

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

**November 11, 2018      Proper 27**



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**

Teaching Moment: Praise our God together singing alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### **LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT**

INTROIT - Handchime Choir: "Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS; SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS**

\*HYMN: #43 – Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

### **\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Come, all who are anxious or burdened.

**Many: This is God's house, and we can meet God here.**

One: Come with expectancy and anticipation.

**Many: We are here to remember the ministry of Jesus.**

One: In our eager waiting, there is fullness of joy.

**Many: Unless we view our city as God's own, there is emptiness here.**

### **\*INVOCATION (unison)**

**In the security of your love, mighty God, it is well with our soul. Our work is fulfilling, our relationships reflect your faithfulness, and our ability to trust is strengthened. We are here, seeking an extra measure of reassurance, the restoration of our best selves and the clarification of our responsibilities. Be known to us now and save all who eagerly await your word. Amen.**

\***SONG OF PRAISE** - Praise Our God Together Singing Alleluia

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** Humble and Kind

## **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**

**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."**

Words & Music: Natalie Sleeth, © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc.; All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-708716.

## **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US**

OLD TESTAMENT: Ruth 3:1-5 and 4:13-17

One day Ruth's mother-in-law Naomi said to her, "My daughter, I must find a home for you, where you will be well provided for.

<sup>2</sup> Now Boaz, with whose women you have worked, is a relative of ours. Tonight he will be winnowing barley on the threshing floor. <sup>3</sup> Wash, put on perfume, and get dressed in your best clothes. Then go down to the threshing floor, but don't let him know you are there until he has finished eating and drinking.

<sup>4</sup> When he lies down, note the place where he is lying. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down. He will tell you what to do."

<sup>5</sup> "I will do whatever you say," Ruth answered.

<sup>13</sup> So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When he made love to her, the LORD enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son.

<sup>14</sup> The women said to Naomi: "Praise be to the LORD, who this day has not left you without a guardian-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel!

<sup>15</sup> He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons, has given him birth."

<sup>16</sup> Then Naomi took the child in her arms and cared for him.

<sup>17</sup> The women living there said, "Naomi has a son!" And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

NEW TESTAMENT: Mark 12:38-44

<sup>38</sup> As he taught, Jesus said, "Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup> and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. <sup>40</sup> They devour widows' houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely."

<sup>41</sup> Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts.

<sup>42</sup> But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

<sup>43</sup> Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others.

<sup>44</sup> They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

SERMON: It's Our Public Square

## **WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN: #591- This Is My Song

## **WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS**

### **OFFERTORY INVITATION**

We are privileged to contribute out of our abundance that the Christian message might be proclaimed among us and to our children. God challenges us to give out of gratitude and as witness to the love of God. The extent to which we invest ourselves is a measure of our commitment. The morning offering will be received.

### **OFFERTORY MUSIC**

\*DOXOLOGY #420 We Praise You, O God

### **\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We give in the spirit of Jesus, whose whole life was committed to proclaiming your love, gracious God. May our lives give evidence that we understand the care and compassion you have for all people, near and far, attractive and offensive, rich and poor. Our offerings today are a token of all the gifts we now invest in the work of your realm that is forever, with beginnings among us now. Amen.

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

\*HYMN: # 393 – Blest Be The Tie That Binds

### **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

Sue Lindemann, Harry Handy

Pat Plouff

Stanley & Holly Gorgol, Tom & Andrea Cooper, Michael Bryan

Liz Greenberg

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

Debbie Gline Allen

Christine Lehoullier

Chris Ferrin

Michelle Guerrin