

First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road East Derry, NH 03041  
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**February 20, 2022**



ALL ARE WELCOME

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

**WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD**

CENTERING MUSIC AND LIGHTING THE CANDLES

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: What are you thirsty for?

**Many:** Our souls thirst for the life-giving Word of God.

One: Jesus said, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me."

**Many:** Let us come to worship and be revived with living water.

HYMN: # 478 ***I've Got Peace Like a River***

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river, in my soul. (repeat)

I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain, in my soul. (repeat)

I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean, in my soul. (repeat)

I've got faith like an anchor, I've got faith like an anchor,  
I've got faith like an anchor, in my soul. (repeat)

INVOCATION (lay reader)

We come to you, God, because we are thirsty. We long for your care, guidance, and love. Our spirits need the refreshing water of your Word and your abundant grace. Open our hearts to your Son and gift us with his living water. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE: #610 **Glory, Glory Hallelujah!** (x3) God's truth is marching on!

## **WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US**

FIRST STORY FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN: The Woman Who Outshone the Sun

SCRIPTURE: John 7:37-52

<sup>37</sup> On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, <sup>38</sup> and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" <sup>39</sup> Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

<sup>40</sup> When they heard these words, some in the crowd said, "This is really the prophet." <sup>41</sup> Others said, "This is the Messiah." But some asked, "Surely the Messiah does not come from Galilee, does he? <sup>42</sup> Has not the scripture said that the Messiah is descended from David and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David lived?" <sup>43</sup> So there was a division in the crowd because of him. <sup>44</sup> Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

<sup>45</sup> Then the temple police went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who asked them, "Why did you not arrest him?" <sup>46</sup> The police answered, "Never has anyone spoken like this!" <sup>47</sup> Then the Pharisees replied, "Surely you have not been deceived too, have you? <sup>48</sup> Has any one of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? <sup>49</sup> But this crowd, which does not know the law—they are accursed." <sup>50</sup> Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus before, and who was one of them, asked, <sup>51</sup> "Our law does not judge people without first giving them a hearing to find out what they are doing, does it?" <sup>52</sup> They replied, "Surely you are not also from Galilee, are you? Search and you will see that no prophet is to arise from Galilee."

SECOND STORY FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN: Living Water  
<https://www.masaru-emoto.net/en/crystal-3/>



MOMENT FOR MISSION: One Great Hour of Sharing ~ Carol Guerrin

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR STEWARDSHIP

### OFFERTORY INVITATION (lay reader)

How thankful we are when we survey the amazing riches that God has provided for us on our planet -- a planet that feeds our bodies and quenches our thirst. And how thankful we are for the gifts of the Spirit that nourish our souls. Let us contemplate our gratitude and let us reciprocate to the best of our ability.

*If you are joining us virtually, please share your joys and concerns in the chat. Our services are recorded. Please use first names. God knows who you mean.*

### DOXOLOGY: **Masithi**

Amen siakudumisa. (x2) Amen bawo, Amen bawo, Amen siakudumisa.

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

Thank you, God, for the blessings we enjoy. We offer our best in response for these undeserved blessings. We pray that you would multiply our efforts as a sign of your love and compassion to everyone we meet. Amen.

## WE RESPOND WITH GRATITUDE AND PRAYER

### SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS and PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE, 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.

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

### ANY FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HYMN: **Wade in the Water** African American Spiritual

Wade in the water (repeat x 4), children; God's gonna trouble the water

See that band all dressed in white - God's gonna trouble the water

It look like a band of the Israelites - God's gonna trouble the water

See that band all dressed in red - God's gonna trouble the water

Look like a band that Moses led - God's gonna trouble the water

Look over yonder, what do you see? God's gonna trouble the water

The Holy Ghost a-coming to me - God's gonna trouble the water

Wade in the water (repeat x 4), children; God's gonna trouble the water

## BLESSING

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  
SUBSTITUTE PREACHER – Debbie Gline Allen  
LAY READER – Cathy Zylinski  
GREETERS –Reni Harnden, Sue Lindemann (Remote)  
MUSICIAN – Kaitlyn Leahy  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR - Christine Lehoullier  
OFFICE MANAGER - Michelle Guerrin  
AV/ TECHNICAL – Paul Lindemann with Mike Schroeder

## *IN OUR PRAYERS - February 20, 2021*

### PRAYERS OF JOY

Diapers! Diapers! Thank you to everyone who donated diapers for Upper Room!  
**Thavy & her husband Brian**, friends of the Guerrin family, welcomed their first child on Feb 8th, a son, after many years and a very high-risk pregnancy.

