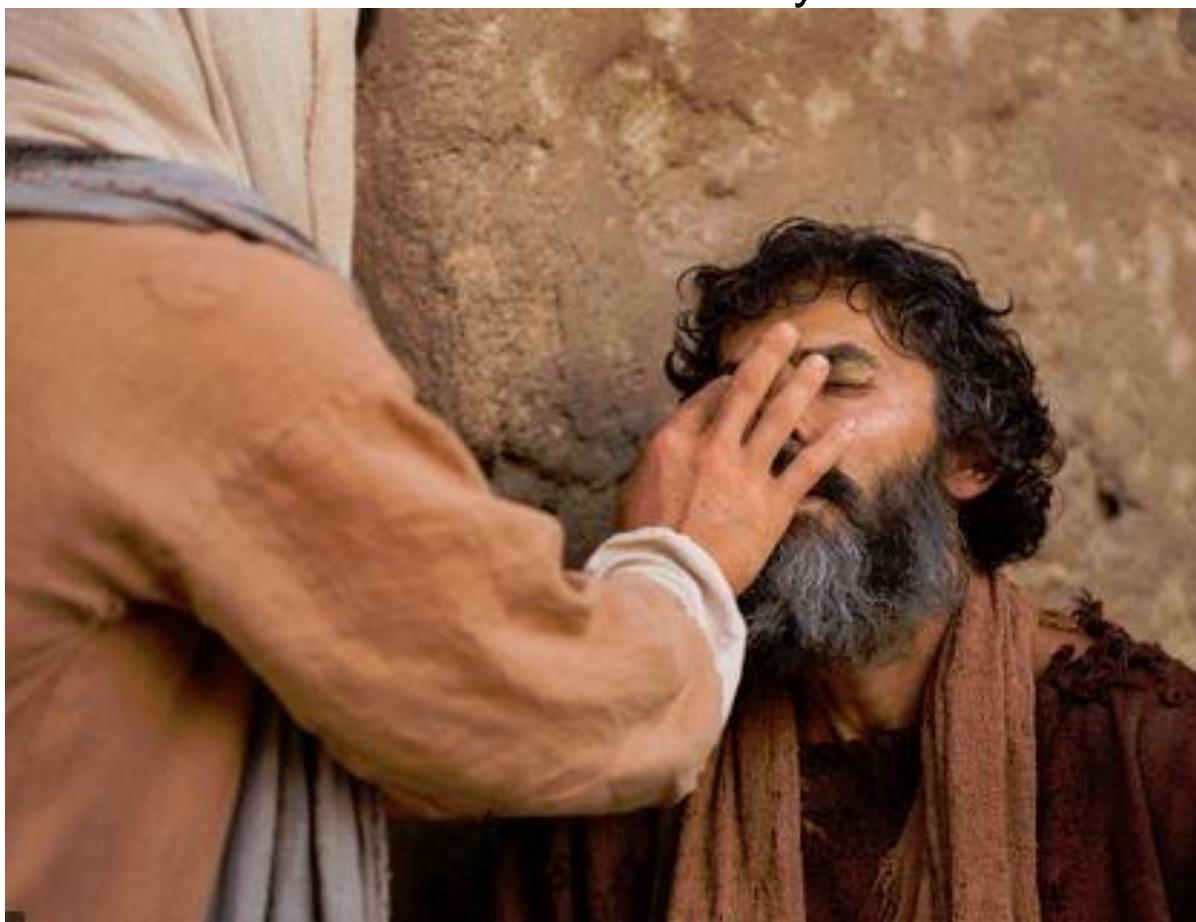


First Parish Congregational Church
P.O. Box 114, East Derry, New Hampshire 03041/ 47 East
Derry Road
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

March 8, 2020
Girl Scout Sunday



BARTIMEAUS HEALED

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

CENTERING MUSIC and LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN # 172 Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult

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

One: Let your minds ponder the splendid works
of God.

Many: There is pulsating life all around us.

One: Sun and rain proclaim God's infinite imagination.

