

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

**August 14, 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)*

**This will be a Zoom and In-Person service only.  
This service will not be recorded or streamed on Facebook due to copyright policies.**

## WRITTEN INTRODUCTION:

We've just completed five 'traintastic' days of our Vacation Church Camp! We welcomed a great group of children, 15 children aged 4 to 12, and spent the week teaching them about God's love and power through music, dance, games, crafts, science, creative train-themed snacks and Bible stories. Today's worship service is a glimpse of the program we used. We hope that you will join in singing the songs with us and enjoy worshipping in a VBS kind of way!

WELCOME (Chris Cox, a.k.a. Cam Tracks)

## WE GATHER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

CENTERING MUSIC "The Same Power" & LIGHTING THE CHRIST LIGHT

CALL TO WORSHIP (Led by Chris Cox)

One: Jesus' power helps us to do hard things.

**Many: Trust Jesus.**

One: Jesus' power gives us hope.

**Many: Trust Jesus.**

One: Jesus' power helps us be bold.

**Many: Trust Jesus.**

One: Jesus' power helps us be good friends.

**Many: Your power will pull us through we're trusting in you.**

MUSIC VIDEO: "Your Power Will Pull Us Through"

INVOCATION (Led by Jaime Robinson, please join in.)

**Lord God, throughout history you have shown your great goodness and power to your people. Your greatest gift to us was your son, Jesus, who gave himself to us in love. His power comes to us in baptism and remains with us in every moment of life. Please send us your Holy Spirit so that we may share your goodness and power with others. Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE: "This Train is Bound for Glory"

**This train is bound for glory, this train. (*Alleluia!*)**

**This train is bound for glory, this train.**

**This train is bound for glory, Jesus made a place in heaven for me.**

**This train is bound for glory, this train. (*Alleluia!*)**

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US

SCRIPTURE & REFLECTION: Paula Robinson

DAY 1: JESUS' POWER HELPS US DO HARD THINGS

## **Bible Story: Ananias helps Saul; Acts 9:10-18**

### **International Children's Bible**

<sup>10</sup> There was a follower of Jesus in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord spoke to Ananias in a vision, "Ananias!"

Ananias answered, "Here I am, Lord."

<sup>11</sup> The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight Street. Find the house of Judas.<sup>[a]</sup> Ask for a man named Saul from the city of Tarsus. He is there now, praying. <sup>12</sup> Saul has seen a vision. In it a man named Ananias comes to him and lays his hands on him. Then he sees again."

<sup>13</sup> But Ananias answered, "Lord, many people have told me about this man and the terrible things he did to your people in Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> Now he has come here to Damascus. The leading priests have given him the power to arrest everyone who worships you."

<sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! I have chosen Saul for an important work. He must tell about me to non-Jews, to kings, and to the people of Israel. <sup>16</sup> I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

<sup>17</sup> So Ananias went to the house of Judas. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus sent me. He is the one you saw on the road on your way here. He sent me so that you can see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." <sup>18</sup> Immediately, something that looked like fish scales fell from Saul's eyes. He was able to see again! Then Saul got up and was baptized. <sup>19</sup> After eating some food, his strength returned.

MUSIC VIDEO: "In You Alone"

**SCRIPTURE & REFLECTION: Jennifer Robinson**

## **DAY 4: JESUS' POWER HELPS US BE GOOD FRIENDS**

**Acts 2:43-47**

**International Children's Bible**

<sup>43</sup> The apostles were doing many miracles and signs. And everyone felt great respect for God. <sup>44</sup> All the believers stayed together. They shared everything. <sup>45</sup> They sold their land and the things they owned. Then they divided the money and gave it to those people who needed it. <sup>46</sup> The believers met together in the Temple every day. They all had the same purpose. They broke bread in their homes, happy to share their food with joyful hearts. <sup>47</sup> They praised God, and all the people liked them. More and more people were being saved every day; the Lord was adding those people to the group of believers.

MUSIC VIDEO: “Lions”

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

OFFERTORY INVITATION (Christine Lehoullier)

God, please bless our gifts so that they provide help where it is most needed, as well as opportunities for growth within your gathered believers. Amen

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

**Blessing of Donated Backpacks and Supplies** (led by Jaime Robinson)

**DOXOLOGY: “We Can Trust Him”** (vs. 1 only)

If there's one thing we can count on, It's that God will never let us down, and We can trust everything he does. He keeps his promises. We know because Yeah, the Word of the Lord holds true. We Can Trust Him. We Can Trust Him. Yeah, the Word of the Lord holds true. We Can Trust Him. We Can Trust Him.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (led by Chris Cox, **please join in.**)

**Just as Jesus' believers sold their belongings and shared with those in need, we bring our offerings to share with people still in need of our help. Please bless these offerings and help them to continue your work today and for future generations as you have throughout the past. Amen.**

## **WE RESPOND WITH GRATITUDE AND PRAYER**

**SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS** and **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

(led by Christine Lehoullier)

**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.**

**FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Adult Faith Formation** – will resume on Thursday evening in September.

