

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

**June 28, 2020**



**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 #73 Enter Rejoice and Come In

Enter, rejoice, and come in. Enter, rejoice, and come in.

Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice, and come in.

Open yourself to the song. Open yourself to the song.

Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice, and come in.

Open your hearts everyone. Open your hearts everyone.

Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice, and come in.

Don't be afraid of some change. Don't be afraid of some change.

Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice, and come in.

Enter, rejoice, and come in. Enter rejoice, and come in.

Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice, and come in.

## CALL TO WORSHIP: (Based on Psalm 28)

One: The LORD God is our strength and our refuge.

**Many: Let us gather in this sacred time of worship.**

One: We call to you our God to hear the voices of our supplication

**Many: Blessed be the LORD, for God hears our prayers.**

## INVOCATION (unison):

**Faithful God, do not leave us to our sorrow. Protect us from the dismal messages of the world and speak peace in our ears. You are our strength and shield; our hearts rely on your compassion and kindness. Meet us here to equip us as faithful disciples of the risen Christ. Amen.**

## INVITATION INTO A TIME OF CONFESSION:

Sometimes we wonder how we have fallen short from God's purpose for our lives. Did we speak up enough? Did we stand up enough? Does the Christ within us shine through? Let us go to God in this time of confession.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**O God, there are times when we do nothing – thinking that “nothing” is better than violence. But then violence is perpetrated upon our brothers and sisters. Help us to know when we would be serving you by staying still and when with our lack of decision we are actually serving your foes. In this complicated world we need your help.**

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Consider the hostility that Christ endured on our behalf. As Jesus forgave those who betrayed and deserted him, God forgives us when we fall short.

## SONG OF PRAISE:

Joyful, joyful we adore you, God of glory, God of love. Hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the storms of doubt away; Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

## 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

#### 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

#### OLD TESTAMENT: Job 31:35-37; 38:1-11 [25-27]

<sup>35</sup> O that I had one to hear me!  
(Here is my signature! Let the Almighty answer me!)  
O that I had the indictment written by my adversary!  
<sup>36</sup> Surely I would carry it on my shoulder;  
I would bind it on me like a crown;  
<sup>37</sup> I would give him an account of all my steps;  
like a prince I would approach him.

<sup>1</sup> Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:  
<sup>2</sup> "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?  
<sup>3</sup> Gird up your loins like a man,  
I will question you, and you shall declare to me.  
<sup>4</sup> "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?  
Tell me, if you have understanding.  
<sup>5</sup> Who determined its measurements—surely you know!  
Or who stretched the line upon it?  
<sup>6</sup> On what were its bases sunk,  
or who laid its cornerstone  
<sup>7</sup> when the morning stars sang together  
and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?  
<sup>8</sup> "Or who shut in the sea with doors  
when it burst out from the womb?—  
<sup>9</sup> when I made the clouds its garment,  
and thick darkness its swaddling band,  
<sup>10</sup> and prescribed bounds for it,  
and set bars and doors,  
<sup>11</sup> and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther,  
and here shall your proud waves be stopped'?"

<sup>25</sup> “Who has cut a channel for the torrents of rain,  
and a way for the thunderbolt,  
<sup>26</sup> to bring rain on a land where no one lives,  
on the desert, which is empty of human life,  
<sup>27</sup> to satisfy the waste and desolate land,  
and to make the ground put forth grass?”

SERMON: Words Without Knowledge – a cautionary tale

### **WE RESPOND WITH REMEMBRANCE AND PRAYER**

HYMN #290 Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart (vs. 1,3,4)

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;  
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;  
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as you are,  
and make me love you as I ought to love.

Have you not bid us love you every way?  
All, all your own: soul, heart, and strength, and mind;  
I see your cross there teach my heart to stay:  
O let me seek you, and O let me find.

Teach me to feel that you are always nigh;  
teach me the struggles of the soul to bear.  
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;  
teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

### **WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS**

OFFERTORY INVITATION

In the midst of famine, Joseph shared generously with his brothers, giving them not just food but an amazing forgiveness. You and I have received so much from God: food for our bodies and forgiveness to heal our spirits and our lives. We come to this moment in our worship when we give back to God a portion of what we've received, to express our own amazement at every-thing God is doing in our lives. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

\*DOXOLOGY

God the Spirit guide and guardian, windsped flame and hovering dove,  
Breath of life and voice of prophets, sign of blessing, power of love:  
Give to those who lead your people fresh anointing of your grace;

Send them forth as bold apostles to your church in every place.

