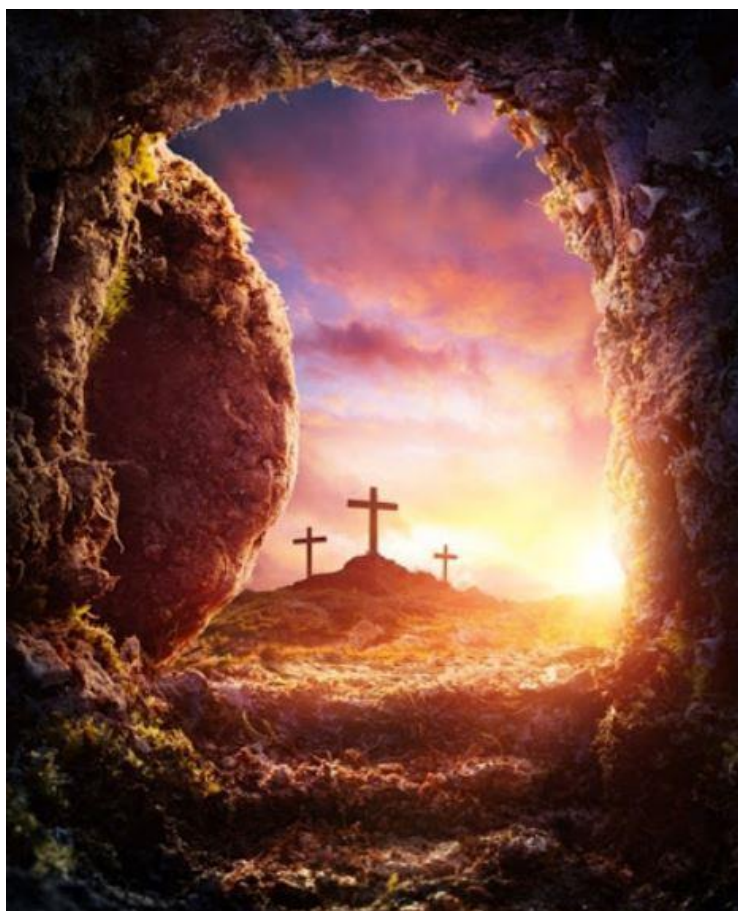


First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road East Derry, NH 03041 Tel. (603) 434 – 0628

April 17, 2022 Easter Sunday 10:00



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)

No matter who you are,
No matter where you are
on life’s journey –
you are welcome among us!
Welcome!

“Never place a period where
God has placed a comma.”
Gracie Allen

WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN: #233 *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* (vs. 1, 2)

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather for worship in awe and wonder.

Many: God has answered our prayers with salvation.

One: Let us sing songs of praise, for God is good.

**Many: The tomb is empty; death will not be the last word.
Jesus Christ is alive and we, too, shall live.**

One: Let us open our hearts and minds to the risen Christ.

Many: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

INVOCATION

God of abundant life, we greet the dawning brightness of this special day with hopes renewed. We have known grief and sorrow, loss and tears, fear and failure. Meet us here, living Christ, for we need this time of resurrection. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE: #1 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* (vs. 1)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

SCRIPTURE: John 20:1-18

20 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. **2** So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." **3** Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. **4** The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. **5** He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. **6** Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, **7** and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. **8** Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; **9** for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. **10** Then the disciples returned to their homes.

11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; **12** and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. **13** They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." **14** When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. **15** Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." **16** Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). **17** Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" **18** Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

EASTER REFLECTION: "I Have Seen the Lord!"

HYMN: #253 *Your Is the Glory, Resurrected One!* (vs. 1, 2)

WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY INVITATION

When we have seen the Christ, our worldview changes. When we have encountered the living water of Jesus, we can no longer pursue the ways of selfishness. And when we realize how much we have received from a loving God our gratitude must pour forth in eagerness so that others may learn what we know to be true.

If you are joining us virtually, please use the next few moments to share joys and concerns in the chat. Our services are recorded, so please use first names. God knows who you mean.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

VIDEO: "Easter is Coming"

DOXOLOGY: #562 *Take My Gifts*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Heavenly Creator, we consecrate all of the gifts that have been brought forth to share.

May the message of hope spread through the streets and across the lands, and may they begin within the boundaries of our hearing and burst out for all the world to see.