**Many: It is God who shares with us wisdom
and understanding.**

One: We gather to worship and praise the God of
all people.

**Many: We long to find meaning and purpose for
our days.**

*INVOCATION (unison)

**Source of all things, how shall we honor your
majesty? You are so unknowable, yet evidence of
your work is all around us. The mystery of life in all its
many forms, the discoveries we are allowed to make,
the sweep of knowledge entrusted to our use, the
amazing resources of this planet - all speak of a God
who cares, who honors us, who provides for our
spirits. Let this time of meeting honor you and equip
us to do your will. Amen.**

***SONG OF PRAISE #188 Give Me a Clean Heart: Give me a clean heart so I may serve you. God, fix my heart so that I may be used by you. For I'm not worthy of all these blessings. Give me a clean heart and I'll follow you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC: I'll Fly Away Medley

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.

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

NEW TESTAMENT: Mark 10:32-52

³² They were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, ³³ saying, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the Gentiles; ³⁴ they will mock him, and spit upon him, and flog him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise again.”

³⁵ James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” ³⁶ And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” ³⁷ And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” ³⁸ But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” ³⁹ They replied, “We are able.”

Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

⁴¹ When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴² So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³ But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

⁴⁶ They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside.

⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

⁴⁸ Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”

⁴⁹ Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.”

⁵⁰ So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹ Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” ⁵² Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has

made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

SERMON: “The Cup I Drink”

*HYMN #475 God’s Eye is on the Sparrow

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYERS

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

For Jesus, a life lived for others was the only life consistent with God's reign. The church exists to increase among us the love of God and neighbor, and to build within us the deep conviction that we are beloved, valued, people of worth. It is to this high mission that we devote our offerings for ministry in this community and throughout God's world. The morning offering will now be received.

OFFERTORY MUSIC: Spirit of the Living God

***DOXOLOGY Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We give with joy, loving God, in thanks for all you have allowed us to experience. By your love, we have survived

and learned and grown. We dedicate these gifts that more people may be brought to the feet of Jesus, who is the eternal source of compassion and peace. Amen.

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

*HYMN #474 I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated during the Postlude)

**Indicates all that are able may stand.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH Members of the Congregation

DEACON Rachel Cobban

LAY READER Dee Deranian

USHERS Jack Martin, Michael Bryan

GREETER Shirley Dickason

SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof

CHOIR DIRECTOR/ ORGANIST Joan Virga

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Michelle Guerrin

General Announcements March 8, 2020

Easter Flowers forms are available in the lobby and online. The deadline to order is **March 15th**.

Lenten Services - We continue to gather Wednesday evenings of Lent. There will be food fellowship at 6:00, followed by a service **or program** at 7:00. This week we

continue to observe a “traditional pot luck”. No sign-ups. Everyone pitches in. Please come early to help set up so that we may eat at 6:00. Bring something to be shared. Nancy Heywood will be talking about the stained glass windows!

301st Anniversary First Parish Meetinghouse Coloring Contest! March 5th -31st , 2020! Please pick up and drop off anytime between today and March 31st . The deadline is noon on the 31st . Open to ages four and up! A winner will be selected from each age group and will be awarded a commemorative prize and the opportunity to ring the Meetinghouse bell on April 18th at noon. Download the picture and the rules at www.fpc-ucc.org

Every year Horton Center recruits hands on workers to open up camp for the season. It will be 5/15 - 5/17/20. Help if you can. Here is the

link: <https://hortoncenter.org/camps/opening-work-days/>

Lent is a great time to shed unused items of clothing or other soft goods! Take advantage of our Used Clothing Drop-Off Shed! Items accepted: Clothing, shoes, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, pillowcases, curtains and stuffed animals. Please take a flyer in the lobby.

Harriet Tubman: anyone who would like to make a financial contribution to the Tilton Veteran’s Home in honor of Carolyn Ferguson-Wilson whose wonderful program was presented Wednesday evening: there is an envelope in the back this morning. Or see Pastor Deborah.

Mark your calendars!

