

First Parish Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 114, 47 East Derry Road East Derry, NH 03041  
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**May 15, 2022**  
**Pastor Deborah's 17<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination**



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 AND WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP (led by lay reader, Jo Worthen)

Call to Worship (based on "Life is but a Weaving" by Corrie ten Boom)

One: My life is but a weaving Between my God and me.

**Many: I cannot choose the colors; God weaveth steadily.**

One: Oft' times God weaveth sorrow; And I in foolish pride

**Many: Forget God sees the upper And I the underside.**

One: Not 'til the loom is silent And the shuttles cease to fly

**Many: Will God unroll the canvas And reveal the reason why.**

One: The dark threads are as needful In the weaver's skillful hand

**Many: As the threads of gold and silver In the pattern God has planned**

One: God knows, God loves, God cares; Nothing this truth can dim.

**Many: God gives the very best to those Who leave the choice to God.**

HYMN: #31 ***All Things Bright and Beautiful***

INVOCATION (led by lay reader)

**May our voices rise like trumpets to greet You, holy God. May our ears be attuned to Your ways and may our hearts be steady and focused on You. Touch us at the points of our deepest need. Stir within us a passion for becoming the creation You intended. Open our hearts and minds to Your glory and wonder. Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE: #433 ***In The Bulb There Is a Flower*** (vs.1)

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;

In cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!

In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,

Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

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

**SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:13-16**

<sup>13</sup> 'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

<sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup> No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

HYMN: #351 ***I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry***

SERMON: "Yes, Dear, I'm Talking to You"

## **WE RESPOND WITH OUR STEWARDSHIP**

OFFERTORY INVITATION (lay reader)

How generous are the gifts of God, poured out on us that we might know the joy of giving! The psalmist reminds us that it is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice and give to the poor. Our offerings proclaim God's will in word and deed.

*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.*

**MISSION MOMENT – FAMILY PROMISE OF SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Pam Wellman (Executive Director)

Matthew Hodgkiss (Director of Volunteer Engagement & Operations)

Scott Wellman (Director of Housing for Greater Nashua Mental Health)

**DOXOLOGY: #433 *In The Bulb There Is a Flower* (vs.3)**

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;

In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity,

In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,

Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

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

**Righteous God, accept our gifts of gratitude for the dawning awareness among us of Your healing presence. You have satisfied our need in parched places and made our bones strong. We wish to offer to the world these gifts with Your blessing, that they may do Your work among Your children. Amen.**

**WE RESPOND WITH GRATITUDE AND PRAYER**

**HYMN: # 283 *Spirit of the Living God***

**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: #522 *I Love to Tell the Story* (vs 1, 2)**

**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 – Jo Worthen  
GREETERS – Reni Harnden, Jo Worthen, Sue Lindemann (Remote)  
GUEST MUSICIANS – 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 - May 15, 2022*

### **PRAYERS OF JOY**

Pastor Deborah had a great Birthday. Thank you to everyone for their kindness.  
Nutfield Coop Graduation!

17 years of ordained ministry for Pastor Deborah

Many thanks to our musician Kaitlyn Leahy this morning. And thank you to Trina for playing and Terrance for leading us in song!

Dozens (nearly 200!) of “cards of caring” were delivered to CMC! Thank you, All!

Caroline M completed all of her cancer radiation treatment and rang the bell!

Having the piano in Currier! It is a lovely addition to the worship service!

Martha (Nancy M’s sister-in-law) is doing much better!

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**

For the families of the one millions souls who have died in the US due to COVID.

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

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

Joe Weaver- tested positive for COVID 5/11/22

Safety for Jen’s friend Heather and her family in Prescott< AZ – so near the fires

Gary (friend of the Guerrin Family) with stage 3 lung cancer

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

David, 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 is recovering from her operation.

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 and 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.  
We have received a matching gift. For every dollar you donate, two dollars will be  
received.

WE HAVE MADE A CHANGE IN SCHEDULE! The May Adult Faith Formation;  
Tuesday from 6:45pm – 8:00 will read the Book of Acts from the Bible. Join us.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- **1st Spring Fling** ~ Saturday May 21<sup>st</sup>: 8-1 Yard Sale, cookie walk, basket raffle, vendors, food, children's activities and local music. Volunteer Forms in the lobby.
- **UCC Rockingham Association- Spring 2022 Meeting** Sun May 22<sup>nd</sup> 1:45pm
- **The Meetinghouse Five Fundraising Footrace** — June 25th, 2022 — The Friends of the Meetinghouse are staging a competitive 5-Mile Race and a fun 2.5-Mile Walk to support Meetinghouse preservation, with professional help from New England Timing's Dave Breeden. Visit to sign up or learn about opportunities to Sponsor or Volunteer: [Meetinghouse Five web page](https://fotmh.org/race) <https://fotmh.org/race>
- **Vacation Church Camp:** Rocky Railway July 25th – 28; 9 to 12:00 pm is for ages 4 to 12.