**Children’s Bulletin**

**First Parish Congregational Church**

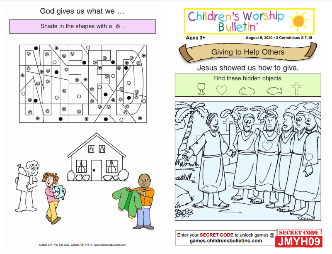
**September 27, 2020**

**This Last week in september is national fall foliage week **

### **NATIONAL FALL FOLIAGE WEEK HISTORY**

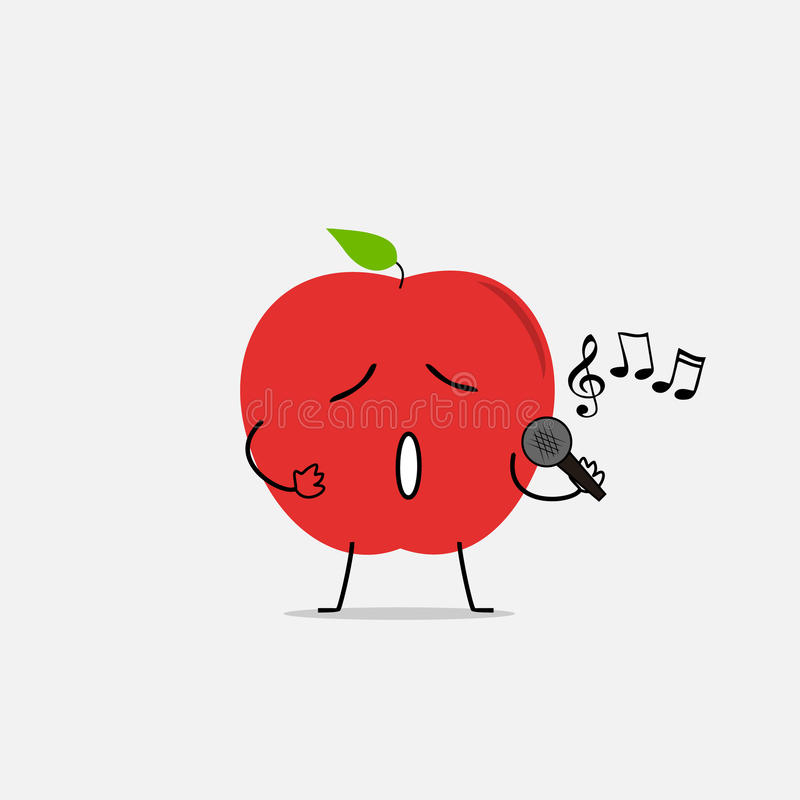
In 2014, the [Yankee Chef Jim Bailey](http://theyankeechef.com/index.php/menu-links/80-premiering-national-fall-foliage-day?fbclid=IwAR38eEneqytrmnzctaau9tyEMlKb2PpnR632DTFKZV8KeZZSnNkF43Cmw9M) created National Fall Foliage Week to bring families together as nature changes her coat of many colors for the next season. The day starts each year on the last Sunday in September when the temperatures begin to cool, and harvests begin in earnest. On his website, he reminds us that the time was not only “when families came together for the harvest of the winter crop, but starting on the allocated day of rest, frolic and beauty that was and is, Sunday.”

**Please gather the following (optional) items to help you worship today:**

* Crayons, markers, or colored pencils
* You’ll also find an additional activity pages for ages 7+ and 3+ for use during the sermon on the final pages of this Children’s Bulletin

Words of Welcome

Go around the room and greet each person (and pet!) as they traditionally would in India. This greeting is carried out by placing your hands together in a praying position with your fingers pointed upwards and bowing slightly when you say “Namaste.

Sing, dance or shake along! **HYMN # 23 There’s a Wideness is God’s Mercy**

There’s a wideness in God’s mercy, like the wideness of the sea,

There’s a kindness in God’s justice, which is more than liberty.

There’s no place where earthly sorrows are more felt than in God ‘s heaven;

There’s no place where earthly failings have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of our minds;

And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God’s word;

And our lives would show thanksgiving for the good ness of our God.

Call to Worship & Invocation

Read out loud the words in bold if you can

(God loves when we gather and pray together)

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

One: It is time; it is time to set aside our fear -

**Many: and praise the God of our ancestors and the God of our children.**

One: The God who reaches out to us in the pit of our despair –

**Many: God, calls to us in the depths of our dreams.**

One: Do not be afraid – for the world that you see

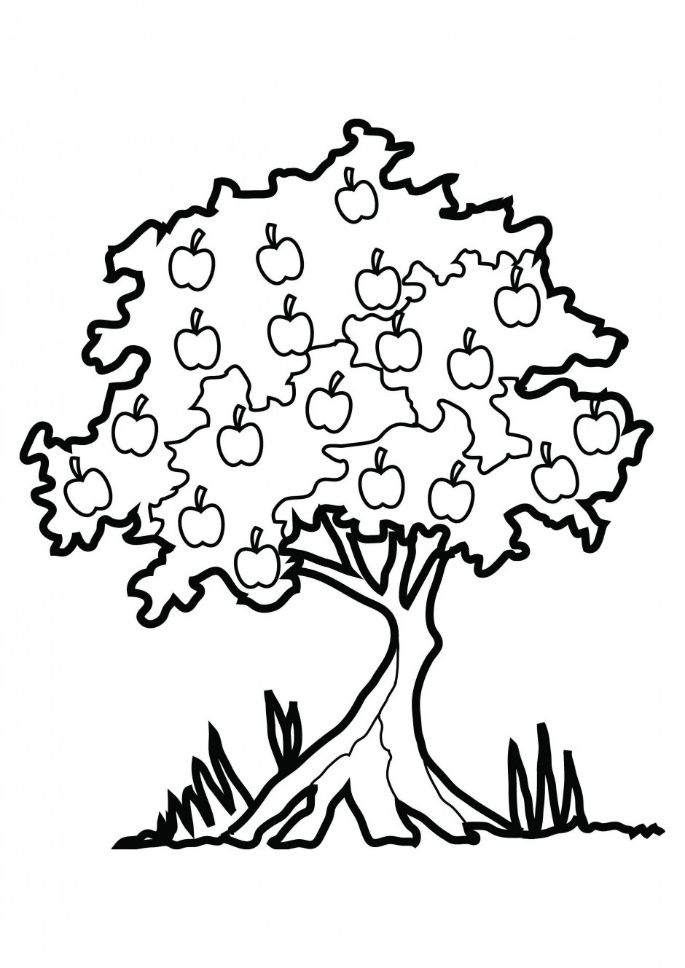
**Many: is merely the undercoat of God’s spectacular vision;**

