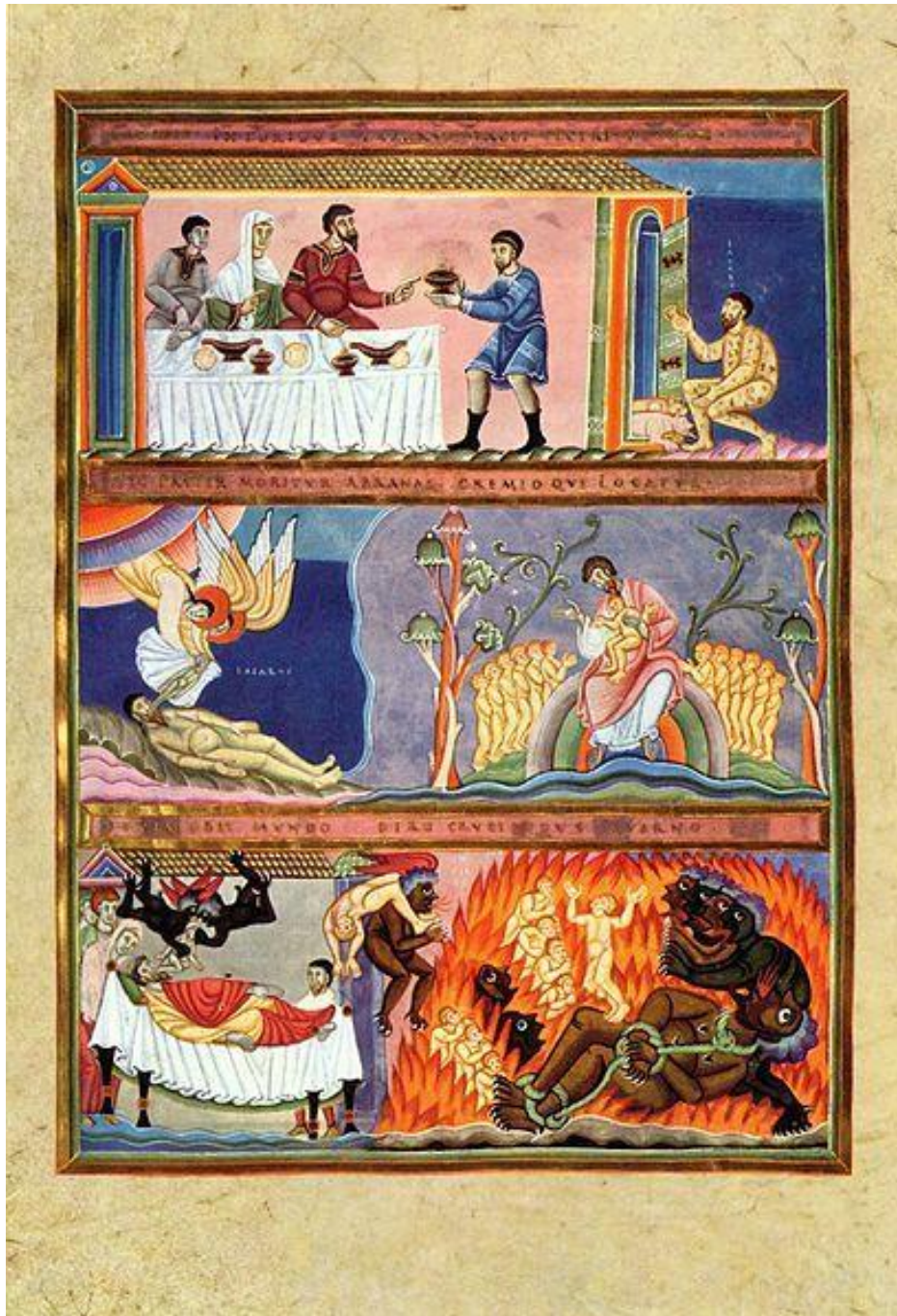


First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, East Derry, NH 03041 Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

**March 14, 2021
Rich Man and Lazarus**



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.”*

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

CENTERING MUSIC AND LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 41:1-3;13) (Led by lay reader.)

One: Happy are those who consider the poor;
the Lord delivers them in the day of trouble.

Many: The Lord protects them and keeps them alive; they are called happy in the land. You do not give them up to the will of their enemies.

One: The Lord sustains them on their sickbed;
in their illness you heal all their infirmities.

Many: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.

HYMN: #319 *Sing Them Over Again to Me* (Vs 1, 3)

Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life;
Let me more of their beauty see, wonderful words of life;
Words of life and beauty teach me faith and duty.
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life,
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.

Sweetly echo the gospel call, wonderful words of life;
Offer pardon and peace to all, wonderful words of life;
Jesus, only Savior, keep me with you forever.
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life,
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.

INVOCATION (Lay Reader – join in at home.)

Ever-present God, let your Spirit fill this place, for we yearn for Your Presence.
Grant us each your saving, healing strength. Grant us such confidence that we may
look beyond the image of the ordinary and into the extraordinary truth of Your
compassion. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE: *Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ*

WE SPEAK TO GOD'S YOUNGER DISCIPLES

“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 16: 19-31

¹⁹“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.’ ²⁵But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ ²⁷He said, ‘Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house— ²⁸for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ ³⁰He said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ ³¹He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

SERMON: When Truth Stares Us In The Face

HYMN: #292 *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew
That I may love the way you love and do what you would do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
Until with you I will one will, to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, sire in me one desire;
That every earthly part of me may glow with holy fire.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,
But live with you the perfect life of your eternity.

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

RESPONDING TO GOD'S BLESSINGS: Use the next few moments to share joys and concerns in the chat. Our services are recorded. Please use first names. God knows who you mean.

