

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

September 6, 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 #300 Jesus Shall Reign (vs. 1 & 3)

Jesus shall reign wher'er the sun
does its successive journey's run;
Gods realm shall stretch from shore to shore
till moons shall wax and wane no more

People and realms of every tongue
dwell on god's love with sweetest song.
And infant voices shall proclaim
their earliest prayers in Jesus' name.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: We gather together today as people of God.

Many: Each of our spaces is holy because God is here with us.

One: We gather to hear what God has to say to us in this hour.

Many: Let us be ready and open to hear God's Word to us.

One: We gather as friends and acquaintances, family members, and strangers.

Many: We come together as the Body of Christ, siblings in Jesus' Name.

All: Let us worship God together!

INVOCATION:

Gracious and Loving God, like the birds of the air and the lilies of the field, you provide us with all good gifts, and we are grateful. Just as your Son, Jesus, showed us again and again, you forgive us when we do wrong, and we are grateful. You are our refuge and our strength in times of trial, just as you were for our spiritual ancestors, and we are grateful. Be with us now in our seeking and our gratitude. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE *Gloria*

Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia

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

- 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."

REFLECTION BY Debbie Gline Allen: "Ask, and It Will Be Given"

HYMN #475 God's Eye Is On the Sparrow (vs. 1 & 3) #475 *God's Eye Is on the Sparrow*

Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,
Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home.
When God is ever my portion? My constant friend will be:
God's eye is on the sparrow, and I know God watches me;
God's eye is on the sparrow, and I know God watches me.

Refrain:

I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free.
God's eye is on the sparrow, and I know God watches me.

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
When song gives place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I then draw close to my Savior, from care I am set free:
God's eye is on the sparrow, and I know God watches me;
God's eye is on the sparrow, and I know God watches me.

Refrain

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Let us be mindful of the many blessings that are ours. Let us pause to consider the many blessings that are taken for granted. As we give of what we have, may we do so in love and with thanksgiving.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, we acknowledge that all that we have comes from you. We give back a portion, and trust that you will multiply it as Jesus did with the loaves and fishes, to provide for all who are in need. Bless and multiply our efforts, we pray. Amen.

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 #311 Renew Your Church (vs. 1 & 3)

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
ZOOM/FACEBOOK GREETERS- Anne-Marie Merrill, 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 – September 6th, 2020

PRAYERS OF JOY

Pastor Deborah and Liz truly appreciate the generosity of a week of vacation to visit family. We had a lovely visit with everyone in Rochester, NY! Next week we travel to Acadia, our version of Heaven on Earth. We are grateful for the gifted Members in Discernment who are covering while Pastor Deborah is away.

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

Shellie Aseltine – for leading worship service last Sunday!

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

Labyrinth finger walks and growing appreciation in this ancient spiritual practice.
August Spaghetti Supper- Served many To GO dinners!
Great stewardship of the Mission Board!
All the work that Facilities Board is doing around the church!
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 Courage and Strength:

Paula Robinson

For Healing:

Jack Kluk, suffering from multiple issues

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; as well as our friend 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.