One: Do not have fear – for the world around you

**Many: Contains more moments of wonder than you can even imagine..**

**INVOCATION:**

Saving God, our eyes see danger all around us. We see the treachery of our

****brothers and the uninformed views of people in power but You say “fear not”. We

hear the bitter voices of angry protestors and misguided policemen but You say

“have no fear”. God, deliver us from the surface noise and remind us once again

that Your intention for us is one of ultimate goodness in You. As we worship You

today, calm our hearts and replace any fears with rays of faith in Your will for us.



**SONG OF PRAISE** ***Gloria:*** Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia

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**Time Especially for Children**

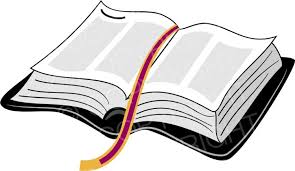
Let’s sing “Jesus loves me”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE: Come in close and bring your listening ears



**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.

 **Scripture Reading**

**OLD TESTAMENT:** Genesis 37:3-8 (some highlights); 50:15-21

3 Now Israel (Jacob) loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. 4 But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they

hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.

5 Once Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him

even more. 6 He said to them, “Listen to this dream that I dreamed. 7 There we

were, binding sheaves in the field. Suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright; then

your sheaves gathered around it and bowed down to my sheaf.” 8 His brothers said

to him, “Are you indeed to reign over us? Are you indeed to have dominion over

us?” So they hated him even more because of his dreams and his words.

(Some highlights…)

50:15-21

15 Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph’s brothers said, “What if Joseph still

bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to

him?” 16 So they approached Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this instruction

before he died, 17 ‘Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and

the wrong they did in harming you.’ Now therefore please forgive the crime of the

servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then

his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, “We are here as your

slaves.” 19 But Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God?

20 Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to

preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. 21 So have no fear; I myself will

provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly

to them.

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**Sermon** “The Second Agreement: And Taking it Seriously”

During this time, as you listen to the sermon, please enjoy the activities found on the last page of the Children’s Bulletin.

**HYMN # 46 Hope of the World 1, 3**

**Hope of the world, O Christ of great compassion,**

**Speak to our fearful hearts by conflict torn.**

**Save us your people from consuming passion.**

**From false pursuits through which our lives are worn.**

**Hope of the world, who by the cross did save us**

**From death and sad despair, from sin and guilt.**

**We render back the love your mercy gave us;**

**Take back our lives and use them as our will.**

**Invitation to Generosity**

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| --- |
| There are lots of ways to be generous that don’t involve money!  1. Give your time: read a book to a younger sibling or friend (or even a grandparent)  2. If you want to help a friend with a disability or someone in need, don’t be afraid to ask people to join together to help you in your cause!  3. Give Thanks. You can never be too grateful. Send a thank you note or make a phone call to thank someone for simply being an awesome teacher or person! You’ll be amazed what a difference you can make in someone’s day or even life! |

**\*DOXOLOGY**

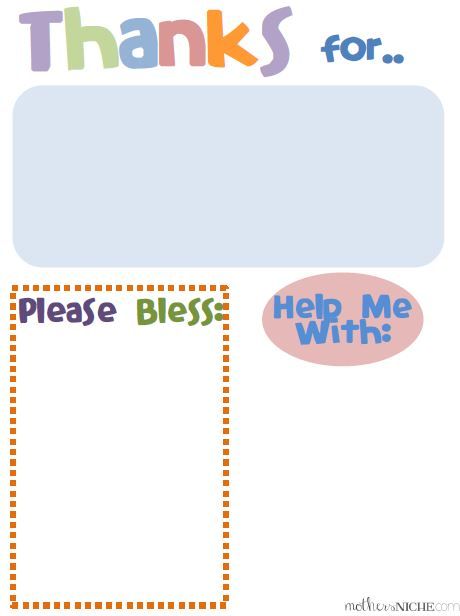
Masithi, Amen, siyakudumisa, Masithi; Amen, siyakudumisa, Masithi;

Amen, Bawo, Amen, Bawo, Amen, siyakudumisa.

Sing amen, Amen, we praise your name, O God, Sing Amen

Amen, we praise your name, O God. Sing Amen

Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, we praise your name, O God.

 **Sharing Joys and Concerns**: Do you have a Joy or Concern you’d like to share with the congregation?

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



**HYMN #547 Amazing Grace 1,3,4**

Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me

I once was lost but now am found was blind but now I see.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;

‘Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

My God has promised good to me, whose word my hope secures;

God will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

BENEDICTION (The benediction is a blessing that the Pastor gives over God’s people before they leave service)

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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Atkinson Congregational Church Greeter Darlene Graczyk.

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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR - Christine Lehoullier

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