Tuesday March 10th ~ 7:00 Finance Meeting - Cook

Wednesday March 11th ~ 6:00 Potluck/ 7:00 Stained glass windows program with Nancy Heywood

Sunday March 15th ~ 11:30 Gathering of the membership about a financial direction

Monday March 16th ~ 7:00 Council Meeting - Cook

Saturday March 21st ~ 9:00 Sunday School Volunteer Meeting- AB

Sunday March 22nd ~ 11:30 Vacation Church Camp Volunteer Informational Meeting -AB

Family Fun Night March 13th ~ Take a break at the end of your busy week! Enjoy time with family & friends and make new friends while we provide dinner. Learn something that you didn't know about someone and finally learn that person's name you've been sitting across from in service. Fun for all ages and one of many Family Fun events this year! Please join us from 5:30 pm - 7:30.

Vendor Bingo is returning~ mark your calendar for Friday **April 3rd** 5:30-8:30. Come join a fun night of free bingo and win a prize from a vendor. We will be playing 10 rounds of bingo at no cost to you and the winner of each round will receive a prize generously donated by our Vendors. * Raffle Baskets! * Vendors will be set up for shopping in between rounds!* Food and beverages will be available for purchase! Flyers are available in the lobby and please share the event on Facebook with family & friends!

Please note that we will no longer have a fax machine in the church office- it has not been used in months and this will save the church almost \$450 this year! Please remove fax 603-437-3001 from your information. Thank you!

Purchase or reload your  gift cards after church. A percentage of the dollars that you **already** spend at Hannafords can help the church. Checks can also be dropped off during office hours. Thank you!

First Parish Congregational Church IN OUR PRAYERS – March 8, 2020

PRAYERS OF JOY

A wonderful celebration of life of Ken Gould at Pilgrim UCC yesterday!

Nico Immanuel Peters was born 2/16 and he attended his first church function Wednesday night!

Wednesday program with Carolyn Ferguson-Wilson who brought Harriet Tubman to life for us!

Adult Faith Formation concluded its series reading Priorities. Such a profound experience for all!

Fody's Dining for Dollars – thank you Fody's!

Last weekend we had successful Kindness Rocks gathering on Saturday and History Party Sunday!

O'Shea's Dining for Dollars – thank you Carmel!

Ash Wednesday was moving and lovely. An important milestone on our journey through Lent.

Prepared to Serve: 16 members of First Parish attended.

Jo Worthen's sister Barb is cancer free!

Mark Pingree and Jo Worthen both had successful procedures for heart issues.

Welcome back Michael Bryan! Continued prayers of healing.

Worship on February 9 with Peggo Horstmann Hodes was such a blessing!

Andy Mack Sr. – who made a generous financial gift to rehab project!

PRAYERS OF HEALTH and HEALING

Joan Virga and her family who are grieving the death of her mother Vima LeJeune.

Nancy Murdock's friend Erin Hutchinson has some serious medical issues

Sheryl Hall (sister of Wayne Hall) and her wife Chris; Sheryl just diagnosed with a horrific and debilitating brain disease called CJD, from which there is no recovery.

UPDATE: Vintage Grace has closed.

UPDATE: A member of the Nutfield Coop school family: Grace Theroux, 2, and her family for complete healing of the leukemia & strength & comfort for the family. She was released and doing home therapy

Martha, close friend of Pat and Dick Plouff, being treated for recurring leukemia.

Bonnie Hillsgosdge, friend of Tim Beers

Jo Worthen's friend Cindy continues to struggle with cancer.

Alyssa Mulhern (friend of Diane Breeden) and her family, diagnosis and treatment for breast cancer

Joan (friend of Wendy Williams) diagnosis and treatment for liver cancer

Janice Paradzick - reoccurrence of cancer

Martha, close friend of Pat and Dick Plouff, being treated for recurring leukemia.

Marge Palmer's granddaughter, Rebecca, after her recent surgery.

SPECIAL ONGOING PRAYERS

Active Military

Andrea Cooper health & strength

Aghadowey Rural Kinship

Southern NH Family Promise

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

Dangamvura – UCCZ – Zimbabwe African Church

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.