

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

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

June 27, 2021



*“You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.”
Psalm 30*

Welcome to Worship!

*“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 (Led by Beth Hunter)

One: Arise, people of faith, the Spirit invites us to dance!

Many: Reach for health and wholeness. Embrace one another with love and joy.

One: God has heard our cries. God shines light.

Many: Like those who wait for the morning we have awaited God's saving word.

One: Come, receive God's word—take God's hand!

All: Come with hope. God is faithful!

HYMN: *Let All Things Now Living*

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving

To God our creator triumphantly raise.

Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,

Who still guides us on to the end of our days.

His banners are o'er us, His light goes before us,

A pillar of fire shining forth in the night.

Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished

As forward we travel from light into light.

His law he enforces, the stars in their courses

And sun in its orbit obediently shine;

The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,

The deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine.

We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;

With glad adoration a song let us raise

Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:

"To God in the highest, Hosanna and praise!" Amen.

INVOCATION (Led by Beth Hunter – join in at home.)

Gracious God, thank you for those times when we have cried out and you have lifted us up and set our foot safely on a high place. You alone bring us out from the desert, leading us to a promised place of your making. We come grateful that even in our days of deepest gloom, you surrounded us with a vision stronger than our pain and brighter than our doubts. Come Holy Spirit. Be with us now that we may see a future filled with new life and purpose. In the name of Jesus we ask it. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE:

Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah!

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 30; John 6: 67- 69

¹ I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up,
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

² O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.

³ O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

⁴ Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.

⁵ For his anger is but for a moment;
his favor is for a lifetime.

Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.

⁶ As for me, I said in my prosperity,
"I shall never be moved."

⁷ By your favor, O LORD,
you had established me as a strong mountain;
you hid your face;
I was dismayed.

⁸ To you, O LORD, I cried,
and to the LORD I made supplication:

⁹ "What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the Pit?"

Will the dust praise you?

Will it tell of your faithfulness?

¹⁰ Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me!

O LORD, be my helper!"

¹¹ You have turned my mourning into dancing;

you have taken off my sackcloth

and clothed me with joy,

¹² so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

John 6:67 So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" ⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

SERMON: What Now? (Rev. Linda Lea Snyder)

HYMN: ***How Great Thou Art***

Oh Lord, my God when I, in awesome wonder

Consider all the worlds thy hands have made

I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder

Thy power throughout the universe displayed **Refrain**

Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee

How great Thou art, how great Thou art

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee

How great Thou art, how great Thou art

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing

Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in

That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing

He bled and died to take away my sin **Refrain**

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation

And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart

Then I shall bow, in humble adoration

And then proclaim, my God, how great Thou art **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.

GETTING TO KNOW ANOTHER CHILD OF GOD – Joyce Pope

OFFERTORY INVITATION (Led by Beth Hunter)

Called to be Christ's body in this world we gather our offerings so that we may become light and salt for others. Our gifts are meager, but God's grace is abundant and multiplies both our devotion and our lives. Let us give now with generous and grateful hearts.

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: #55 *Rejoice, You Pure in Heart*

Rejoice, you pure in heart; lift praises to the sky,
Your festal banner wave with joy, the cross of Christ raise high! **Refrain**

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

With voice as full and strong as ocean's surging praise,
Send forth the hymns the saints have loved, the psalms of ancient days. **Refrain**

Praise God who rules all worlds, the risen Christ adore,
Praise God the Spirit, Holy fire, one God for evermore! **Refrain**

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
SABBATICAL COVERAGE PASTOR – The Rev. Linda Lea Snyder
GREETERS – Rachel Cobban, Sue Brown
LAY READER – Beth Hunter
CHOIR DIRECTOR/ ORGANIST – Joan Virga
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR – Christine Lehoullier
OFFICE MANAGER – Michelle Guerrin
VIDEO PRODUCTION – Paul Lindemann, with Brian Williams and Mike Schroeder

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

IN OUR PRAYERS - June 27, 2021

PRAYERS OF JOY

Ryder W. underwent surgery this week and it went very well.

Kenny, Lynda's husband (Northern Ireland) who has recovered from a nasty infection. It was great to see both of them in worship last Sunday.

John Bartel, who will be returning from Florida the first week of July! John has been a consistent face at our Tuesday night book studies—it will be great to see him in person.

Prayers of peace for Pastor Deborah as her sabbatical time draws to a close.

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

Gratitude for our Irish friends who worship with us every week. Joy in Kenny's recovery.

Gratitude for Rev. Kennedy and our friends in Zimbabwe!

Gratitude for members in Georgia, Zimbabwe, and Northern Ireland!

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 in the wake of isolated violence this week.

Prayers for siblings in the west and northwest of the US who are facing unprecedented high temps and the threat of another intense fire season.

PRAYERS OF STRENGTH, HEALTH, AND HEALING

Brian, friend of Wendy W. & Jeff S., who continues to manage serious health concerns where he lives in Canada. Bless the friends who are ministering to him.

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

For Marilyn Ham who is staying at Hanover Hill Health Care Center in Manchester and doing well.

Love and prayers to Judy D. is recovering nicely (but slowly) from complicated arm surgery. Prayers for Rachel as she supports her.

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

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 students as they finish up the school year and move into summer activities.

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 those living in the west and upper Midwest who are experiencing unprecedented high temps, fires and an increased threat of fires.

Prayers for peaceful resolution to conflict situations around the world and for 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 brings dinner each month.

That vaccine distribution will be increasingly possible around the world, and in the US will continue to build our common resistance. For those who continue to be taken ill and lose family members.

Everyone in Zimbabwe, recovering slightly from desperate hunger and now receiving some vaccines. Continued prayers with Dr. 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 Danganvura – 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.