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**God of wind and fire, blow through our sharing a sense of empowerment, both for us and for all who are reached through our offerings. Set us ablaze with eagerness to hear and respond to the message you want us to carry into the world through these offerings today. May many lives be touched and renewed that the signs of your Presence be made known in miraculous and mysterious ways. Amen.**

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

HYMN #391 In the Midst of New Dimensions (vs. 3,4)

As we stand a world divided by our own self-seeking schemes,  
grant that we, your global village, might envision wider dreams.  
God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,  
We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and evermore.  
We are man and we are woman, all persuasions, old and young,  
each a gift in your creation, each a love song to be sung.  
God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,  
we your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and evermore.

#### 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  
DEACON: Rachel Cobban and Sue Brown  
CHOIR DIRECTOR/ ORGANIST - Joan Virga  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR - Christine Lehoullier  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - Michelle Guerrin

Visit our Facebook page or our website for recent videos of services and moments of Christian Faith Formation and inspiration.

## *IN OUR PRAYERS - June 28, 2020*

### **PRAYERS OF JOY**

Sue & Rick Metts recovering from COVID. They appreciated the prayers!  
Thank God for all of the peaceful racial justice demonstrations and changes!  
Outstanding spirit of cooperation as demonstrated by a one hour Council meeting!  
Joyful success of the 2020 financial needs toward getting back to the sanctuary!  
Paul Lindemann's help with our virtual worship  
Neighbors who love their neighbors by wearing masks and keeping distance!  
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 for Spaghetti Supper!  
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  
Bible Wonder Tuesday night continues to be enriching and enlightening!  
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  
Update: Bronte (Jo Worthen's niece) had her baby!

### **PRAYERS OF CONSOLATION, HEALTH, AND HEALING**

**For the families of those who have died in our community:** Families of: Janet Williams (Brian Williams' mother: 8 Poplar Circle, Londonderry, 03053); Rev. Bob Sargent (a Cobban Family Friend), 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 the families of two black men found hanging:** Robert Fuller, Malcolm Harsch  
**For Healing:**

Michael Engelhardt- Medical Concerns  
Jon Worthen who has tested positive for Covid; and for the whole quarantined family  
Marcie Zingo, recovering from leg amputation on Monday. 19R Juniper Rd, Derry  
John Barker, in the hospital in Michigan  
Pat Crowell had knee replacement two weeks ago and is home recovering  
Sandra, friend of Jo Worthen, has a bacterial UTI.

**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); Nathan (Trina & Terrance Brand's nephew) diagnosed with glioblastoma (brain cancer) and his entire family.

## **SPECIAL ONGOING PRAYERS**

For those who choose hate and those who choose violence

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

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.

## 2020 GRADUATES

**Ethan Forbush** - Graduated from Pinkerton Academy; Going to Plymouth State College, majoring in Biology

9 Brier Lane Derry NH 03038 (Address of Heather & Jim Paradzick)

**Jennifer Robinson & Heather Richardson** - Sophomore year at Northern Vermont University - Johnson Campus; Inducted into the National Society of Leaders & Success

Heather Richardson: 1163 Bridge Street Manchester, NH 03104

Jennifer Robinson: 6 North Shore Rd, Derry NH 03038

**Ashley Cox** - Keene State College graduate, major in psychology, minor in sociology

**Michael Cox** – Nashua Community College, degree in Auto Mechanics

31 South Main Street, Derry NH 03038

**MacKenzie Kittery** - Keene State College graduate, major in Health Sciences, looks forward to working full-time in Nutrition Services with Registered dietitians at the Elliot Hospital & Health System

**5 Towne Drive, Derry NH 03038 (updated address)**

**Andrew Nelson** - Keene State College graduate; Looks forward to teaching High School math at Pembroke Academy

16 Dubeau Drive, Derry NH 03038 (Address of Beth & David Nelson)

**Courtney DesRoches** - Keene State College graduate; major in middle school mathematics; looks forward to continue teaching at Merrimack Middle School

11 Winter Hill Road, Derry NH 03038 (Address of Anne-Marie and Fred Merrill)

**Arlo Wetherbee** - Graduate of Albany College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences with doctorate in Pharmaceutical Sciences

28 Redfield Circle, Derry NH 03038 (Address of Bart & Janet Wetherbee)

**Jordan Baronas** -Quinnapiac University graduate

2 Chandler Dr, Londonderry NH 03053 (Beth Hunter's grandchild)

**Bailey Hamilton** - New England College graduate

2 SaraBeth Lane Londonderry NH 03053 (Beth Hunter's grandchild)