

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

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

July 25, 2021



"Peace in the languages of the World" By Pastor Karl Fay

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 all you, who are branches of the living God!
Many: We come for the living water and for nourishment.
One: Gather together as One in Christ in spite of whatever cultural differences
you may see.
Many: We gather in the Presence of the One who created us and the One who
redeemed us.
One: Praise the God of impossible forgiveness and immeasurable compassion.
Many: We humbly praise our loving God with humility, joy and grateful hearts

HYMN: #394 ***In Christ There Is No East or West (vs1 & 3)***

In Christ there is no East or West, in Christ no South or North;
But one community of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ is neither Jew nor Greek, and neither slave nor free;
For men and women live in God, and all are kin to me.

INVOCATION:

We are thirsty, O God, for your wonder and your Presence. We yearn for the peace
that surpasses all human understanding. We crave your vineyard, where we abide
forever in your light. Come be with us; gather here with us; allow us to show our
meager gratitude in response to your abundant generosity. We are ready, O God,
for you called us and we are here. 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

HYMN: #522 *I Love to Tell the Story (v 1)*

I love to tell the story of unseen things above.
Of Jesus' radiant glory, of Jesus' endless love.
I love to tell the story, Because I know 'tis true;
It satisfies my longings As nothing else can do.

***Refrain: I love to tell the story; and when I am in glory
I'll tell the old, old story of Jesus' endless love.***

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 4: 1-16

¹ I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

⁷ But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸ Therefore it is said,
"When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people."

⁹ (When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹ The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴ We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

HYMN: #522 *I Love to Tell the Story (v 3)*

I love to tell the story; it's pleasant to repeat
What seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
The message of salvation from God's own holy Word.

***Refrain: I love to tell the story; and when I am in glory
I'll tell the old, old story of Jesus' endless love.***

SERMON: "Being Tossed To and Fro"

DOXOLOGY: ***Refrain: I love to tell the story; and when I am in glory
I'll tell the old, old story of Jesus' endless love.***

WE RESPOND WITH OFFERING

Summer can be a "low income" time of year us. 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 – John Bartel

Special Music by guest pianist Jonathan Cote

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYERS

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

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN: #495 *Called As Partners in Christ's Service (vs 1, 4)*

Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.

So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

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 – Jack Martin, Sue Brown
LAY READER – Beth Hunter
GUEST MUSICIAN – Jonathan Cote
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 25, 2021

PRAYERS OF JOY

Welcome Lucy Rose Breeden, born July 16 at 1:53am; 7 lbs 6 ozs; 20 inches long
Wonderful Celebration of life of Alice Coller! Such a lovely Child of God!
What a joy to worship together outdoors—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.
Gratitude for members in Georgia, Zimbabwe, and Northern Ireland.

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.
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 OF STRENGTH, HEALTH, AND HEALING

Uncle John (Paula R)
Abi Williams and her parents Wendy and Jeff.
Benjamin Plouff, Dick's brother, suffering from cardiac issues, breathing now difficult
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.
Brian, friend of Wendy W. & Jeff S. 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 prayers.
Erin H. friend of Nancy Murdock. She has a serious autoimmune disease.
Raymond C, son of Maryann's friend Linda, needs a heart transplant.
Stephen, nephew of Eileen Cox, diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma stage 3

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

Prayers of peace and 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 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.

