

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

November 3, 2019
All Saints Day



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)

**A special welcome to our “cousins” from Aghadowey,
N. Ireland.**

We are blessed by your presence among us.

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

PRELUDE “The Fall of the Leaf” by M. Peerson

LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS;

*HYMN # 299 For All the Saints (vs 1-3)

* CALL TO WORSHIP – Psalm 149 1-3 (Please stand in body or Spirit.)

One: Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song,

Many: his praise in the assembly of the faithful.

One: Let Israel be glad in its Maker;

Many: let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

One: Let them praise his name with dancing,

Many: making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.

*INVOCATION (unison)

Come among us, holy God. Awaken us from easy conformity to the norms of our society so that we may encounter the Gospel of Christ with fresh integrity. Grant us faith that expects great things from You and dares great things because of You. Amen. (You may be seated.)

CALL TO CONFESSION (liturgist)

Come closer to God. Sense anew the wonders of creation and the marvels of human life. What have we taken for granted? How have we misused the gifts of God? Where there is faith that transforms, there will be trust that changes the way we view our responsibility and our culpability. Confession and forgiveness can re-attune us to the grace of God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison prayer)

God of all people, forgive us for claiming to be Christians when our faith is so shallow and our good works so limited. We have not dared to trust You fully. We have not expected Your promises to be fulfilled among us. Instead, we have guarded our own interests, and relied on our limited understandings and lingering doubts. We have settled for a lukewarm relationship with you. O God, forgive us and draw us closer to you. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (liturgist)

Remember that Jesus Christ gave life itself for our sins, to set us free from the evil of our present times. The good news is ours to receive, to integrate into our lives, and to pass on to others. Accept God's forgiveness and sing a new song to God.

***SONG OF PRAISE:** Praise Our God Together Singing
Alleluia

ANTHEM: "Aire" by Henry Purcell

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 SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

COMMUNION HYMN #321 – Break Now the Bread of Life

OUR SACRED STORY

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION and 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.

SHARING the MEAL

As we celebrate Communion today, **you will remain seated.** The elements will be brought to you - the

ushers will serve each half-row. You will first be invited to take the bread – **which you will HOLD so that we can ALL take the bread together.** This symbolizes that we are ONE BODY and that we are all one in the Spirit of Christ. (Please let us know if you need gluten-free bread.)

You will then be invited to take a cup of grape juice which symbolizes the cup of wine that Jesus shared with his friends, saying “This is my blood shed for you.” You are invited to prayerfully drink the cup in your own time. This demonstrates that we are each individuals in God’s Presence - each one doing the best that they can to be the hands and feet of Christ on this earth.

PRAYER of COMMUNION THANKSGIVING (in unison)

Thank you, God, for life in the Spirit of Jesus:

For gladness in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die,
For peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends,

For the glory of creation, for the mission of justice you have made our

own. In the name of Jesus, we pray. 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

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 1:11-23

Ephesians 1:11-23

¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.

¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason

¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.

¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

SERMON: Believers, and Disciples, and Saints – oh my!

HYMN: Shine, Jesus, Shine

Shine Jesus Shine by Graham Kendrick

Lord, the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness, shining
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
Set us free by the truth you now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me

Refrain:

Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light
Lord, I come to your awesome presence
From the shadows into your radiance
By the blood I may enter your brightness

Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me
Refrain:
Shine, Jesus, shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze, Spirit, blaze
Set our hearts on fire
Flow, river, flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy
Send forth your word
Lord, and let there be light

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION (liturgist)

God sent Jesus among us to demonstrate God's love and compassion for all people. We respond as His disciples. Let us bring our gifts to glorify God and to extend awareness of God's present in our world. Let us praise God through our giving. The morning offering will be received.

OFFERTORY MUSIC "Masquerade Royale" by Roger North

*DOXOLOGY #420 We Praise You, O God

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)**

Thank you, God, for having given us all the good things we enjoy. We respond in generosity in order to further the ministry of Your church locally and around our world. Amen.

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

***HYMN #295 I Sing a Song of the Saints of God**

BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE (Please remain seated) "The Gobbie-O" by
Anonymous**

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

**MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH-Members of the
Congregation**

DEACONS-Rachel Cobban, Joanne Worthen

LAY READERS Friends from Aghadowey,

USHERS

GREETER Tom

SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER The Rev. D

CHOIR DIRECTOR/ ORGANIST

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Christine Lehoullier

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

General Announcements November 3, 2019

Please visit the table in the lobby! We have many exciting opportunities to learn about and participate in

- **Newsletters are available!** This month includes articles about proposed bylaws changes, upcoming events and holidays. If you would like to receive it via email, please let us know - officemgr@fpc-ucc.org or they are available online.
- **Worship Flowers and Coffee Hour Signup sheets~** A wonderful opportunity to acknowledge special people and events in our life.
- Advent Workshop and Christmas Pageant Sign Ups.
- **Used Clothing Drop-Off Shed- Ready for donations!** Items accepted; Clothing, shoes, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, pillowcases, curtains and stuffed animals. Reduce waste in landfills, the items are used worldwide and we receive funding based on the weight (much like the Savers program last year!) These donations can also be used by us when we have a specific need as identified by R.E.A.C.H. or Missions. Please take a flyer.
- **Sugar Plum Fair! November 23rd!** We will be accepting White Elephant items starting today after Worship Service. Please fill out the volunteer signup sheet and give to Cathy Pottle or leave in the office. There is also a list of White Elephant items that we are unable to accept.
- **Brunching for Dollars -** extended offer November & December– **Sunday, 10am-3pm!** East Derry Tavern will

donate 10% of the check back to First Parish Church.
Please take a flyer and head over for Brunch!

