

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

August 25, 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 #23 There's A Wideness in God's Mercy

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come together to listen for the voice of our Creator.

Many: The Word of God can change us to the core.

One: God rescues us from cruelty and injustice.

In steadfast love, God delivers us from adversity.

Many: We remember the rich heritage we have received.

We give thanks for God's grace and mercy.

*INVOCATION (unison)

We are known by you, gracious God. You are our hope and our trust.

Touch us here, for you are far beyond our reach. Dwell with us here

to lift our aspirations and inspire confidence among us. Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE #84 "This is the Day" (1st verse only)

This is the Day (twice) that our God has made! (twice)

We will rejoice (twice) and be glad in it (twice)

This is the Day that our God has made We will rejoice and be glad in it;

This is the Day (twice) that our God has made!

SPECIAL MUSIC: Be Not Afraid with Katie Herron

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

Ken Williams

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: Jeremiah 1:4-10

⁴ Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, ⁵ “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

⁶ Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” ⁷ But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a boy’; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you.

⁸ Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD.”

⁹ Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, “Now I have put my words in your mouth.

¹⁰ See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

NEW TESTAMENT: Luke 13:10-17

¹⁰ Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. ¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight.

¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.”

¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God.

¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the Sabbath day.”

¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? ¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?”

¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

SERMON:

HYMN # 14 How Can I Say

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Our gifts speak where we cannot go. They witness to people we will never meet. They praise God who has provided for us every day of our lives. Let us give thanks through our offerings.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY #8 Praise to the Living God (1st verse only)

Praise to the Living God, the God of love and light,
Whose Word brought forth the myriad suns and set the worlds in flight;
Whose infinite design, which we dimly see,
Pervades all nature, making all a cosmic unity.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, we cannot ignore your blessings, nor can we forget all your benefits. Accept these offerings as expressions of praise and acts of true worship. We are grateful for the opportunities you grant us to help others. May healing come to all who suffer. Use us and our gifts to bring the changes for good that you intend for our world. Amen

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

*HYMN #531 God, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated during the Postlude)

Special thanks to our guest Katie Herron.

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

Members of the Congregation

DEACON

Sue Lindemann

LAY READER

Pat Plouff

USHERS

Stanley Gorgol, Holly Gorgol, Tom Cooper, Michael Bryan

GREETER

Liz Greenberg

SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER

The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

CHOIR DIRECTOR/ ORGANIST

Joan Virga

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Christine Lehoullier

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Michelle Guerrin