

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

October 28, 2018 Proper 25



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)

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love lyrics © Music Services, Inc

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
And we pray that our unity will one day be restored
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yeah they'll know we are Christians by our love
We will work with each other, we will work side by side
We will work with each other, we will work side by side
And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
Yeah, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
Songwriter: Peter Scholtes

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS; SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

*HYMN: #42 – O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God gathers us from many different places.

Many: No one is worthy, but all are invited.

One: God lifts us up when we stumble and leads us back to love.

Many: God cares for us amid our pain and losses.

One: We are delivered from our fears and saved from trouble.

Many: Happy are those who take refuge in a loving God.

*INVOCATION (unison)

All-powerful God, we invoke your presence among us. We need the knowledge and energy you alone can provide. Your ways are wonderful beyond our understanding. When our strength is spent, our vision clouded, and our hope gone, you reach out to us in ways we often fail to discern. We take heart to think that you are calling us to yourself, opening our eyes to see your wonders as if for the first time. Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE #236: Caribbean Halleluja

ANTHEM: What Does The Lord Require of You?

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 and 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

Kathryn Cobban

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 as we sing: **"Go now in peace. Go now in peace. May the love of God surround you everywhere, everywhere you may go."**

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WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

OLD TESTAMENT: Psalm 34: 1-7

- ¹ I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- ² My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.
- ³ O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.
- ⁴ I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.
- ⁵ Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- ⁶ This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord,
and was saved from every trouble.
- ⁷ The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

NEW TESTAMENT: Mark 10:46-52

- ⁴⁶ They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside.
- ⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸ Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"
- ⁴⁹ Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." ⁵⁰ So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹ Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again."
- ⁵² Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

SERMON: Spring Up to Be Healed!

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

HYMN: #476 – My Life Flows On (Please remain seated.)

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Our offerings are to magnify God's name and to express our deep sense of thanksgiving. They are also an expression of empathy and concern for sisters and brothers who struggle to find life. Giving reorients our lives to what is of lasting value and importance. Let us give as we are able - with joy!

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY 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**

We offer you more than money, O Lord; we offer ourselves. May the compassion and comfort we share with people in need serve to draw them closer to you. Keep us strong, that this church may give radiant witness to truth, constructive opposition to evil, and merciful redemption to those caught up in the wickedness of our times. Amen.

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

*HYMN: # 439 – A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

BENEDICTION

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

INTERIM DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

ACCOMPANIST/ORGANIST

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Members of the Congregation

Julie Turner, Cindy Pingree

Diane Dunn

Ken Gould, Dee Deranian, Nancy Berry, Michael Bryan

Joyce Pope

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

Debbie Gline Allen

Christine Lehoullier

Chris Ferrin

Michelle Guerrin