

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

July 14, 2019



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

*HYMN # 454 Lord, I Want To Be A Christian

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God calls us together to rejoice in God's abundance.

Many: Let us give thanks and praise God together!

One: Lift up your prayers earnestly and seek to know the ways of love.

Many: We cannot earn eternal life but we can live lives of justice.

*INVOCATION (unison)

Almighty God, we are in awe with the knowledge that you know all our thoughts and deeds and love us still. We live imperfect lives but we strive to do better. Teach us, O God, in your ways of love and justice, and in compassion and faith. Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE #759 Gloria Patri

SPECIAL MUSIC: Love One Another, Fay Chary & Jim Stewart

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."**

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WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

NEW TESTAMENT: Colossians 1:1-14

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

²To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

³In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel ⁶that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. ⁷This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, ⁸and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. ¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

NEW TESTAMENT, GOSPEL: Luke 10:25-37

²⁵Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

²⁹But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

³⁰Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

³⁵The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' ³⁶Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?"

³⁷He said, "The one who showed him mercy."

Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

SERMON: Heartwork in Service to God

*HYMN #541 They Asked, "Who's My Neighbor?"

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASS THE BASKET FOR ZIMBABWE (Explanation found in Announcements)

PASTORAL PRAYER

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

You shall love God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and you shall love your neighbor as yourself. This love also motivates and activates our giving. As God has loved us, we return that love by offering our energy, time, and resources. The morning offering will now be received.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY: #780

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

May these gifts and our lives bear fruit in many good works, increasing among all people knowledge of God, patience and endurance, wisdom and understanding, love and joy. We would act with compassion toward one another and toward neighbors near and far. Thankful for the mercy you have shown us, we pledge ourselves and these offerings to extend mercy to all. Amen. (Please be seated.)

A MOMENT OF GRATITUDE

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

*HYMN #575 Oh, For a World

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

Ken Gould, Dee Deranian, Nancy Berry, Michael Bryan

GREETER

Tom Cooper

SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

CHOIR DIRECTOR/ ORGANIST

Joan Virga

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Christine Lehoullier

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Michelle Guerrin