

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

**August 23, 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 #27 From All That Dwell below the Skies

From all that dwell below the skies let the Creator's praise arise;

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the Redeemer's name be sung through every land, by every tongue.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Eternal are your mercies, God: your truth stands ever high and broad;

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Your praise shall sound from shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: We come to tell a story of faith —

**Many: Faith that celebrates, faith that doubts & weeps, faith in what we hope for but do not yet see, faith that holds both gratitude & grief.**

One: We come to tell a story of hope —

**Many: Hope that persists, holding onto the promise that even a single flame brings light in the darkness.**

One: We come to tell a story of love —

**Many: God is love. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

One: We come because God invites us to tell the story & to participate in the story. And to hear the promise anew again, “when all else fades away faith, hope & love remain.”

## INVOCATION:

**Holy God, You never leave us or forsake us. You are “God with us”. Always. Strengthen us through your promises sung in worship & shared in our holy scriptures. Sustain us through your grace that carries us from our first cry as infants until our final breath and for all eternity. Steady us through prayers shared with others on this holy pilgrimage. And bless us, Lord, with deepened faith, hope & love as we meet with You & with each other today. Amen.**

## SONG OF PRAISE Gloria Patri (Traditional)

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, World without end, Amen, Amen**

## WE INVITE FORWARD GOD’S YOUNGER DISCIPLES

Jesus said, “Let the little ones come unto me.” Let’s sing “Jesus loves me”

## 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: Luke 11:2-4

<sup>2</sup> (Jesus) said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. <sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread. <sup>4</sup> And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."

### REFLECTION BY Shellie Aseltine: "What's in A Name?"

### HYMN # 43 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling vs. 1, 2, 4

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, on earth be found.  
Fix in us a humble dwelling, all your faithful mercies crown;  
Jesus, you are all compassion; pure, unbounded love impart.  
Visit us with your salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe your loving Spirit into every troubles breast;  
Let us all in you inherit, let us find your promised rest;  
Take away our love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Finish, then, your new creation; pure and spotless may we prove;  
Let us see your great salvation perfectly restored in you;  
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place.  
Crowned as saints, we ever shall be lost in wonder, love, and praise.

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

### OFFERTORY INVITATION

Oh Lord, our God all that we have comes from you. You are faithful to us. May we give of ourselves and our gifts with gratitude & joy remembering your calling to us - that we are blessed to be a blessing.

### OFFERTORY MUSIC

### \*DOXOLOGY "Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God all above you heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We commit these gifts now to Your kingdom and Your care. Trusting with childlike faith that You will multiple them like those few fish & loaves of bread to supply all that we need.

## WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

## SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS and PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

HYMN #76 Sent Forth by God's Blessing vs. 1, 2

Set forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,  
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.

The service is ended, O now be extended  
the fruits of our worship in all who believe.

The seed of the teaching, receptive hearts reaching,  
shall blossom in action for God and for all.

God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us  
to work for God's realm and to answer the call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,  
the tasks of our everyday life we will face.

Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,  
embracing God's children of each tribe and race.

With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us,  
unite us as one in this life that we share.

Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving  
give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.

## BLESSING

**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

GUEST WORSHIP LEADER – Shellie Sauder Aseltine, Chaplain and MID

LAY READER – Rachel Cobban

ZOOM/FACEBOOK GREETERS- Sue Lindemann, Sue Brown

CHOIR DIRECTOR/ ORGANIST - Joan Virga

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR - Christine Lehoullier

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - Michelle Guerrin

## *IN OUR PRAYERS - August 23, 2020*

### **PRAYERS OF JOY**

Verna Elwell: at home & on the mend. She thanks everyone for prayers & cards.

Shellie Aseltine leading worship service today!

Pilgrim Church- Wonderful welcoming their congregation to our Worship Service last week. Prayers of celebration that it was the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Pastor Tara's ordination!

Many thanks from Christine & Michelle for the gracious and generous bonus!

Tuesday evening Labyrinth finger walks

July Spaghetti Supper- Served 138 To GO

Great Zoom conversation with 12 would-be travelers to Aghadowey with several of the Aghadowey Rural Kinship friends.

Diana Sweeney leading service while Pastor Deborah was on Study Leave!

Pastor Deborah's Study Leave – an enriching time for her, an investment for FPC.

Great stewardship of the Mission Board!

All the work that Facilities Board is doing around the church!

Anne-Marie Merrill's parents celebrating 69 years of marriage!

Paul Lindemann's on-going help with our virtual worship.

Neighbors who love their neighbors by wearing masks and keeping distance!

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

**For the families of those who have died in our community:** Alan Pawl and family on the loss of Alan's mother; families of: Jo Worthen's Aunt Sandra; Nancy Williams (Brian Williams' mother: 8 Poplar Circle, Londonderry, 03053).

#### **For Comfort/Consolation:**

John Fields, Ken William's cousin: his Granddaughter, Jocelyn Boston, passed away in February, his wife, Lorna, passed away in March and his son, Dana, passed away in May.

#### **For Healing:**

Jane Krantz, recovering from an infection

Rick (the father of Joanne Worthen's coworker Cindy) tested positive for Covid19, and struggling with an infection from a bypass heart operation.

Alan Pawl, recovering from back surgery.

Trina & Terrance Brand's nephew Nathan and his family (wife, young daughter, parents, and sister) At 32, he has been diagnosed with glioblastoma (brain cancer) and has 6-24 months to live. We pray for comfort and peace.

Marcie Zingo is recovering from leg amputation (19R Juniper Rd, Derry)

**For those with cancer:** Jay, Marjorie Palmer's friend, a 41-yr old father of 3 young children who has been recently diagnosed with multiple cancers and given possibly a year to live. 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)

### **SPECIAL ONGOING PRAYERS**

For the families of those who are hospitalized and are unable to visit them.

For teachers, staff, & students the uncertainty of going back to school.

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; Kennedy Gondongwe and everyone in Zimbabwe, a country riddled with revolution and pandemic.

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.