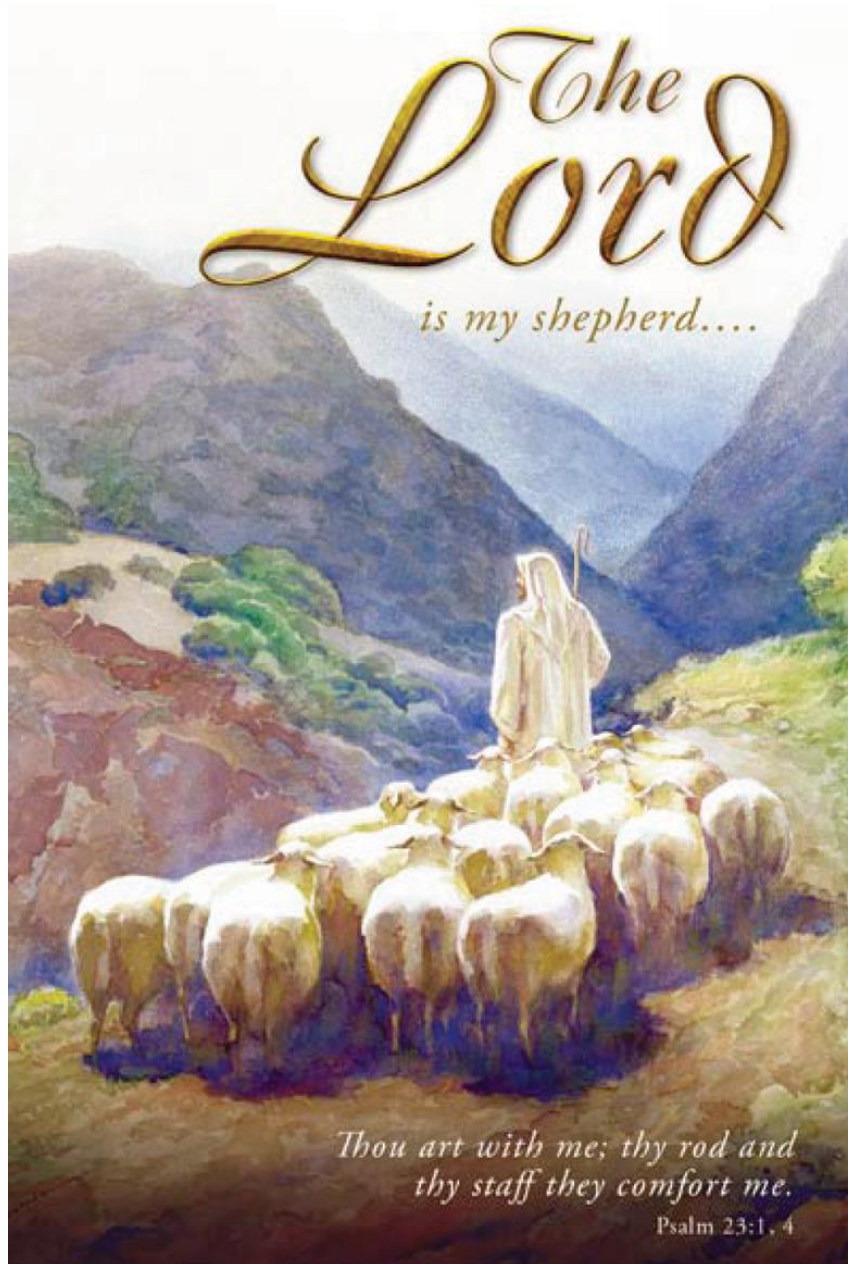


**First Parish Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ**

P.O. Box 114, East Derry, NH 03041 Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

June 20, 2021



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

ALL TO WORSHIP (Led by Debbie Gline Allen)

One: Like sheep we often stray from green pastures and still waters.

Many: We find ourselves in danger, and sometimes lost.

One: But then, in silence...we hear a voice.

Many: Amid all other voices of this world, this one is strangely familiar.

One: When we listen, we return. We then go out and come in in peace.

All: Listening now, we come into the safety and beauty of this place.

HYMN: #252 *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need your tender care;

In your pleasant pastures feed us, for our use your folds prepare.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us, yours we are;

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us, yours we are.

We are yours, in love befriend us, be the guardian of our way;

Keep your flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray;

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.

INVOCATION (Led Debbie Gline Allen – join in at home.)

Gracious Creator, with everything that breathes upon the earth we worship you.

We rejoice in the capacity you give us to receive a new heart. Make of us good

Shepherds. In our singing and prayers, and by your Word enliven us to be a people

that protect, nurture, and make safe. In the name of the Good Shepherd we ask it.

Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE:

The King of love my Shepherd is,

Whose goodness faileth never;

I nothing lack if I am his

And he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow

My ransomed soul he leadeth,

And where the verdant pastures grow

With food celestial feedeth.

WE SPEAK TO GOD'S YOUNGER DISCIPLES

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – *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

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 23; John 10: 1- 10

Psalm ¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;

³ he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;

for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.

John ¹“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

SERMON: The Good Shepherd (Rev. Linda Lea Snyder)

HYMN: #286 *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*

Refrain: Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free,
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;
And over the eons you called to each thing,
“Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.” **Refrain**

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill, then you whispered in silence
when the whole world was still;
And down in the city you called once again,
When you blew through your people on the rush of the wind. **Refrain**



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.

