

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

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

**July 18, 2021**



*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.”*

**No matter who you are, no matter where you are on life’s journey –  
You are welcome among us!**

**GATHERING INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

CENTERING MUSIC as we LIGHT THE CHRIST CANDLE

***“Let There be Peace on Earth”***

Let There be Peace on Earth and let it begin with me.  
Let There Be Peace on Earth; The peace that was meant to be  
With God our Creator; family all are we  
Let me walk with my neighbor In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me; Let this be the moment now.  
With ev’ry step I take Let this be my solemn vow  
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally  
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

WELCOME

## CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come one, come all! Everyone is welcome!

**All: No matter who you are, no matter where you are on life's journey!**

One: God waits for us now – to hear our gratitude and praise.

**All: Let us rejoice and be glad – for the God of all ages loves us!**

## HYMN: #73 *Enter, Rejoice and Come In*

Vs 1 Enter, rejoice, and come in. Enter, rejoice, and come in.

*Refrain:* Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice, and come in.

Vs 2 Open yourself to the song. Open yourself to the song. (*Repeat Refrain*)

Vs 3 Open your hearts everyone. Open your hearts everyone. (*Repeat Refrain*)

## INVOCATION:

In the words of Lauren Daigle: “You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing; You say I am strong when I think I am weak; And you say I am held when I am falling short; And when I don't belong, oh You say I am Yours.” We come to you today, Oh, God, because we believe: we believe that we are loved and held and belong to You. Be with us here, we pray. Amen.

## SONG OF PRAISE: *Halle, halle, hallelujah*

(For the safety of our children, please mask as you sing.)

Halle, halle, hallelujah (repeat 3 times)

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

## **WE SPEAK TO GOD'S YOUNGER DISCIPLES**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – Let's sing together: *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: Ephesians 2:11-22**

<sup>11</sup>So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision” —a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— <sup>12</sup>remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to

the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

<sup>14</sup>For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. <sup>15</sup>He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup>and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. <sup>17</sup>So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; <sup>18</sup>for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup>So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup>built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. <sup>21</sup>In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; <sup>22</sup>in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

SERMON: A Foundation of Peace

DOXOLOGY: ***Praise God from whom all blessings flow***

(For the safety of our children, please mask as you sing.)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; One God, Triune, whom we adore.

### **WE RESPOND WITH OFFERING**

Please use this time to consider your financial offering to God's church at First Parish. Your contributions allow us to do the ministry that God calls us to.

GETTING TO KNOW ANOTHER CHILD OF GOD – Beth Hunter

Special Music by guest pianist Michelle Gardner

### **WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER**

HYMN: # 506 ***What a Friend We Have in Jesus***

What a friend we have in Jesus All our sins and griefs to bear  
What a privilege to carry Everything to God in prayer

Oh, what peace we often forfeit Oh, what needless pain we bear  
All because we do not carry Everything to God in prayer

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYERS



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

### FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CLOSING HYMN: #282 *Every Time I feel the Spirit*

*Refrain:* Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.

Yes, every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.

Upon the mountain my God spoke, out of God's mouth came fire and smoke.

Looked all around me; looked so fine; I asked my God if all were mine. (*Refrain*)

Oh, Jordan river, chilly and cold, it chills the body, not the soul.

There's only one train on this track; It runs to heaven, then right back. (*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

GREETERS – Rachel Cobban, Sue Brown

LAY READER – Debbie Gline Allen

GUEST MUSICIAN – Michelle Gardner

SONG LEADER – Katie Cobban

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 - July 18, 2021*

### PRAYERS OF JOY

What a joy to worship together outdoors last week –and still welcome friends from afar  
Pastor Deborah is full of joy to be among us and we welcome her back with joy.

Marilyn Ham returned to her home on Wednesday. She loves the cards you send.

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.

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

Gratitude for Rev. Kennedy and our friends in Zimbabwe, for whom we pray. May they

receive adequate vaccines to protect them. May God strengthen Kennedy and his congregation for these days.

Gratitude for members in Georgia, Zimbabwe, and Northern Ireland. Their presence with us online is wonderful!

### **PRAYERS OF CONSOLATION**

For the families of loved ones who perished in the collapsed building in Surfside, FL.

For the families of those who were lost due to Hurricane Elsa.

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**

Judy Dobson, Rachel C's stepmom, who lost her home to a fire.

Victims of fire, floods, and hurricanes in our country and throughout our world.

Gert, Anne-Marie's mother, is home and doing better. Thank you for your prayers.

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

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.

**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 the families those lost and missing in the Miami building collapse.

Prayers for those living in the northwest, west and 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.

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.