

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

March 13, 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 (led by lay reader, Cathy Pottle)

One: Come to God, who has loved us through Christ Jesus.

Many: God hears our voices and yearns for us to follow Jesus' voice.

One: Let us come and prepare ourselves for this journey of faith.

Many: We come to be washed and cleansed and healed.

HYMN: # 498 **Jesu, Jesu, Fill us with Your Love** (Vs. 1, 4, 5)

Refrain: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

Knelt at the feet of his friends, silently washing their feet,
Jesu, you acted as servant to them. *Sing Refrain*

Loving puts us on our knees, showing our faith by our deeds,
serving the neighbors we have from you. *Sing Refrain*

Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet,
this is the way we should live with you.

INVOCATION (led by lay reader)

We have gathered, O God, to be refreshed at the well of your living water. We gather as disciples awaiting your Call to us. We long to love as we have been loved and to serve as Christ has served us. Lead us, O God. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE: #759 Gloria to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit,
Three in One; as it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

SCRIPTURE: John 13:1-17

¹Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself.

⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." ¹¹For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹²After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴So if I, your Lord and

Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷ If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

SERMON: The Blessing is in the Doing

HYMN: #531 **God, Speak to Me, That I May Speak** (Vs. 1, 2)

Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living echoes of your tone.
As you have sought, so let me seek Your erring children, lost and lone.

Oh, lead me, God, that I may lead Some wanderers along life's way;
Oh, feed me so that I may feed Your hungry ones without delay.

WE RESPOND WITH OUR STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY INVITATION (lay reader)

We are invited to bring our best in thanksgiving to God for the bounty we enjoy. Let us express our gratitude so that the love of God may be shared near and far through our actions.

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.

GETTING TO KNOW A CHILD OF GOD: Ken 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 lay reader, please join in.)

Thank you, God, for your Presence in our lives. We dedicate the gifts brought to Your service and we ask that You would multiply our efforts in bountiful ways. Amen.

WE RESPOND WITH GRATITUDE AND PRAYER

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYER,
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: # 448 *Take My Life, God, Let it Be* (Vs. 3, 4)

Take my will Your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.
Take my heart, and by your grace make of it your dwelling place.

Take my love and help it grow; let my loving overflow.
Take me now and help me be part of Christ's community.

BENEDICTION

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

GREETERS – Reni Harnden, Jo Worthen, Sue Lindemann (Remote)

GUEST PIANIST – Trina Brand

SONG LEADER – Katie Cobban

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR - Christine Lehoullier

OFFICE MANAGER - Michelle Guerrin

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

IN OUR PRAYERS - March 13, 2022

PRAYERS OF JOY

The elevator passed its final inspection.

Pastor Deborah held a public lecture on John 3 and 4 to the community at the United Theological School in Zimbabwe. Joy of technology!

Our sister church in Zimbabwe – Dangamvura UCC - received our financial gift with joy and gratitude!

Music Committee is working hard to provide a program of music for worship services! Nearly 200 cards of caring were delivered to the staff at Dartmouth Hitchcock in Hanover, NH. Thank you for caring!

Youth event was lots of fun! Thank you, Miss Christine!

So much gratitude to Debbie Gline Allen for leading us in worship on 2.20.22.

Diapers! Diapers! Thank you to everyone who donated diapers for Upper Room!

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 Paper Angels!

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

PRAYERS OF CONSOLATION

Family & friends of Bob Greenfield (friend of the Guerrin Family) who died on March 2nd
For the families of the **961,620** people who have died in the US due to COVID. (3/11/22)

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: Sue Weaver was diagnosed with a cancer and had an operation on 3.10.22. Cards may be sent to: 7 Beacon St; Derry, 03038.

Caroline M's surgery was 1.27 – she will need radiation but prognosis is good; 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

Ukraine – its people, its President. Russia – its people, its Leaders.

Poland – who has received nearly 1.5 million refugees from Ukraine

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 are 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.