GOD’S MISSION AMONG US: Health Access Sumbawa

OFFERTORY INVITATION (Led by Debbie Gline Allen)

OFFERTORY MUSIC

DOXOLOGY:

Sing praise to God, who has shaped and sustains all creation!
Sing praise, my soul, in profound and complete adoration!
Gladsome rejoice organ and trumpet and voice,
Joining God’s great congregation.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Rev. Linda Lea Snyder)

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYERS



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

HYMN: #573 *Lead On Eternal Sovereign*

Lead on eternal Sovereign, we follow in your way,
Loud rings your cry for justice, your call for peace this day.
Through prayerful preparation, your grace will make us strong,
To carry on the struggle to triumph over wrong.

Lead on eternal Sovereign, we follow not with fear,
For in each human conflict your words of strength we hear.
That when we serve with gladness, you will not let us fall,
Our trust is in your promise that love will conquer all.

BENEDICTION Prayer of St. Francis, adapted

One: Lord, make us instruments of thy peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

All: where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith;

One: where there is doubt faith; where there is despair, hope;

**All: where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.**

One: O Divine Master, grant that we may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to
understand; to be loved as to love.

**All: For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that
we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to
eternal life.**

**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
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MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH – Members of the Congregation
SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER - The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
SABBATICAL COVERAGE PASTOR – The Rev. Linda Lea Snyder
GREETERS – Jack Martin, Sue Brown
LAY READER – Debbie Gline Allen
CHOIR DIRECTOR/ ORGANIST – Joan Virga
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR – Christine Lehoullier
OFFICE MANAGER – Michelle Guerrin
VIDEO PRODUCTION – Paul Lindemann, with Brian Williams and Mike Schroeder

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

IN OUR PRAYERS - June 20, 2021

PRAYERS OF JOY

Ben Allen & Allen Family- Music

For everyone who set up and took down, who sold and bought (and offered special gifts) at last weekend's Yard Sale at the church. It was very hot and everyone did so well. Thank you!

Prayers of thanksgiving for our tech team, Joan, Minister of Music, Diane, and for Christine, Christian Ed Minister for making our outdoor, in-person worship so special! Congratulations and best wishes to all our graduates!

Prayers of joy that Pastor Deborah is having a restful, restorative sabbatical leave.

That increased vaccine distribution in the US will continue to build our common resistance as a country. For those who continue to be taken ill and lose family members.

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

Gratitude for our Irish friends who worship with us every week. Prayers for Lynda's husband Kenny who continues to recover from an e Coli infection.

Gratitude for Rev. Kennedy and our friends in Zimbabwe!

Gratitude for members in Georgia and Laconia and places physically far from us.

PRAYERS OF CONSOLATION

Jay, Marjorie P's family friend, who died.

Families of the 600,000+ people who have died in the US due to COVID.

Tender prayers for the countries of Brazil, Peru, Nepal, and India facing unprecedented COVID cases and deaths. For those who have lost loved ones to the virus.

Prayers for Israel and Palestine that the cessation of violence will hold and lead to reconciliation. Prayers for those who lost their lives this week in a serious train crash in

Pakistan; for the people of Sri Lanka, suffering after a giant cargo ship burned and sunk off their shores.

PRAYERS OF STRENGTH, HEALTH, AND HEALING

Brian, friend of Wendy W. & Jeff S., who is managing serious health concerns.

Jim, Jeff S.'s father, for prayers of healing

Marilyn Ham who took a fall this week, went to the hospital but didn't stay, that she will be healed.

Cathy Pottle's daughter Shana who is recovering from an infection.

Judy D. who is still recovering from arm surgery after taking a bad fall on May 2nd.

Prayers for Rachel as she supports her.

Prayers for Andrea & Tom who thank everyone for their support and continued prayers.

James S (Jeff's dad) who needs dialysis

Erin H. friend of Nancy Murdock. She has a serious autoimmune disease.

Young 8 yr. old Nash needs healing prayers; his family needs strength

Raymond C, son of Maryann's friend Linda, needs a heart transplant.

Stephen, nephew of Eileen Cox, diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma stage 3, spreading quickly.

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

Anne E and her family

Wendy W's health concerns.

Teachers and all school personnel finishing up the school year; medical professionals of all levels and in all locations, pastors and chaplains, world, and local leaders

For those with cancer: Liza D's husband's Uncle Walt has Stage 4 cancer; Kate, Jesse's friend is battling terminal cancer; 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

Prayers for peaceful resolution to conflict situations around the world and for peaceful healing of divisions in our own country.

Parkland Hospital personnel, and all nurses and doctors, Hospice workers and employees of nursing Homes and extended care facilities

Law Enforcement, fire fighters and other protectors of our safety and democracy; especially all first responders, active troops, and National Guard Military.

Family Promise in their new Nashua expanded facility and our FP team that will bring dinner each month.

Everyone in Zimbabwe, recovering slightly from desperate hunger and now receiving some vaccines. Continue with Kennedy and other leaders as they help heal a country riddled with corruption, continuing environmental impacts and COVID.

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
United Theological College in Zimbabwe, as well as our friend Kennedy Gondongwe
Tim B – Health & strength
Bonnie H, friend of Tim B
Refugees and their families seeking asylum and safety.
People of color and members of the LGBTQ+ community.
Friends of the Meetinghouse Board of Directors.

We lie down in peace knowing our sins are forgiven;
we lie down in peace knowing death has no fear.
We lie down in peace knowing no powers can harm us;
we lie down in peace knowing angels are near.
~ From Celtic Worship Through the Year