

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

May 31, 2020



**Gifts of the Spirit
Pentecost**

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 #281 Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove, with all your quickening powers;
Kindle a flame of sacred love in these cold hearts of ours.

In vain we tune our formal songs, in vain we strive to rise;
Hosannas languish on our tongues, and our devotion dies.

Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove, with all your quickening powers;
Come, shed on us the Savior's love, that it may kindle ours.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The day of Pentecost has come, and we are together.

Many: Let us make known the works of God among us today.

One: God comes to us as a gentle breath or violent wind.

Many: Spirit stirrings deep within us give us hope and link us together.

One: The fires of love dispel life's shadows as God's Spirit gives us new life.

Many: Surely God is in this place! May God's glory be known among us!

INVOCATION (unison)

Amazing God, the earth is full of life you have created, in forms too numerous to count. You have linked us, your people, to the earth and to one another. We are interdependent. We can survive only if we have reverence for the beloved Other and the Earth that gives us life. Come among us now. Make your ways be known. Help us to dream dreams and see visions of your intentions for this world and for your church. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE This is the Day

This is the day, this is the day when the Spirit came, when the Spirit came;

We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day when the Spirit came, we will rejoice and be glad in it;

This is the day, this is the day when the Spirit came.

WE INVITE FORWARD GOD'S YOUNGER DISCIPLES

Jesus said, "Let the little ones come unto me." Let's sing "Jesus loves me"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE followed by 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.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

NEW TESTAMENT: Acts 2: 1-4

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

I Corinthians 12: 1-13

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. ²You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. ¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

SERMON: "One Body, Many Members"

WE RESPOND WITH REMEMBRANCE AND PRAYER

HYMN #283 - Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS, followed by PASTORAL PRAYER

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION: God has given us food in due season, opening a kind and loving hand to fill us with good things. The face of the ground is continually renewed each year so we can reap its bounty. Likewise, our spirits are renewed. Our offerings are but a small expression of thanks.

OFFERTORY MUSIC: Every time I feel the Spirit

*DOXOLOGY

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 but dimly see, pervades all nature, making all a cosmic unity.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

How manifold are your works, amazing God! Your Spirit is with us always. When we awaken to it we are lifted up and recognize our kinship with one another. We bring our offerings as an expression of thanksgiving for all your gifts. May your glory be proclaimed in all we give and all we do. Amen.

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

HYMN Shine, Jesus, Shine

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

As we gaze on your kingly brightness; So, our faces display your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory; Mirrored here may our lives tell your story;
Shine on me, shine on me

Refrain

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Go now in peace. Go now in peace. May the love of God surround you everywhere, everywhere you may go."

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MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH - Members of the Congregation
SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER - The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
LAY READER- Sue Brown
TECH DEACON – Rachel Cobban
CHOIR DIRECTOR/ ORGANIST - Joan Virga
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR - Christine Lehoullier
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - Michelle Guerrin

IN OUR PRAYERS - May 31, 2020

PRAYERS OF JOY

All the people who love their neighbors by wearing masks!

Technology that allows connection in this era of physical separation!

Spaghetti Supper Angels serving our community in spite of a pandemic!

Thank you to Lisa at Rig a Tony's! for their generous donation!

Thank you to Debbie Gline Allen, Joan Virga, Rachel Cobban, Jack Martin, Joan Virga for Sunday Service participation.

Thank you to Jeff Slowick for fantastic advice about Internet tips!

Grateful for the Worship Service created by the Council of Conference Ministers of the United Church of Christ

Thank you to Diana Sweeney and Joan Virga for hosting Wonder Wednesday!

Joy to Margie Ives & Lynn Mann for Hosting K.I.T.!

Joyful Update: Art Johnson, Avery (Barbara & Brian) William's boyfriend had been diagnosed with cancerous tumors on his stomach and last week he found out he is cancer free!

Bible Wonder Tuesday night was enriching and enlightening!

Joan Virga says "Thank you for all the prayers and cards received due to the passing of my mother. It truly was a gift and helped greatly during this time. God Bless you all."

Joyful Update: Thank you for all your prayers for triplets Avery, Conner and Bradley. They have made it through surgery and are home doing well. They are waiting until Bradley is stronger. Thank you from their family too. Lianne D

Gratitude to Doug Pawl (Melanie & Alan's son) for making ear protectors for hospital workers.

Update: Bronte (Jo Worthen's niece) had her baby!

PRAYERS OF CONSOLATION, HEALTH, AND HEALING

For the families of those who have died: Families of Scott True (son of Mel and Ginnie), Douglas Greetham (Diane Gordon's father), Glenn Allen, long-time faithful member of First Parish, Pam (neighbor of Rachel Cobban) and Eric Ellis (Firefighting friend of Brian Krantz)

For Healing:

Sandra, friend of Jo Worthen, has a bacterial UTI.

Mike Dubisz (Jo Worthen's brother) is recovering from surgery.

Rev. Bob Sargent (a Cobban Family Friend) is in the hospital with pneumonia.

Joan's sister, Vicki Hester, is improving in recovery from Covid19.

Friend of Rachel Cobban, Pat Sullivan's mother 94 tested positive for Covid19.

Bronte (Jo Worthen's niece) will still need surgery and baby is in NICU but doing well

For those with cancer: Avis Hanson, Marjorie Palmer's cousin's wife; from Nutfield Coop: Grace Theroux; Martha, close friend of Pat and Dick Plouff, recurring leukemia; Joan (friend of Wendy Williams) liver cancer; Janice Paradzick; Bob Dinan (friend of the Wilson's), Danny with stage 4 cancer, brother of Mary Jane (friend of Cobban family)

For people who are losing their livelihood due to this pandemic.

For health care professionals who are "on the front lines" of this war against covid-19

SPECIAL ONGOING PRAYERS

Parkland Hospital Personnel, All Nurses and Doctors, Hospice workers and employees of Nursing Homes and Extended care facilities; First Responders; National Guard

Active Military; Aghadowey Rural Kinship; Southern NH Family Promise

Andrea Cooper health & strength

Dangamvura – UCCZ – Zimbabwe African Church

Tim Beers – Health & strength

Bonnie Hillsgrove, friend of Tim Beers

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.