REMEMBER: we are taking ALL suggestions for our Adult Faith Series 2022-23.

Please join our “show and tell” later this month. Tell us your suggestions for what we will read together.

## **Adult Faith Formation Show and Tell**

- Who:** All y'all - everyone in the congregation is invited to participate.
- What:** Bring YOUR ideas for books, hymns, programs, films that you would like to consider with a group of fellow members and friends of the congregation.
- When:** Starting Sunday the 21st and going through the 28th.
- Where:** In Currier. A table (or two) will be set up for everyone to share their ideas and make suggestions for topics of discussion.
- Why:** We want YOU to be part of the process. What are YOUR ideas for materials that inform our faith?
- How:** People who have suggestions will provide a "write-up" with a description about their idea/content. Maybe it's simple: "Let's Read the first 50 psalms" or "Let's watch: "the Chosen". Or if it's a book, write a description, with a photo of the book cover

This will be our first time trying this and trying to get voices from the congregation to participate in the curriculum! Exciting!!

Materials will be set up for at least two weeks and then we plan to do a survey.

The highest votes go first. Or if it's a good Advent series or Lenten series we will schedule them for that time of year.

## **Fundraising Committee - Save the date:**

**WHAT:** Trivia Night

**DATE:** October 15

**PLACE:** The Boys and Girls Club

**WHY:** Fun, food and fundraiser for the Meetinghouse project

We are looking for sponsors, baskets and raffle items.

If you are associated with any business that we could contact for donations that would be appreciated. Please talk to Julie Greenfield, Anne-Marie Merrill, Cyndi Gray, or Steph Crowley. More details to follow

## **WE GO OUT TO LOVE AND SERVE A LOVING, SERVING GOD**

**DEPARTING BLESSING:** Holly Gorgol

POSTLUDE (Please remain seated.)

**MUSIC VIDEO: "Everywhere I Go"**

Please visit our Facebook page or our website for recent videos of services and moments of Christian Faith Formation and inspiration, as well as, links to where you can view Rocky Railway songs.

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH - Members of the Congregation  
SENIOR PASTOR AND TEACHER - The Rev. Dr. Deborah Roof  
LAY READERS – Christine Cox, Paula Robinson, Holly Gorgol, Jennifer Robinson,  
Jaime Robinson, Christine Lehoullier, Eileen Cox  
GREETERS – Reni Harnden, Jo Worthen, Rachel Cobban and Sue Lindemann  
(Remote)  
SONG LEADERS – Christine Cox, Paula Robinson, Holly Gorgol, Jennifer Robinson,  
Jaime Robinson, Christine Lehoullier, Eileen Cox  
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR - Christine Lehoullier  
OFFICE MANAGER – Jill Taylor  
AV/ TECHNICAL – Paul Lindemann, Jack Grand, Reni Harnden, Mike Schroeder

#### MUSICAL CREDITS:

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- “We Can Trust Him” (Psalm 33:4) by Jay Stocker. © 2007, 2009 Group Publishing, Inc.

## IN OUR PRAYERS – August 14, 2022

#### PRAYERS OF JOY

VCC: Rocky Railway Vacation Church Camp; Miss Christine and her entire team!

Adult Faith Formation conversations

Christmas on July 17! Diana’s message on 7.24!

Support of the pastor’s Study Leave

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Windham Pride Festival – First Parish welcomed many LGBTQ+ folks

Paul’s successful submission to LCHIP for a grant for the ceiling work.

We held a joyous “going home” service for Jane Krantz. What a gift!

How beautiful to have new siding along the Noyes Building along the ramp! The shed in the parking lot is painted!! Thank you to the Board of Facilities.

Gratitude to the Personnel Board for their search for a new Office Manager!

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

#### PRAYERS OF CONSOLATION

For the family of Verna Elwell, who died on August 5

For Mike Rounds, on the death of his mother

For the families of those killed and injured in the Highland Park, IL parade shooting  
For the families of those killed and injured in the NYC boroughs shootings.  
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 over one million souls who have died in the US due to COVID.

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

Jack Kennedy and the efforts of SUMBAWA  
Kennedy and all those who face tyranny and fascist energy  
Caroline Morse's childhood friend Renee whose cancer metastasized  
Jeff Slowick's mom and dad  
Andrea & Tom recovering from Covid.  
Carol (Carol G.'s sister-in-law) advanced stages of Parkinson's.  
Lincoln, Karen W's nephew, struggling with Autism and other mental health concerns.  
Jenny, friend 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:**

Brenda, dear friend of Alec Cobban, stage 4 Pancreatic Cancer.  
Marcia (dear friend of Karen and Bob) with advanced ovarian cancer.  
Gary (friend of the Guerrin Family) with stage 3 lung cancer  
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**

Rev. Kennedy Gondongwe, facing difficulties  
Zimbabwe – as the people try to speak truth to power.  
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