GETTING TO KNOW ANOTHER CHILD OF GOD – Sue & Randy Brown

OFFERTORY INVITATION:

The love of money extends its roots out of dark motives. Money blessed by God can extend light into the world. Which perspective do you choose? We who believe that God has blessed us abundantly give out of that teaching. Let us give from that place of gratitude for all God has provided.

DOXOLOGY: *Masithi*

(Masithi) Amen, si ya ku du mi sa, (masithi) (Repeat)
Amen, Bawo, Amen, Bawo ; Amen, si ya ku du mi sa.

(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: (Led by lay reader. Join in at home.)

What a joy to have something to give! That you, God, for granting us choices in the use of the great gifts you've bestowed upon us. We dedicate the gifts that come out of your Spirit among us that they might accomplish even more than we can imagine. Amen.

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYERS

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

HYMN: #52 *There Is a Name I Love to Hear* (Vs. 1,2)

There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth;
It sounds like music to my ear, the sweetest name on earth.

O how I love Jesus, O how I love Jesus,
O how I love Jesus, whose love has first found me.

It tells my Savior's love for all; Christ died to set us free;
Whatever problems may befall, we'll live in dignity.

O how I love Jesus, O how I love Jesus,
O how I love Jesus, whose love has first found me.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE **"Go now in peace. Go now in peace. May the love of God surround you everywhere, everywhere you may go."** *Words & Music: Natalie Sleeth, © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc.; All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-708716.*

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH - Members of the Congregation
SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER - The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
LAY READER – Jo Worthen
GREETERS – Rachel Cobban, Katie Cobban
CHOIR DIRECTOR/ ORGANIST - Joan Virga
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR - Christine Lehoullier
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - Michelle Guerrin
AV/ TECHNICAL – Paul Lindemann

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

IN OUR PRAYERS - March 14, 2021

PRAYERS OF JOY

Daylight Savings Time!

The trinity of vaccines rolling out across the country! Thank you, God!

Kevin R. (friend of Liza D) is doing much better!

Spaghetti Supper served nearly 100 people!

Pancake Breakfast - Virtual! We had a good time.

First Virtual choir rehearsals! Thank you, Joan!

The piano (given in memory of Arlene W.) in the Virtual studio has been tuned

Melanie and Alan P. have a new “fur baby” – Hunter!

Jo W’s sister, Sue and her husband, Bruce, are home after having Covid.

Successful and peaceful Annual meeting. Gratitude to all of the tech support!

Over 100 scarves knitted by Sharon H!

Spaghetti Supper: The frigid weather did not stop our team! Nearly 100 dinners were served in spite of the frigid cold temperature and brisk wind.

Gratitude for our Irish Friends who worship with us every week!

Gratitude for our friends in Zimbabwe!

Gratitude for member in Georgia and Laconia and other faraway places!

Gratitude for the people who put themselves in harm’s way for our country’s safety.

Welcome to Rory Jean, born January 4! Congratulations to Kayla and Christopher, and to Grandma Cindy and Grandpa Mark!

Successful COVID-19 Vaccine being distributed.

Labyrinth finger walks and growing appreciation in this ancient spiritual practice.

PRAYERS OF CONSOLATION

Prayers for the family of Nancy Sullivan, Cyndi G’s sister-in-law, who died 2.7.21.

Pat C’s sister Judy, whose husband, Bruce, died 2.4.21 from Covid

Prayers for Jo W’s family as Uncle Rudy has died from Covid (2.5.2021)

Families of the over 523,800 deaths in the US due to COVID.

PRAYERS OF STRENGTH, HEALTH, AND HEALING

Eileen Cox needs healing prayers

Manny, brother in law of the Guerrin's, receiving treatment for leukemia

Kate (friend of Chris C) dealing with difficulties in pregnancy

Diana (friend of Heather R) undergoing tests to rule out cancer

Pam P needs prayers of encouragement.

Carl (friend of Melanie P) had open heart surgery. Pray, too, for his wife Sandy for comfort while he's in the hospital as she can't be with him.

Anne E and her family

Wendy W's health concerns.

Kathleen M (friend of Trudie B) recently diagnosed with cancer on her lung will have surgery after Thanksgiving.

Teachers and all school personnel; Medical Professionals of all levels and in all locations; pastors; world and local leaders

For those with cancer: Liza D's husband's Uncle Walt has Stage 4 cancer and has an operation Feb 25; Kate, Jesse's friend is battling terminal cancer; Jay, Marjorie P's friend, a 41-yr old father of 3 young children who has been diagnosed with multiple cancers. Martha, close friend of Pat and Dick P, recurring leukemia; Janice P; Bob Dinan (friend of the Bob and Karen); Danny with stage 4 cancer, brother of Mary Jane (friend of Rachel and Alec)

SPECIAL ONGOING PRAYERS

Law Enforcement and other protectors of our safety and democracy; especially Active National Guard Military; First Responders;

Family Promise in their new expanded facility

Everyone in Zimbabwe, a country riddled with revolution and pandemic

Tom and Andrea C - health & strength

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 people who are losing their livelihood due to this pandemic

Parkland Hospital Personnel, and All Nurses and Doctors, Hospice workers and employees of Nursing Homes and Extended care facilities

Aghadowey Rural Kinship – all of our friends in Northern Ireland

Southern NH Family Promise; Sonshine Soup Kitchen; Marion Gerrish; Upper Room Dangamvura – UCCZ – Zimbabwe African Church

Union Theological College in Zimbabwe, as well as our friend Kennedy Gondongwe

Tim B – Health & strength

Bonnie H, friend of Tim B

Victims of floods and fires and Covid and violence; Refugees and their families

People of color and members of the LGBTQ+ community

Friends of the Meetinghouse Board of Directors