

7First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road East Derry, NH 03041
Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

November 14, 2021



“Let goodness flow like a never-ending stream.”

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)

INTROIT ***God Bless America***

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

CENTERING MUSIC (***Every Time I Feel the Spirit***) // LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 113) (Led by Cathy Pottle)

One: Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore.

Many: From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.

One: The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens.

Many: Let us gather in worship to ask for God’s blessing.

HYMN: #421 ***We Gather Together*** (vs. 1, 2)

We gather together to ask for God's blessing,
to live in community, seeking God's will.

We come now, as sisters and brother, confessing
the sins that divide and the wrong in us still.

Beside us, forgiving enabling, sustaining,
you call us, O Savior, to life that is new.

You draw us away from self-centered complaining.

You lead us and guide us in ways that are true.

INVOCATION (Led by lay reader please join in.)

God our creator, your gifts to us are countless and your goodness without limit.
As we come in thanksgiving, teach us to use wisely the riches of land and seas
and all the blessings which come from you. Grant us hearts that know the needs
of others that we may give as freely as we have received from you

SONG OF PRAISE: #765 ***Alleluia*** (words: Alleluia)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

SCRIPTURE: Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24 International Children's Bible

^{1:1} Amos was one of the shepherds from the town of Tekoa. God showed him this vision about Israel. It was at the time Uzziah was king of Judah and Jeroboam son of Jehoash was king of Israel. This happened two years before the earthquake.

² Amos said, "The Lord will roar like a lion from Jerusalem.

His loud voice will sound like a growl from Jerusalem.

The green pastures of the shepherds will become dry.

Even Mount Carmel will dry up."

^{5:14} Try to do good, not evil. Then you will live.

And the Lord God of heaven's armies will be with you
just as you say he is.

¹⁵ Hate evil and love good. Be fair in the courts.

Maybe the Lord God of heaven's armies will be kind
to the people of Joseph who are left alive.

^{5:21} The Lord says, "I reject your feasts. I cannot stand your religious meetings.

²² You offer me burnt offerings and grain offerings. But I won't accept them.

You bring the best fellowship offerings. But I will ignore them.

²³ Take the noise of your songs away from here! I won't listen to the music of your harps. ²⁴ But let justice flow like a river. Let goodness flow like a never-ending stream.

SERMON: "Flowing Justice and Never-ending Goodness"

HYMN: #588 ***Let Justice Flow Like Streams*** (vs. 1, 2)

Let justice flow like streams of sparkling water, pure,
enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing, sure.

Let righteousness roll on as others' cares we heed,
an ever-flowing stream of faith translated into deed.

WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

We are urged to pay attention to the gifts of God that surround us in each moment: the beauty, the love, and the air we breathe. Let us be mindful of the bounty that is ours to share.

If you are joining us virtually, please 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.

A WORD OF GRATITUDE FROM DR. KENNEDY GONDONGWE IN ZIMBABWE

SPECIAL MUSIC BY JONATHAN COTE - "I AM GRATEFUL"

GETTING TO KNOW A MEMBER (Cathy Pottle) AND A CHURCH

DOXOLOGY: #425 ***For the Fruit of All Creation***

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.

For God's gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Led by lay reader, please join in.)

Giver of all good gifts, we rejoice in giving back a portion of what we have received. Bring Your blessing upon these gifts and multiply them for use among your children who will be served through our giving. Amen.

WE RESPOND WITH GRATITUDE AND PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGING VETERANS – NEAR AND FAR

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYERS, followed by
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.

SUNG RESPONSE: #423:

Great is your faithfulness! (2x) Morning by morning new mercies I see;

All I have needed, Your hand has provided; Great is your faithfulness! God unto me.

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

ANY FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN: #591 *This Is My Song* (vs.1, 2)

This is my song, O God of all the 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; but other hearts in other lands are beating with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean, and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine. But other lands have sunlight too, and clover, and skies are ev'rywhere as blue as mine. So hear my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: *Halle, halle, halle-lujah*

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

LAY READER – Cathy Pottle

NOVEMBER GREETERS – Sue Brown, Sue Lindemann (Remote)

MUSICIAN – Jonathan Cote

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR - Christine Lehoullier

OFFICE MANAGER - Michelle Guerrin

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

IN OUR PRAYERS – November 14, 2021

PRAYERS OF JOY

New Walkway on the west side of the connector! Thanks to Bill and Fred!

Beautiful fall; magnificent colors and lots of sun!

The gorgeous glass garden sculptures/totems are beautiful! Ready for Sugar Plum! Beautiful flooring and fresh paint – inside and out!!! Gratitude to Facilities and to the BAC for their hard work!

Handsome chairs for Pastor Deborah's office and the foyer – thank you, Breeden's!!

Dangamvura – UCCZ – Zimbabwe African Church has been in touch with us

So many diapers collected going to needy families with young children!

Gratitude for in-person worship and everyone's willingness to follow safety protocol.

Gratitude for members and friends in Georgia, Zimbabwe, and Northern Ireland.

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

PRAYERS OF CONSOLATION

Karen Wilson, her siblings and ALL the family on the loss of Karen's mother.

Friends of Tommie Pitts, who passed away suddenly last week.

For the families of the soldiers lost in Afghanistan

For the families of those who were lost due to recent hurricanes and fires.

Families of the **755,000+** people who have died in the US due to COVID. (10/29/2021)

PRAYERS OF STRENGTH, HEALTH, AND HEALING

Davida, Jo's friend, suffering from migraines after surgery.

Nancy's friend Erin H.- Prayers that her medical condition will improve enough that her boys will be able to return to live with her

Thavy, friend of the Guerrin family, during her high-risk pregnancy.

Benjamin Plouff, Dick's brother, suffering from cardiac issues, breathing now difficult

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

For those with cancer: Janice P needs another round of chemo; 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; Martha, close friend of Pat and Dick P, recurring leukemia; Bb Dinan (friend of the Bob and Karen); Danny with stage 4 cancer, brother of Mary Jane (friend of Rachel and Alec.)

SPECIAL ONGOING PRAYERS

Law Enforcement, fire fighters and other protectors of our safety and democracy;
especially all first responders, active troops, and National Guard Military.

Prayers for peaceful resolution to conflict situations around the world

Parkland Hospital personnel, and all nurses and doctors, Hospice workers and

Southern NH Family Promise; Sonshine Soup Kitchen; Marion Gerrish; Upper Room

United Theological College in Zimbabwe, as well as our friend Kennedy Gondongwe

Tim B – Health & strength and Bonnie H, friend of Tim B

Friends of the Meetinghouse Board of Directors