

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

**June 30, 2019      4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost**



We baptized this sweet young man on June 9<sup>th</sup>.

**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)

**June 30, 2019**  
**Marilyn Ham's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

**WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand in body or Spirit.)

One: It is good to give thanks to God!

**Many: God knows our troubles and remembers our need.**

One: Declare God's steadfast love and faithfulness.

**Many: Let us seek listen for the voice of God, speaking to us again.**

\*HYMN #293 There's A Sweet, Sweet Spirit In This Place

\***INVOCATION (unison)**

**We turn to you, God of all worlds, knowing we can depend on you when earthly rulers stumble and fall, when other relationships are strained and broken, when we are faced with difficult challenges. It is good to sing your praises. It is good to declare your faithfulness. It is good to give thanks, for when we do, we are reminded of the multitude of blessings we so often take for granted. Lead us in this time of worship. Amen.**

\***SONG OF PRAISE #236 Caribbean Halleluja**

**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.**

Let us bless the children as they go: **"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 92:1-4, 12-15

- <sup>1</sup> It is good to give thanks to the LORD,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;  
<sup>2</sup> to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
and your faithfulness by night,  
<sup>3</sup> to the music of the lute and the harp,  
to the melody of the lyre.  
<sup>4</sup> For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;  
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.  
<sup>12</sup> The righteous flourish like the palm tree,  
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.  
<sup>13</sup> They are planted in the house of the LORD;  
they flourish in the courts of our God.  
<sup>14</sup> In old age they still produce fruit;  
they are always green and full of sap,  
<sup>15</sup> showing that the LORD is upright;  
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

NEW TESTAMENT: John 3:1-12

- <sup>1</sup> Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God."  
<sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."  
<sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?"  
<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup> What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."  
<sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"  
<sup>10</sup> Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"  
<sup>11</sup> "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?"

SERMON: Human Knowing Runs Out

HYMN #288 Let It Breathe On Me

## **WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER**

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

OFFERTORY INVITATION

God remembers our offerings of genuine thankfulness and regards with favor the sacrifices we make to extend God's realm. We give, not out of compulsion, but with joy. Let us give thanks as we present our tithes and offerings.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

\*DOXOLOGY #785 We Give You But Our Own

We give you but your own, whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.

\***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

All that we have is yours, O God. May our common ministry be extended by the time and talents and treasure we invest. We would no longer live just for ourselves but for the realization of your Presence among us. Let all things become new as we give our best. Amen.

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

\*HYMN: 59 Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated during the Postlude)

*\*Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH Members of the Congregation

DEACON

Diane Dunn

LAY READER

Ryan Lehoullier

USHERS

Brian Williams, Margie Ives, Pat Cefaly, Michael Bryan

GREETER

Liz Greenberg

SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

INTERIM MUSIC DIRECTOR

Debbie Gline Allen

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Christine Lehoullier

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Michelle Guerrin