

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

June 19, 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, Cyndi Gray)

One: Come, child of God, abide in the love revealed in Jesus Christ.

Many: We come in response to the One who calls us "Friend."

One: Remember God's steadfast love and sing a new song.

Many: We will sing of joy as we live by faith and hope.

HYMN: #32 *God of the Sorrow, God of the Whale*

INVOCATION (led by lay reader)

Come, Holy Spirit, to lift us from empty routines to the surprising joy of your love. Loosen our tongues to praise You. Open our hearts to trust You. You call us here to be together and to support one another. Teach us to follow where Christ leads. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE: #267 *Come, Oh Spirit, Dwell Among Us* (vs. 3)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

SCRIPTURE: Acts 10: 1-34

¹ In Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of the Italian Cohort, as it was called. ² He was a devout man who feared God with all his household; he gave alms generously to the people and prayed constantly to God. ³ One afternoon at about three o'clock he had a vision in which he clearly saw an angel of God coming in and saying to him, 'Cornelius.' ⁴ He stared at him in terror and said, 'What is it, Lord?' He answered, 'Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. ⁵ Now send men to Joppa for a certain Simon who is called Peter; ⁶ he is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the seaside.' ⁷ When the angel who spoke to him had left, he called two of his slaves and a devout soldier from the ranks of those who served him, ⁸ and after telling them everything, he sent them to Joppa.

⁹ About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. ¹⁰ He became hungry and wanted something to eat; and while it was being prepared, he fell into a trance. ¹¹ He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. ¹² In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air. ¹³ Then he heard a voice saying, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ¹⁴ But Peter said, 'By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean.' ¹⁵ The voice said to him again, a second time, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁶ This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven.

¹⁷ Now while Peter was greatly puzzled about what to make of the vision that he had seen, suddenly the men sent by Cornelius appeared. They were asking for Simon's house and were standing by the gate. ¹⁸ They called out to ask whether Simon, who was called Peter, was staying there. ¹⁹ While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, 'Look, three men are searching for you. ²⁰ Now get up, go down, and go with them without hesitation; for I have sent them.' ²¹ So Peter went down to the men and said, 'I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for your coming?' ²² They answered, 'Cornelius, a centurion, an upright and God-fearing man, who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish nation,

was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say.’ ²³ So Peter invited them in and gave them lodging.

The next day he got up and went with them, and some of the believers^[c] from Joppa accompanied him. ²⁴ The following day they came to Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. ²⁵ On Peter’s arrival Cornelius met him, and falling at his feet, worshipped him. ²⁶ But Peter made him get up, saying, ‘Stand up; I am only a mortal.’ ²⁷ And as he talked with him, he went in and found that many had assembled; ²⁸ and he said to them, ‘You yourselves know that it is unlawful for a Jew to associate with or to visit a Gentile; but God has shown me that I should not call anyone profane or unclean. ²⁹ So when I was sent for, I came without objection. Now may I ask why you sent for me?’

³⁰ Cornelius replied, ‘Four days ago at this very hour, at three o’clock, I was praying in my house when suddenly a man in dazzling clothes stood before me. ³¹ He said, “Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been remembered before God. ³² Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon, who is called Peter; he is staying in the home of Simon, a tanner, by the sea.” ³³ Therefore I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. So now all of us are here in the presence of God to listen to all that the Lord has commanded you to say.’

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: ‘I truly understand that God shows no partiality,

SERMON: Moving Toward Understanding

HYMN: #286 ***Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness***

WE RESPOND WITH OUR STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY INVITATION (lay reader)

We are people whom God has blessed with many gifts. God has done marvelous things for us. How will we – who have been baptized by water and the Spirit, respond to God’s generosity?

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 -

MOMENT of JOY in RECOGNITION of CCEP STUDENTS and GRADUATES

DOXOLOGY: #267 ***Come, Oh Spirit, Dwell Among Us*** (vs. 2)

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

Generous and loving God, we dedicate to Your service the work of our hands, the earnings of our time and efforts, and our very vision for the future. May faith sustain us as we offer our best to You in praise and thanksgiving and joyous dedication. May our offerings bear fruit in the lives of all who are helped by it. 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: #84 *This is the Day*

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 – Cyndi Gray

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

GUEST MUSICIANS – Daemian Allen

SONG LEADER – Katie Cobban

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR - Christine Lehoullier

OFFICE MANAGER - Michelle Guerrin

AV/STREAMING – Paul Lindemann, Mike Schroeder, Brian Williams & Reni Harden

IN OUR PRAYERS - June 19, 2022

PRAYERS OF JOY

We held a joyous “going home” service for Jane Krantz yesterday. What a gift! How beautiful to have new siding along the Noyes Building along the ramp! Thank you to the Board of Facilities.

Gratitude to the Personnel Board for their search for a new Office Manager!
Thank you for such an amazing service and party last week. Your kind words and generosity was overwhelming. I am so grateful- Michelle
Pastor Deborah's grandson arrived on June 1! Baby, big brother and parents – all fine!
We have a “paper Angel!” - We thank God for you! Thank you!
Many thanks to Maddie for music last week.
Spring Fling – wonderful first time!! Thank you to everyone who helped us!
Dozens (nearly 200!) of “cards of caring” were delivered to CMC! Thank you, All!
Our sister church in Zimbabwe – Dangamvura UCC – has invited us to write to them!
Gratitude for members and friends in Indiana, Georgia, Zimbabwe, and N. Ireland.

PRAYERS OF CONSOLATION

Bob – Nancy L's dad – died. Prayers for his family.
Jeff Delangie's grandmother died. Prayers for Jeff and all the family.
Trina's sister Marian's husband (Larry) lost his battle with cancer May 31
For the families of those killed by an assault rifle in a Texas Elementary School
For the families of those killed in the grocery store in Buffalo, NY.
For the families of the more than one million souls who have died in the US due to COVID.
For the family of Naomi Judd and all those who take their own lives because their despair is so profound.
Christine Lehoullier and her family on the death of her cousin AmyLee

PRAYERS OF STRENGTH, HEALTH, AND HEALING

Liz – recovering from Covid out in Oregon. Ginnie Behan, suffering from permanent damage to her lung after an operation.
Andrea & Tom recovering from Covid.
Carol (Carol G.'s sister-in-law) advanced stages of Parkinsons
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:

Marcia (dear friend of Karen and Bob) with advanced ovarian cancer;
Gary (friend of the Guerrin Family) with stage 3 lung cancer
Rod Hunt, recovering from his operation;
Sue Weaver is recovering from her operation.
Lisa (friend of Liz G and Pastor Deborah) 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

Victims of domestic terrorism, hate crimes and other senseless acts of violence.
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” – amazing matching gift! Your gift will be doubled! Please pledge what you can. Pink pledge cards are available.
For **every** dollar you donate, **two** dollars will be received.

JUNE Adult Faith Formation – Tuesday June 21th at 7pm, 28 we are reading “Faith After Doubt” by Brian McLaren. Read on your own and we will discuss together. We will discuss pages through page 102.

Upcoming Events:

- **Postponed- The Meetinghouse Five Fundraising Footrace on June 25th**
- **Vacation Church Camp:** Rocky Railway July 25th – 28th; 9 to 12:00 pm is for ages 4 to 12.

Images in this bulletin are collaborative art projects that our students made in class!

