



First Parish Church, Congregational
On the Village Green
Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts

Rev. John G. Hughes, II, Senior Pastor
Donald R. Dunn, Director of Music-Organist
Priscilla Duda, Christian Ministry Coordinator
Jessica Skidmore, Youth Director
David Reid, Sexton
Nancy Klebart, Office Manager

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MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Communion Sunday, January 3, 2016, 10:00 a.m.

ORGAN PRELUDE: *“In Dulci Jubilo” (In Quiet Joy)*
Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP:

The light of God shines for all people.

In God’s light we see the path to eternal life.

In Christ, our own lives can shine.

Let us open our lives to the Holy Spirit.

***HYMN:** *“When Morning Gilds the Skies”*

PH #35

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Almighty Lord God,
open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit,
so, as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed,
we may hear with joy,
as if for the first time,
what you wish to tell us this day.

For to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and significantly mirror your Holy Presence,
by following Jesus our Savior, Example, and Guide. Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*trespasses*)

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI:**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

SCRIPTURE READING: Ecclesiastes 3:1-13
Revelation 21:1-6a

ANTHEM: *“Here is the Little Door” Herbert Howells (1892-1983)*

Here is the little door, lift up the latch, O lift!
We need not wander more but enter with our gift;
Our gift of finest gold,
Gold that was never bough nor sold;
Myrrh to be strewn about his bed;
Incense in clouds about his head;
All for the Child that stirs not in his sleep,
But holy slumber holds with ass and sheep.

Bend low about his bed, for each he has a gift;
See how his eyes awake, lift up your hands, O lift!
For gold, he gives a keen-edged sword
(Defend with it thy little Lord!)
For incense, smoke of battle red,
Myrrh for the honoured happy dead;
Gifts for his children, terrible and sweet,
Touched by such tiny hands and
Oh such tiny feet.

Frances Chesterton

MORNING PRAYER

CONGREGATION’S JOYS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER - PASTORAL PRAYER - CHORAL RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 25:31-46

***HYMN:** *“Great Is Your Faithfulness”*

NCH #423

SERMON: *“Do You Know the Time?”*

MOMENT OF MEDITATION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Prayer

Dear God, we thank you that you have refreshed us at your table, granting us the presence of Jesus, the Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, empowered by your Holy Spirit. Amen.

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

ORGAN POSTLUDE: *“Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts”*
From “Christmas Oratorio”
Camille Saint-Saens (1835-1921)

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The Deacons are Jan Marshall and Shawn Newman.

Welcome to all who are new to our worship. To join our mailing list -fill out a “Welcome Card” to place in the collection plate or contact office.fpchurch@verizon.net , 978-526-7661 ext 1.



As the holidays approach, please, keep in mind we are looking for photos of our church families for an updated First Parish Directory to be published in January 2016.

We have already received quite a few great family and individual photos so keep them coming!

Let us know any address, phone or email changes too!

AN HOUR OF TRANQUILITY Wednesdays 6:30 PM

An evening of peaceful music and private meditation on Wednesdays when Vespers are not held. All faiths are welcome to join in this space.



If you are interested in helping out with the Hour of Tranquility this year, please contact Jason Smith at jason@jungiantherapist.net, or by phone at 617-935-3451.

Bible Study

Friday afternoon 4:00 PM in the Conference Room of the Chapel led by Rev. John Hughes



Book Group continues with a new selection for December; The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown We hope you will join us on Monday, January 11, 2016 at 7:00. All are welcome!

Looking for Knitting Needles and Yarn

The Seaside Parish Knitters are looking for knitting needles and yarn that you might be considering "casting" aside. We continue to knit blankets, shawls, and scarves; and for our military troops: helmet liners, neck gators, and scarves. We use both 100% wool and synthetic fibers for yarn, and straight and round knitting needles....all sizes. Contact Penny Lapham at 978-526-7128 or laphenpen@live.com We welcome anyone wishing to join us.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays at 10:00 a.m. In the Chapel. *"Engaging the whole child: heart, mind, hands, senses, intuition."* Godly Play is a Montessori-related approach to learning which enables children to experience the presence of a loving God.

NURSERY

Sundays 9:45 am. to 11:30 a.m. In the Chapel for children from infancy through age 3 in our dedicated Nursery during the worship service.

YOUTH GROUP- Middle School Grades 6-8 Sundays at 10:00 a.m. and other times for fun events.

High School Youth attend Confirmation, play an active role in our Sunday School as volunteers and Mission projects and trips are offered.



An Epiphany Service, hosted by the Confirmation Class on **Wednesday, January 6**, at 7 pm.



Soup and Conversation will resume on January 31 with Barbara and Richard Smith presenting- “Courage and Light” Exploring Passion, Renewal and Creativity with Jim Brandenburg (Nationally acclaimed writer and educator) and Parker Palmer (National Geographic photographer), a life changing project Brandenburg undertook when he was at the peak of his career yet felt drained of his creative passion for his work. This is a beautiful presentation that will help us all renew, strengthen and nurture our purpose. Time to be announced we are considering presenting this as a “Supper and Conversation” so that the room will be darker allowing for better viewing of the beautiful photos that will be shared.

Upcoming events can be found on our website (www.firstparishchurch.org) under “News” and “Calendar” and on our [Facebook page \(First Parish Manchester-by-the-Sea\)](#) under “Events”

THIS WEEK:

Monday

7:30 PM Manchester Singers

Tuesday

10:00 AM COA Zumba

Wednesday

10:00 AM COA Yoga

7:00 PM Epiphany Service

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Friday

8:00 AM Yoga

4:00 PM Bible Study

Sunday

10:00 AM Worship

Nursery, Sunday School

Middle School Youth Group

11:30 PM Confirmation