

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

August 16, 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 # #13 O My Soul, Bless Your Creator vs. 1, 2, 4

O my soul, bless your creator; all within me bless God's name;
Bless your Maker, and forget not all God's mercies to proclaim.

God forgives all your transgressions, all who suffer, gently heals;
God redeems you from destruction, and with you so kindly deals.

As it was without beginning, so it lasts without an end;
To their children's children ever shall God's righteousness extend.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: We come to meet our Holy God who welcomes us wholeheartedly.

Many: We gather to experience God's steadfast love and grace.

One: Listen: for God will speak to those who have ears to hear.

Many: Let us open our hearts to the Source of all wisdom.

One: God is ready to restore us to right relationship.

Many: Let us be ready to accept the blessing and cost of discipleship.

INVOCATION (unison):

Living, Loving God, we come as your children to be reclaimed and blessed. We need the inner strength that comes to us through worship and prayer and hearing your Holy Word. All week long we wrestle with the heaviness of our world's conflicts. Dim that noise if but for a short time, so that we may turn toward your Presence and your will for our lives. 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"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: A conversation with Miss Katie.

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

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

SERMON: "Whose Father?"

HYMN # 26 We Worship You, God vs. 1,5

We worship you, God; your power and your love
are blazoned abroad, Around, and above;
Our shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail.
Your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer and Friend!

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

The faithfulness of God elicits our faithful response. The good gifts of our heavenly Parent call for an outpouring of gratitude. May our offerings give evidence of abounding thankfulness.

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

Holy God, Our offerings do not simply represent our labor, our investment of time and energy – for we know that all that we have comes from you. We give back a portion and we pray that they be put to the best possible use. May they provide nourishment for body and soul. Bless and multiply our efforts, we pray. Amen.

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYER

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

HYMN #24 The God of Abraham Praise vs. 1, 3

The God of Abraham praise, all praises to God's name,
who was and is and is to be, Fore'er the same!
The one eternal God, before what now appears; the First the
Last: beyond all thought through timeless years!

God has eternal life implanted in the soul;
God's love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.
All praise the living God! Extol that hallowed name,
who was and is, and ever shall be still the same!

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

ZOOM/FACEBOOK GREETERS- Jack Martin, Debbie Gline Allen, Beth McFarlane
(our guest from Pilgrim UCC)

CHOIR DIRECTOR/ ORGANIST - Joan Virga

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR - Christine Lehoullier

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - Michelle Guerrin

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