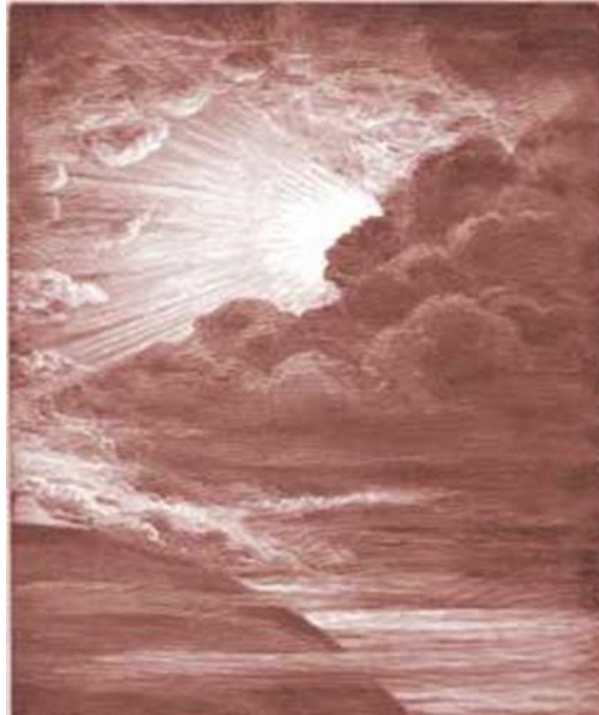


First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road East Derry, NH 03041
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

September 19, 2021 10:00 Outdoors



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 lay reader

One: God of the sparrow and the whale and the swirling stars:

Many: We, your Creatures, are in awe as we praise You.

One: God of the earthquake, storm, and trumpet blast

Many: We, your Creatures, cry 'woe' and 'save';

One: God of the rainbow, cross, and empty grave

Many: We, your Creatures, say Grace and Thanks.

INVOCATION (Led by lay reader please join in.)

God of wonder and delight, You are the God of the ages and the near at hand; You are the God of the hungry, the sick, and the prodigal. We come because You care and You give us hope in this life and the next. We come because You love and You are our Peace. Come to us now in this sweet hour of prayer. Amen.

HYMN: #28 *For the Beauty of Earth* (vs. 1,3,4)

For the beauty of the earth, for the splendor of the skies,
For the love which from our birth, Over and around us lies,
God of all, to you we raise This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child
Friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild,
God of all, to you we raise This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the good that love inspires, for a world where none exclude,
For a faith that never tires, and for every heart renewed,
God of all, to you we raise This our hymn of grateful praise.

SONG OF PRAISE: HYMN #591 *This Is My Song* (vs.1)

This is my song, O God of all nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
Both other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes
and dreams as true and high as mine.

GOD'S YOUNGER DISCIPLES

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. The promise is not only to us but also to our children. Baptism with water and the Spirit is the mark of acceptance into the care of Christ's church, and the sign and seal of participation in God's forgiveness. It also marks the beginning of a sacred journey in the Christian faith.

Let's sing: **Jesus Loves Me**

The Deacons will read the litany of Baptism.

Questions of the parents, do you desire to have your child baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ? **(We do.)**

To the Godparents and family of the child:

Will you say no to the powers of evil in order to receive the freedom of new life in Christ? And will you encourage him/her likewise? **(We will.)**

Will you teach him/her that he/she be led to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior? **(We will.)**

Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciples, to follow in the way of Jesus' teachings, to resist oppression, to show love and justice, and to share your life in Jesus Christ with others, as best you are able? **(We do.)**

To the gathered Congregation: As witnesses of this sacred moment, will you be an example of faith and compassion, and will you help this family in teaching the stories of our faith as best you are able? If you do, please affirm by saying "We so promise." **(We so promise.)**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I invite you to join in one voice as we unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

PASTOR: Do you believe in God?

PEOPLE: I believe in God.

PASTOR: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

PEOPLE: I believe in Jesus Christ.

PASTOR: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

PEOPLE: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

Blessing of the Water: Gracious God, bless by your Holy Spirit this water and create new life in these children baptized this day that they may rise in Christ.

Glory to you, eternal God, the one who was, and is, and shall always be, world without end. Amen.

Naming and Baptism

The Holy Spirit be upon you – Child of God, disciple of Christ, member of the church universal.

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.

And all God's people exclaim: Thanks be to God!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 1:20-2:3 (Please join with underlined words.)

^{1:20} And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹ So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind.

²² God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴ And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

²⁷ So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." ²⁹ God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food." ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹ God saw everything that God had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

^{2:1} Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ² And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

SERMON: God of the Sparrow; God of the Whale (sung and spoken)

HYMN: #32 **God of the Sparrow God of the Whale**

The Preached Word: Spoken Introduction followed by singing:

1. God of the sparrow; God of the whale; God of the swirling stars;
How does the creature say Awe? How does the creature say Praise?
2. God of the earthquake; God of the storm; God of the trumpet blast;
How does the creature cry Woe? How does the creature cry Save?

The Preached Word: Spoken words followed by singing:

3. God of the rainbow; God of the cross; God of the empty grave;
How does the creature say Grace? How does the creature say Thanks?
4. God of the hungry; God of the sick; God of the prodigal;
How does the creature say Care? How does the creature say Life?

