

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

July 21, 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

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Sung)

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy, tried and true
With thanksgiving, I'll be your living
Sanctuary for you.

*HYMN # 1 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, people of faith, trusting God's steadfast love.
Take refuge in the eternal presence.

Many: **We want to acknowledge God first In our lives.
We seek to rely on a power beyond ourselves.**

*INVOCATION (unison)

Awesome God, we thirst for your Word. We long to make sense of the things we do not understand. We want our worship to be more than a quick diversion from tasks that seem more pressing. We want to believe there is more to life than seeking personal gain. Meet us here with truth we cannot avoid and compassion we dearly need. Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE #759 Gloria Patri

SPECIAL MUSIC Air by J.S. Bach

Peter Diodati, Harmonica

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

OLD TESTAMENT: Psalm 42

¹ As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

When shall I come and behold the face of God?

³ My tears have been my food day and night,
while people say to me continually, “Where is your God?”

⁴ These things I remember, as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.

⁵ Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help ⁶ and my God.

My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember you
from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.

⁷ Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your cataracts;
all your waves and your billows have gone over me.

⁸ By day the LORD commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.

⁹ I say to God, my rock, “Why have you forgotten me?
Why must I walk about mournfully because the enemy oppresses me?”

¹⁰ As with a deadly wound in my body, my adversaries taunt me,
while they say to me continually, “Where is your God?”

¹¹ Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: (Psalm 42) (remain seated)

As the deer longs for flowing streams

So longs my soul for you, O God.

My soul does thirst for the living God

When shall I come to see your face?

NEW TESTAMENT: Luke 10:38-42

³⁸ Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to what he was saying.

⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.”

⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴² there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”

SERMON: As a Deer Longs

CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: More Precious Than Silver
Lord, You are more precious than silver
Lord, You are more costly than gold
Lord, You are more beautiful than diamonds
And nothing I desire compares to You.

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

The psalmist laughs at those who trust in wealth. Let us use our wealth to proclaim the one in whom we really trust, that creative energy of love who fills the whole universe and has been revealed to us in Jesus Christ. The morning offering will now be received.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Peter Diodati, Harmonica

*DOXOLOGY: #780

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Through our offerings, loving God, we proclaim Christ to the world. We dedicate all we are giving to spreading your compassion and welcome in the world. We offer ourselves as advocates for the poor and needy, as seekers for justice, and as stewards of hope. We turn from false securities to put our confidence in you - that the mystery of your glorious Word may be opened up among all your people. Amen

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

*HYMN #386 The Church's One Foundation

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated during the Postlude)

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

Members of the Congregation

DEACON

Sue Lindemann

LAY READER

Fred Merrill

USHERS

Stan & Holly Gorgol, Tom Cooper, 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