Music Highlights- Chimes will officially begin rehearsing on Nov. 3 around 11:15. Choir will rehearse two Wednesdays Nov 6 and Nov 13. Rehearsals are moving back a half hour: 6:30 – 8:00

Ken Gould is in Mass General, cards can be sent to his home address: 7 Riverwoods Dr. Apt P202
Exeter, NH 03833

Final Tally now in on the BRICK Fundraiser: We cleared **\$11,417.70** for the Meetinghouse! Thank you to everyone who participated. Thank you to Bill Smallwood for the fine job he did laying the bricks!

Mark your calendars!

November 3rd ~ 11:15 Chime Rehearsal

November 5th ~ 6:30 Adult Faith Formation

November 10th ~ 11:30 By-Law Meeting, Christian Ed Meeting, Fundraising Meeting

Purchase or reload your  gift cards after church.

You can help the church budget by when you shop at Hannafords.

A percentage of the dollars that you **already** spend at Hannafords can help the church.

Checks can also be dropped off at the church during office hours. Thank you!

Holiday Shopping is around the corner! Amazon shopping: Do your Amazon shopping by going FIRST to the church website: www.fpc-ucc.org This program is different from Amazon Smile. We receive a much larger percentage of profit by going through our website.

First Parish Congregational Church IN OUR PRAYERS – November 3, 2019

PRAYERS OF JOY

Brittany (Pastor Deborah's daughter) & Jeremy welcomed Harlan Nathaniel, at 6:54pm on Oct. 21!

Thank you, Bill Smallwood of W.J. Smallwood Landscaping! Bricks look great!

Thank you, Paper Angels! We are good for now!

Harvest Supper- Wonderful seeing families and friends!

Thank you to all volunteers!

Wonder Wednesday Worship is such a breath of fresh air!

An oasis in these troubled times.

Gratitude to people who are catching up with their pledges!

SoulCollage* and Labyrinth presentations were very well received at the NH UCC women's retreat!

Thanks to Liz and Pastor Deborah and the 12 women from First Parish who attended!

Kindness Rocks – with gratitude to Christine Lehoullier, our kindness ambassador

REACH is a success and an education for everyone who participates!

Preservation Timber Framers have been a joy to have on our property. Prayers of Gratitude!

PRAYERS OF HEALTH and HEALING

The family of Bill VenderWoude, who passed away after a long struggle with cancer

Prayers for Paula Robinson and family

Ken Gould has been moved to Mass General awaiting tests. Alyssa Mulhern and her family, she is a friend of Diane Breeden, she was diagnosed with breast cancer and surgery is planned in a month.

Marge Palmer's sister Ruth in Wisconsin is in need of our prayers.

Jo Worthen's sister Barb continues to struggle with cancer.

Marge Palmer's Brother in law, Steve, passed away. Prayers for Nancy and the family.

Jo Worthen's co-worker Cindy lost her sister to cancer, leaving her husband and a 9 year son

Family and friends of Alice Coller who passed away on October 8th in West Lafayette, Indiana.

Family and friends of Jeanne Stauffer who passed away.

Maria, Joan Virga's daughter, for her overall health and speedy recovery!

Shellie, her fellow staff and the hospice patients they care for Martha, close friend of Pat and Dick Plouff, being treated for recurring leukemia.

Lynn Dinan, continued prayers for health and healing

Connie Cox's sister, Suzie: her husband Kent passed away after a long illness.

Randy Lariviere and his wife Dee - Medical Concerns (Randy)

Jessie Brooks, friend of Tim Beers, for strength

Tommie Pitts – medical concerns

SPECIAL ONGOING PRAYERS

Aghadowey Rural Kinship – their safe travels and enriching visit in the US!

Karen and Bob Wilson on their exciting year long voyage!

Southern NH Family Promise

Avis Hanson, Marjorie Palmer's cousin's wife, battling, and in treatment for, cancer

Dangamvura – UCCZ – Zimbabwe African Church

Jay Bingel – Health & strength

Tim Beers – Health & strength

Bob Dinan, father of Karen & Bob Wilson's friend Kristen Wilson, ongoing struggle with cancer

Brian Krantz and ALL of the Wildland Firefighters this fire season

Victims of floods and fires and violence; Refugees and their families

People of color and members of the LGBTQ+ community

Friends of the Meetinghouse Board of Directors

Our Covenant Partner: Pastoral Counseling Services, Inc.