

First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road East Derry, NH 03041  
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

**August 29, 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.”*

(Adapted from a 12th Century Church in Hampshire, England)

**WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

CENTERING MUSIC AND LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT

***“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: (Led by Joanne Worthen)

One: Healing God, we come before you broken, yet seeking wholeness;  
isolated, yet seeking community; overwhelmed, yet seeking simplicity;  
shamed, yet seeking grace:

Many: God, we yearn for the healing you promise.

One: God of Justice, we come before you selfish, yet seeking a generous heart;  
arrogant, yet seeking humility; responsible for injustices, yet seeking  
forgiveness:

Many: God, we yearn for the justice you promise.

One: God of Peace, we come before you afraid, yet seeking assurance;  
agitated, yet seeking serenity; angry, yet seeking a forgiving heart:

### Invocation: (Led by Joanne Worthen, please join in)

God, we yearn for the peace you promise and knowing that through Christ  
all things are made new, we come to your Presence as if coming to your communion  
table to be recreated through the bread and cup, and to be renewed in our faith and  
commitment. Come, Holy Spirit, come: that we might be renewed through and with  
you. This we pray through Jesus the Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

### HYMN: #473 **Blessed Assurance** (vs. 1, 2)

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of the Spirit, washed in Christ's blood.  
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight! Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending, bring from above echoes of mercy; whispers of love.  
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

### SONG OF PRAISE: HYMN: #4 **Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You**

Joyful, joyful, we adore you, God of glory, God of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the storms of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

## 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: Mt 26:26-29

<sup>26</sup> While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."

<sup>27</sup> Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you;

<sup>28</sup> for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

<sup>29</sup> I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

SERMON: Chosen, Blessed, Broken and Given

### HYMN: #612 ***Strengthen All the Weary Hands*** (vs. 1,2)

Strengthen all the weary hands,	steady all the trembling knees,
and say to all the faint hearts;	Courage, courage, do not be afraid.
Look, your God is coming.	God comes, comes to save you.
Courage, courage, do not be afraid.	

Waters flow in the wilderness,	streams break forth amid arid deserts,
burning sands turn to pools.	Be strong, fear not, for your God is near.
Look, your God is coming.	God comes, comes to save you,
Be strong, fear not, for your God is near.	

## 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.

### OFFERTORY INVITATION (Led by Joanne Worthen)

A loving and gracious God surrounds creation with abundant love. We give thanks to God whose love for us was made known through Jesus, which reassures and reconciles us to God, to ourselves and to one another. As Christ is our light to God, may we be lights to others illuminating the path toward communion with God, the Holy Spirit and Jesus, our friend and brother. It is in this Spirit that we are called to give of our bounty.

## GETTING TO KNOW ANOTHER CHILD OF GOD – Brian Williams

DOXOLOGY: #785      We give you but your own, whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (Led by Joanne Worthen)

Thank you, God, for life in the Spirit of Jesus: for the gladness in the Communion bread and cup, for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends, for the glory of creation, for the mission of justice you have made our own. We dedicate to your work the gifts presented here today. Amen.

### **WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER**

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYER

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

ANY FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN: #495 Called as Partners in Christ's Service (vs.1, 4)

Called as partners in Christ's service, We respond with deep commitment May we learn the art of sharing, Equal partners in our caring	called to ministries of grace, fresh new lines of faith to trace. side by side and friend with friend, to fulfill God's chosen end.
So grant us for tomorrow ways That surround each person's sorrow Make us partners in our living, Messengers of faith, thus giving	to order human life with a calm that conquers strife. our compassion to increase, 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.*

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

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH - Members of the Congregation  
SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER - The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof  
GREETERS – Anne-Marie Merrill, Sue Brown  
LAY READER – Joanne Worthen  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC – Jonathan Cote  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR - Christine Lehoullier  
OFFICE MANAGER - Michelle Guerrin  
AV/ TECHNICAL – Paul Lindemann with Brian Williams and Mike Schroeder

## *IN OUR PRAYERS - August 29, 2021*

### **PRAYERS OF JOY**

United Theological College in Harare, Zimbabwe received our donation for food.  
Spaghetti Supper – it is of note that the First Parish spaghetti angels have NEVER missed a month of providing delicious dinners to those in need!!! Thank you!  
Labyrinth field trip to Windham, followed by a trip to Moo's!  
Jonathan Cote is the new Music Director at FPC!  
What a joy to worship together outdoors 8.15 and baptize three children!  
John and Ginnie “tied the knot” on Saturday August 14!  
Prayerful planning for our return to indoor worship – whenever it may come!  
Field trip to Keene to see two different labyrinths! Labyrinth walkers who were able to attend really had a great experience!  
Times of gathering again with families and friends.  
Christian Education's In person Puppet Show and a Craft- Wonderful experience with Christine & her team of puppet friends!  
Gratitude for members in Georgia, Zimbabwe, and Northern Ireland.

### **PRAYERS OF CONSOLATION**

For the families of the soldiers lost in Afghanistan.  
For the family of Matthew Foster, a senior at UVM, who died on July 19.  
For Kennedy G and his whole family: Kennedy's sister died from Covid.  
For the families of those who were lost due to Hurricane Henri.  
For the families and friends of Sue Morin, Scott Lovejoy, Marge and Glenn Allen.  
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 631,008+ 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.

## **PRAYERS OF STRENGTH, HEALTH, AND HEALING**

Woody, who lost almost everything in his home.

Victims of flooding and fire

Gail & George, Jo's friends, going through a difficult time with age related changes.  
Jo's sister Sue, in the hospital awaiting nursing home placement. Her husband died recently. Sue is very distraught and afraid for what her future holds.

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.

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:** Priscilla with colon cancer; Tracey with aggressive cancer who has 3 children/ only 46 years old; 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 war-torn and violence-ridden areas of the world, e.g. Afghanistan

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 and 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.