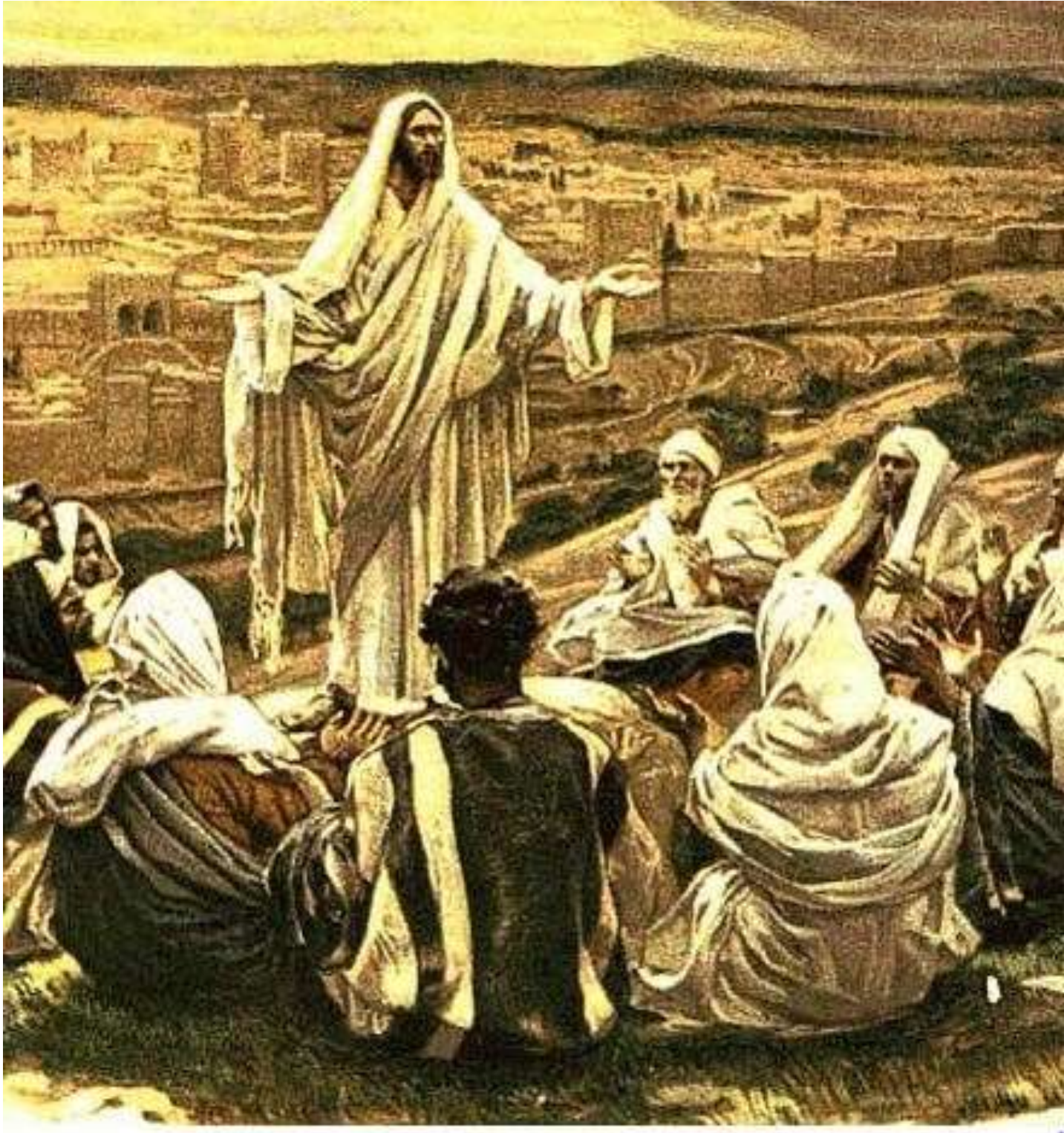


First Parish Congregational Church
P.O. Box 114, East Derry, New Hampshire 03041/ 47 East Derry Road
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

July 28, 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

One: God is eager to restore us to right relationships.
Many: We have gathered to experience God's steadfast love.
One: Listen, for God will speak to those who want to hear.
Many: Let us open ourselves to the Source of Peace.
One: God restores us to faithfulness and righteousness.
Many: Let us ask; let us search: and let us knock.

*HYMN # 519 Standin' In the Need of Prayer

*INVOCATION (unison)

Living God, we come as your children to be reclaimed and blessed. We need the inner strength that comes to us through worship. All week long we have wrestled with emptiness and deceit that surrounds us. Take away the noisy clamor that would make us captives of human traditions. Turn us toward from division; turn us toward your steadfast love and faithfulness. Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE #759 Gloria Patri

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 (Debbie Gline Allen will teach us the sung version.)

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 85

¹ LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

² You forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin. *Selah*

³ You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.

⁴ Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away your indignation toward us.

⁵ Will you be angry with us forever?

Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

⁶ Will you not revive us again, so that your people may rejoice in you?

⁷ Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

⁸ Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

⁹ Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

¹¹ Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.

¹² The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

¹³ Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps.

NEW TESTAMENT: Luke 11:1-13

¹ He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." ² He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

⁵ And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; ⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' ⁷ And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' ⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹ "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

SERMON: "Ask, Search, Knock"

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

HYMN #505 Sweet Hour of Prayer (remain seated)

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

The faithfulness of God elicits our response in faithfulness. The good gifts of our heavenly Parent call for an outpouring of gratitude. May our offerings give evidence of abounding thankfulness. The morning offering will now be received.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY: #780

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, whose name is before all names, we worship you with our offerings. They represent our labor, our investment of time and energy. We want them to be put to the best possible use. May they save many from the course of evil and turn them toward faithful discipleship. May they provide bread for body and soul, that your people may be preserved and strengthened for ministry. Bless and multiply our efforts, we pray. Amen.

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

*HYMN #506 What a Friend We Have In Jesus

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated during the Postlude)

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

DEACON

Rachel Cobban

LAY READER

Jack Martin

USHERS

Dusty Patrick, Joan Crimlisk, Nancy Berry, Michael Bryan

GREETER

Maury Davidson

SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER

Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

CHOIR DIRECTOR/ ORGANIST

Joan Virga

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Christine Lehoullier

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Michelle Guerrin