As forgiven and forgiving people, may we look for even more clever ways to make our world a more loving place in these days of social distancing. Amen.

WE RESPOND WITH PRAYER

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS followed by PASTORAL PRAYER and 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

CLOSING HYMN: #245 *The Day of Resurrection* (vs. 1,3)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH – Members of the Congregation
SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER – The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof
MUSICIAN – Laurel Devino
SONG LEADER – Katie Cobban
GREETER – Rachel Cobban
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR - Christine Lehoullier
OFFICE MANAGER - Michelle Guerrin
AV/ TECHNICAL – Paul Lindemann, Mike Schroeder

First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is a community of faith built upon a firm foundation of worship, prayer and education. In affirming diversity, we are dedicated to welcoming all people who seek the Word of God, Christian fellowship and service to others. In partnership with Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, we reach out to the ever-widening community through active and loving ministry.

Visit our Facebook page or our website for recent videos of services and moments of Christian Faith Formation and inspiration.

IN OUR PRAYERS - April 17, 2022

PRAYERS OF JOY

Welcome Laurel, our guest musician today!
Palm Sunday Parade through the Connector!!
Andrea C is home!!
Martha (Nancy M's sister-in-law) is doing much better!
Tuesday's Wonder Worship with Joan and Katie's music are such a joy!
Margie's great Nephew Owen's baby born "Juliette"
One Great Hour of Sharing – we are blessed with generous hearts.
Spaghetti Supper: Our monthly supper "feeds the hungry" per Jesus' teaching.
The elevator passed its final inspection.
Our sister church in Zimbabwe – Dangamvura UCC – has invited us to write to them!
Music Committee is working hard to provide a program of music for worship services!
Gratitude for members and friends in Indiana, Georgia, Zimbabwe, and N. Ireland.

PRAYERS OF CONSOLATION

Christine Lehoullier and her family on the death of her cousin AmyLee
Tom Cooper on the death of his brother.
Paul Lindemann and his family on the death of Paul's mom 3.22.22
For the families of those who have died in the US due to COVID.

PRAYERS OF STRENGTH, HEALTH, AND HEALING

Seminarians at the United Theological College in Zimbabwe due to food insecurity
Dave Beauchesne, father of two small children, had emergency brain surgery.
Gary (friend of the Guerrin Family) with stage 3 lung cancer;
Sue (Jo W's sister) still recovering but family can see her;
Carol (Carol G.'s sister-in-law) facing multiple operations;
Lincoln, Karen W's nephew, struggling with Autism and other mental health concerns.
Jenny, friends of Jeff S;
Davida, Jo's friend;
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 (her operation isn't until 4.27.22)

Caroline M's enduring radiation;
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

Teachers – who continue to give their heart and soul with diminishing resources.
Ukraine – its people, its President.
Russia – its people, its Leaders.
Poland – who has received millions of refugees from Ukraine
Other NATO countries who are offering aid in Ukraine's time of crisis.
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; Tim B – Health & strength and
Bonnie H, friend of Tim B

Final Announcements:

“Path to the Sanctuary Initiative 2022-23” pledge cards are due into the office.

Cards of Caring: WE HAVE EXTENDED THE DEADLINE! The deadline for the cards for CMC is extended until May 1! Let’s flood them with care!

MAY Adult Faith Formation; Tuesday from 6:45pm – 8:00; May 3 – June 14
Book Study “Faith After Doubt” by Brian McLaren. Email Christine for a book.

Tuesday April 19 at 6:45 Adult Faith Formation: we continue reading the Gospel of John.

Upcoming Events:

- **Worship Planning Workshop next Sunday-** April 24th – after Worship Service; all are welcome!
- **1st Spring Fling** ~ Saturday May 21st: 8-1 Yard Sale, cookie walk, basket raffle, vendors, food and more. Volunteer Forms in the lobby.
- **UCC Rockingham Association- Spring 2022 Meeting** Sun May 22nd 1:45pm – Zoom only
- **Fundraising Footrace sponsored by Friends of the Meetinghouse** ~ June 25th: with Dave Breeden’s [New England Timing](#) company are running a competitive race and fun run to raise money and awareness for Meetinghouse preservation.
- **Vacation Church Camp:** Rocky Railway July 25th – 28; 9 to 12:00 pm is for ages 4 to 12.