100

- 1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
- 2 Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.
- 3 Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
- 4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.
- 5 For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

NEW TESTAMENT: Ephesians 5:18b-20

18b be filled with the Spirit, 19 as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, 20 giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON: Jesus Loves Me; It Is Well With My Soul
Debbie Gline Allen, C.M.C.F.

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN #547 — Amazing Grace (You may remain seated.)

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Take whatever I can offer — gifts that I have yet to find,
Skills that I am slow to sharpen, talents of the hand and mind,
Things made beautiful for others in the place where I must be:
Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.
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OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY #780**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above you heavenly host:
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**This gift we now bring, this present, this token, these words can convey it,
the joy of this day! When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing, this
song we now offer in honor and praise!**

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*HYMN #561 — When In Our Music God Is Glorified
(sung to the tune of #299)

BENEDICTION

For you shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. [Isaiah 55:12]

POSTLUDE

****** *Flowers this morning are given in celebration of the life and loves of Donald E. Noel. "You are still the one" – Love Cathy, Shanna, Melanie, River, Emery and Colleen***

Notes: Today's service of worship is a celebration of hymns and hymn singing. Wherever possible, we've included a hymn to either sing or read together based on each part of worship — prayers, scripture, the message, and of course the hymns themselves. Here are a few interesting facts about hymns:

- The word "hymn" actually refers to the text or poem.
- The tune we sing with a hymn is called the hymn tune.
- Check out the Metrical Index in the back of the hymnal (p. 902). The strange numbers here indicate the numbers of syllables in each line of a hymn. By using the Metrical Index, you can swap hymns with other hymn tunes. (Did you know that you also can sing the Doxology to the tune of Rock Around the Clock and Chim Chim Cher-ee?!)
- John Newton, the writer of the hymn, "Amazing Grace," was a slave trader in the 1700's who was the "wretch" he wrote of. He later became an Anglican minister who worked to abolish the slave trade.
- As a 15-year-old, Isaac Watts (1674-1748) referred to the hymns of his day as "dull and profitless." His father responded, "If you don't like these good old hymns we've been singing for years, I challenge you to write a better one." Over 600 hymns later, including "Joy to the World," it is safe to say that he did.
- Many 18th Century hymns contained up to 20 stanzas. Be thankful that our hymnal limits them to six or less!
- Charles Wesley (1707-1788) wrote 8,989 hymns in his lifetime. His most famous hymns are "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" and "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing."

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

DEACONS OF THE MONTH

LAY READER:

USHERS

GREETER

SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER

INTERIM DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

ACCOMPANIST/ORGANIST

INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Members of the Congregation

Ryan Lehoullier, Diane Dunn

Julie Turner

Diaconate

Joyce Pope

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

Debbie Gline Allen

Christine Lehoullier

Chris Ferrin

Michelle Guerrin