

First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road East Derry, NH 03041  
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**March 6, 2022**



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 // LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT

WELCOME and Opening Visualization

CALL TO WORSHIP (Led by Liz Greenberg)

One: Welcome to the time of covenant renewal.

**Many: We come here to be reminded of God's promises to us;**

One: Hear God's welcoming voice.

**Many: Hear God calling our names.**

One: Let us be in wonder at God's steadfast love.

**Many: And let us proclaim the wonders of God.**

HYMN: #4 **Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You** (vs. 1, 2)

Joyful, joyful, we adore You, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You, Op'ning to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day!

All Your works with joy surround You, Earth and heav'n reflect Your rays,  
Stars and angels sing around You, Center of unbroken praise;  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain Praising You eternally!

INVOCATION (Led by lay reader please join in.)

Lead us in your love this day, gracious God. We long to know your ways and to be guided by your Spirit. We want to grow in the likeness of Jesus, to learn to live in ways that are pleasing to you.

We wait for you now, eager to respond to your guidance. Let nothing cut us off from you or separate us from one another, not only in this time of worship but as we face the challenges of another week. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION (lay leader)

Our cultural pressure and priorities confuse our relationship with God. May we break away from any illusion of independence in order to realize our responsibility to God through the church. Let us claim our unity in Christ with all God's children and confess our brokenness so that we may begin healing.

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

**Holy God, At times, we act as if we can get along without you. We bend your law to our own whims and then excuse our own disobedience. Forgive us, God. We are not worthy, but you call us anyway. Restore us to yourself, we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVNESS (lay leader)

God calls each of us by name. Every community of faith is known to God, whose understanding is unlimited. The One who knows our hearts is eager to forgive the truly penitent and to empower those who have grown weary. Praise God!

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.

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

### Invitation to Communion (Rev. Maren Tirabassi, author)

One: Scripture says, "You shall not live by bread ... alone."  
So, what do you spread on your bread?

**All: This bread is spread with the butter of compassion,  
and the jam of welcome.**

One: Jesus said, "You shall not live by bread alone."  
So how do you serve your bread?

**All: We serve this bread on the plates of plenty offered to the food-  
insecure every day of the week.**

One: Every Lent we hear, "You shall not live by bread, alone."  
So, who sits at your table?

**All: All God's children, ones I know, ones I don't know yet.  
Even when I feel alone, I am never alone.**

### Our Sacred Story

### Prayer of Consecration

#### SHARING the MEAL

*At home, you may use elements of your choosing to represent the bread and the cup.  
If you are with your family, please serve one another.*

*Here in our Sanctuary, we will be using the individual cups that you picked up at the  
entrance. Lift one tab to retrieve the "bread". Carefully lift the second tab to drink the  
juice. You will be able to discard the empty cup as you leave the sanctuary.*

The Bread of Life.... (we take together)

The Cup of Love... (we take prayerfully in our own time)

### Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

God of feast and fast, who relishes falafel, jambalaya, pad Thai, and even post-Mardi  
Gras pancakes, help us eat always with compassion for the earth, delight in the flavors  
of every people, and generosity in sharing, Amen.

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

### SCRIPTURE: John 11:1-44

<sup>1</sup>Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister  
Martha. <sup>2</sup>Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet  
with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent a message to  
Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." <sup>4</sup>But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This  
illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God  
may be glorified through it." <sup>5</sup>Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister

and Lazarus, <sup>6</sup> after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

<sup>7</sup> Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." <sup>8</sup> The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" <sup>9</sup> Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. <sup>10</sup> But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." <sup>11</sup> After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." <sup>12</sup> The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." <sup>13</sup> Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. <sup>14</sup> Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. <sup>15</sup> For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." <sup>16</sup> Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

<sup>17</sup> When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup> Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, <sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. <sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. <sup>[f]</sup> Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, <sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup> She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, <sup>[g]</sup> the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

<sup>28</sup> When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." <sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup> The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup> When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup> He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup> Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup> So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup> But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

<sup>38</sup> Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister

of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days.”<sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?”<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, “Father, I thank you for having heard me.<sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.”<sup>43</sup> When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”<sup>44</sup> The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

SERMON: Jesus Calls Us

HYMN: #172 ***Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult*** (vs. 1, 4)

Jesus calls us o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;  
day by day his voice invites me, saying "Christian, follow me!"  
In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,  
still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."

### **WE RESPOND WITH OUR FINANCIAL GIFTS**

OFFERTORY INVITATION (lay reader)

God has blessed us in more ways than we can count. Let us offer to God support for our world and healing for our communities.

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.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU: Liz Greenberg

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.)

For the people you have given us to love and the tasks you have called us to do, we give you thanks, O God. We dedicate our gifts and ourselves to your touch – that they may be multiplied by your loving Spirit. May your Presence be made known through our efforts. 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: *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

## LENTEN CANDLE RITUAL

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

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 – Liz Greenberg  
GREETERS –Reni Harnden and Sue Lindemann (Remote)  
MUSICIAN – Kaitlyn Leahy  
SONG LEADER – Katie Cobban  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR - Christine Lehoullier  
OFFICE MANAGER - Michelle Guerrin  
AV/ TECHNICAL – Paul Lindemann with Mike Schroeder

# *IN OUR PRAYERS - March 6, 2022*

## **PRAYERS OF JOY**

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!

Thank you to Kaitlyn Leahy again this morning; to Daemian Allen and to Laurel Devino, our musicians in the past weeks.

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 2<sup>nd</sup> For the families of the **947,882** people who have died in the US due to COVID. (3/2/22)

## **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 – 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.

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.