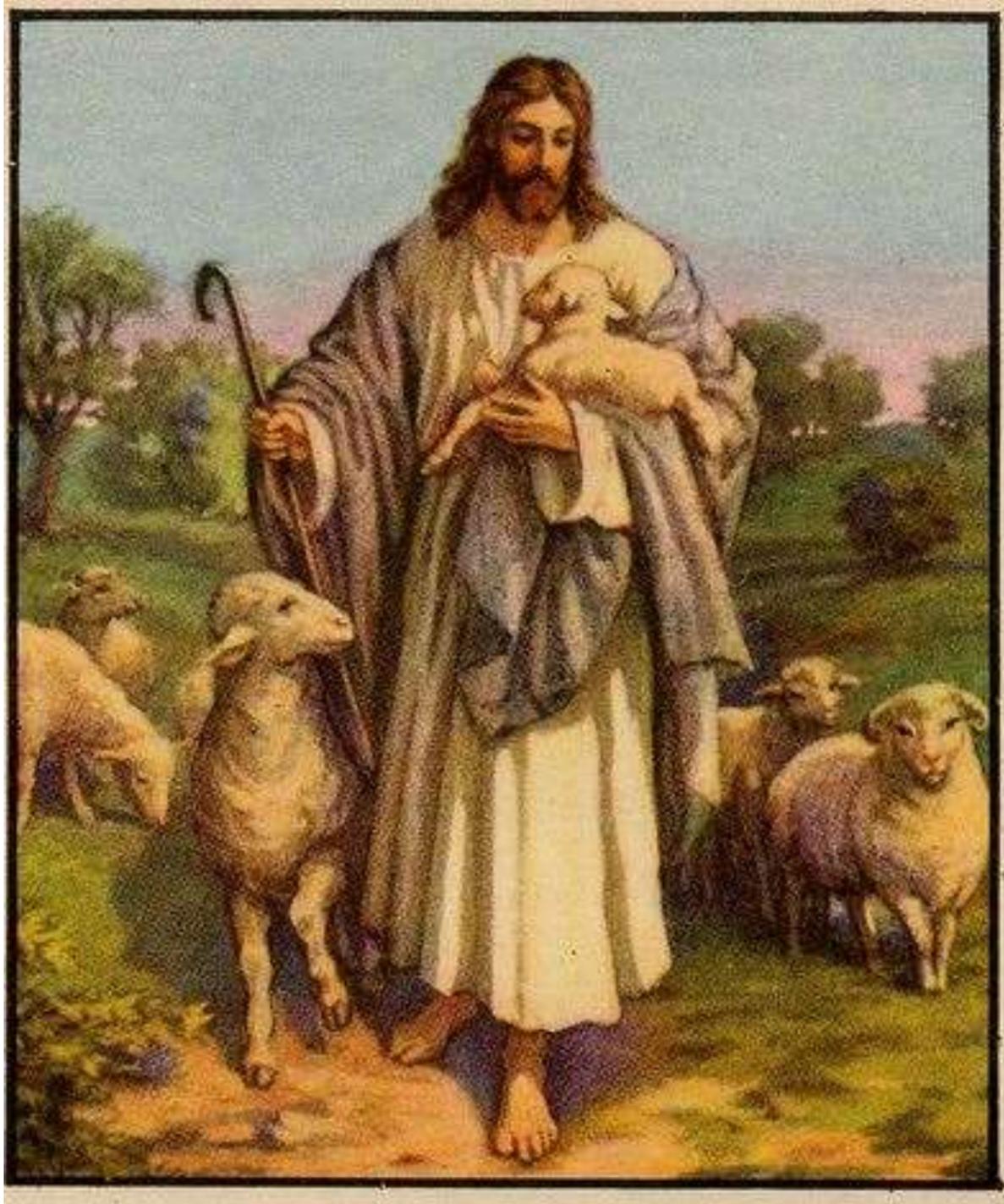


First Parish Congregational Church
P.O. Box 114, East Derry, New Hampshire 03041/ 47 East Derry Road
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

May 12, 2019
Fourth Sunday of Easter



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

INTROIT - Handchime Choir: "What a Friend We Have In Jesus" Arranged by Terry Osman.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS; SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

*HYMN: #252 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Arise, people of God, to greet the one who calls us;
come alive to the Spirit's energy among us.

**Many: God awakens us and restores our souls.
Surely God's goodness and mercy are with here.**

One: The shepherd is calling us to new ventures.
We are invited to a higher quality of life.

**Many: We will not fear to walk through shadowed valleys.
God's love in Christ is with us everywhere.**

One: Come to drink from springs of living water.
Gather to find comfort and blessing here.

**Many: Surely God will guide our search for truth.
We seek eternal values within our dally walks.**

*INVOCATION (unison)

Draw us together, Eternal One, from paths of aimless wandering. Lead us today toward the community you intend. Draw the fragments of our lives together into some meaningful whole. Help us deal with present concerns in constructive ways yet point us beyond ourselves to engage with you in larger issues. Help us feel the hunger and thirst of others; then lead your church to make a caring response. May your love fill us and overflow into other lives. Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE: Praise Our God Together Singing Alleluia!

ANTHEM: What Does the Lord Require of You? by Jim Strathdee

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

Christine Lehoullier

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

"FIRST" TESTAMENT: Psalm 23

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;

³ he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;

for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.

NEW TESTAMENT: John 10:22-30

²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter,
²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵ Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one."

SERMON by: Diana Sweeney, Member in Discernment

WE RESPOND WITH SILENCE AND PRAYER

*HYMN: The Summons (please see insert)

PASTORAL PRAYER and SILENCE

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Surely the goodness of God overflows in our lives, Take time to count your blessings. The works of God are all around us. In these moments, we have the opportunity to offer ourselves and our substance to extend God's work on earth.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY: To the tune of #215 ("Ride On, Ride On In Majesty")

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

Make these moments a feast of dedication to your purposes among us, loving God. May we serve you night and day, wherever we are, in all we do. Blessing, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power, and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen

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

*HYMN: #426 O God, Whose Steadfast Love

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated during the Postlude)

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

Members of the Congregation

DEACON

Ryan Lehoullier

LAY READER

Diane Dunn

USHERS

Stan & Holly Gorgol, Tom Cooper, Michael Bryan

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

INTERIM ACCOMPANIST

Kaitlyn Leahy

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Michelle Guerrin