The Preached Word: Spoken conclusion followed by singing:

5. God of the neighbor; God of the foe; God of the pruning hook;
How does the creature say Love? How does the creature say Peace?
6. God of the ages: God near at hand; God of the loving heart;
How do your children say Joy? How do your children say Home?

WE RESPOND TO BLESSINGS WITH BLESSINGS

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

RESPONDING TO GOD'S BLESSINGS: If you are joining us virtually, you may 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 (lay reader): God created and saw that it was good. God continues to create among us – inviting us to co-create, to sow and to reap the benefit of God's creating energy. Let us give with abandon!

MISSION HIGHLIGHT: Community Care Givers- Cindee Tanuma

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 lay reader, please join in.)

Thank you, God, for blessing us and blessing us again! May our gifts be multiplied so that your goodness is made known all around us! Amen.

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS and PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

ANY FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS?

HYMN: #31 *All Things Bright and Beautiful* (vs. 1, 2, 3)

Refrain: All things bright and beautiful; All creatures great and small
All things wise and wonderful; 'Twas God that made them all.

Each little flower that opens; Each little bird that sings
God made their glowing colors; And made their tiny wings

Sing Refrain

The purple headed mountains; The rivers running by
The sunset and the morning; That brightens up the sky

Sing Refrain

The cold wind in the winter: The pleasant summer sun
The ripe fruits in the garden; God made them everyone

Sing 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.*

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

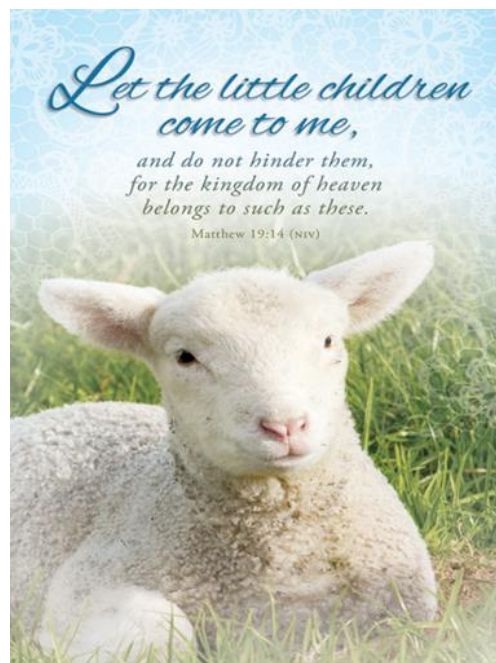
GREETERS – Jack Martin, Sue Lindemann

MUSIC DIRECTOR – Jonathan Cote

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR - Christine Lehoullier

OFFICE MANAGER - Michelle Guerrin

AV/ TECHNICAL – Paul Lindemann with Brian Williams and Mike Schroeder



IN OUR PRAYERS - September 19, 2021

PRAYERS OF JOY

Charlotte's Baptism!! Welcome to all of her family members.

It was wonderful to celebrate Derryfest again!

Derry Public Library was named New Hampshire's best library by the NH Library Trustees Association!

An awesome Labor Day Weekend on Star Island with UCC'ers from New England

Becky & Darryl Fleury's granddaughter, Margaret June "Maisie", born on Sept. 1st to Matt & Leigh!

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 Rev. Holly Tomilson, whose husband Jim was killed in a tragic accident on 9/16

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

Steph Dodd, Pastor Deborah's daughter, said goodbye to her beloved fur baby, Seth.

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.



Community Caregivers

of Greater Derry



6 West Broadway, Unit 6, Derry 432-0877
<https://comcaregivers.org> office@comcaregivers.org

Mission: Enriching lives and supporting individuals to remain independent through a compassionate volunteer community.

Vision: Improving the quality of life for everyone we serve.

Community Caregivers of Greater Derry is committed to the following values:
COMPASSION, RESPECT, DEDICATION, EXCELLENCE, RELIABILITY

Towns served by Caregivers: Danville, Derry, Londonderry, Chester, Hampstead, Sandown & Windham

Financial Support: The services that the Caregivers' volunteers provide are at *no charge to our clients*. Our services are made possible through individual and group donations, foundation support, fundraising endeavors and the towns served by Caregivers.

We can help those who have difficulty maintaining independence and quality of life because they are homebound, elderly, temporarily or permanently disabled, lonely, recuperating from illness or dealing with chronic illness.

With great support from our 458 volunteers, Caregivers provides to over 341 individuals:

Transportation for shopping, errands & medical appointments.

Visiting friendly visiting, companionship, social outings.

Errands & chores light housekeeping, minor repairs or shopping.

Respite Care provide a break for family and friends who are providing continual care.

Loaner's Closet Used medical equipment for loan, at no charge. Donations are appreciated. We are in great need of bath seats, rollators, wheelchairs and all bariatric equipment.

Last year we loaned out 2770 pieces of equipment and gave away approx. 1500 cases of adult diapers.

Statistics for 2020

41,577— the number of hours spent by our volunteers serving individuals

\$1,186,608— the value of what their service is worth

16,443— the total number of times individuals were served

144,585— the total miles driven with an individual or to an individual's home to complete a service

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO GROW. CALL OR EMAIL FOR MORE INFO.