Storms do not prevent us from worshipping together!! Technology helps us worship!  
Rumors of a balanced budget are TRUE!!! God's abundance and God's people's generosity!

Gratitude from the staff for the raises and insurance coverage.

Renewed energy for projects and events around the church!

Thank you to Laurel Devino, our musician last week. She is no stranger to First Parish, and we welcome her back with enthusiasm.

### **Thank you to Paper Angels!**

**Fred Merrill** is a gift from God and an answer to prayer! He has served this congregation with grace and wisdom for several years. Words aren't enough to express how much we all appreciate his service to First Parish.

**Congratulations! Pat and Dick Plouff** on the birth of another sweet great-grandbaby!

**Congratulations** and joy to Mark and Cindy Pingree on the birth of their new grandbaby.

**The staff** was filled with joy for the generous monetary gift to each of us for Christmas!

Thank you for allowing us to serve you and thank you for seeing how much we care.

**Cards of Care to Hospital** workers at Dartmouth Hitchcock- Thank you for writing!

**Thank you** to everyone who pledged and to those people who have increased their pledge! Technology allows us to stay connected during this pandemic!

**Gratitude to lay** leaders who stepped up when Pastor Deborah had Covid;

**Gratitude** for members and friends in Indiana, Georgia, Zimbabwe, and N. Ireland.

## **PRAYERS OF CONSOLATION**

Family & friends of Dolly Cabral (friend of the Guerrin Family) who died on Jan 31<sup>st</sup> from Covid complications. Family of Ruthlee Root, who died on January 20. For the families of the **910,373** people who have died in the US due to COVID. (2/11/22)

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

Carol (Carol G.'s sister-in-law) facing multiple operations to deal with the effects of Parkinson's; Sue (Jo W's sister) still in the hospital awaiting surgery and family cannot see her; Gail and George (Jo's friends) in ME need our prayers; Lincoln, Karen W's nephew, struggling with Autism and other mental health concerns. Jenny, friends of Jeff S; Davida, Jo's friend, suffering from migraines after surgery; Benjamin Plouff, Dick's brother, suffering from cardiac issues, breathing now difficult  
Jim, Jeff S.'s father, for prayers of confidence and healing

**For those with cancer:** Caroline M's surgery was 1.27; BB Dinan (friend of the Bob and Karen) – approaching the end of his life; Bruce with stage 4 colon cancer; Janice P continues to fight her 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; Martha, close friend of Pat and Dick P, recurring leukemia

## **SPECIAL ONGOING PRAYERS**

Law Enforcement, fire fighters; first responders, active military  
Prayers for peaceful resolution to conflict situations around the world  
Parkland Hospital personnel, Elliot Hospital personnel, staff at Dartmouth Hitchcock 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





One Great Hour of Sharing is one of our 5 for 5 UCC special mission offerings. This year the Missions Board hopes that you will participate by picking up a coin bank and the Sharing Calendar. Both will be available for you to pick up in the church vestibule. This is a great way to involve your family and also is an opportunity to discuss the needs of others and how every donation helps.

Over 4 weeks, each day highlights various situations and suggests a donation of coins or bills per participant. Each individual decides what amount their "unit" equals. For a child the unit could be one coin; for an adult the unit could be a dollar bill, etc. We will be collecting your boxes on March 27th. We hope that you enjoy this tangible and visual way of collecting for One Great Hour of Sharing. What a blessing this will be for others.

Thank you from your Board of Missions.