

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
Jessica Skidmore, Christian Ministry Coordinator
Tori Potter, Sexton
Nancy Klebart, Office Manager

978-526-7661
office.fpchurch@verizon.net
www.firstparishchurch.org

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Christmas Day

December 25, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE: *“Silent Night”*

Music by Franz Gruber (1787-1863)

Arranged by Fred Bock (1939-1998)

*[Please stand for the “Presentation of the Flame”]

CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day the Lord has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

O come, let us worship and bow before our Savior;

Let us sing God’s praises continually!

***HYMN:** *“Angels, From the Realms of Glory”*

PH #117 blue

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION:** (unison)

“We do not sing to our Lord a threadbare song,

no timeworn, toothless hymn,

no sentimental platitude,

no empty pious whim;

we raise a song just off the loom,

fresh woven, strong and dense,

as new as God’s eternal now

transcending time and sense.”

**John D. Witvliet
Adaptation Psalm 96**

***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 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: Isaiah 62:6-12

ANTHEM: *“Away in a manger”*
Melody by James R. Murray, 1887
Arranged by Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)
Rebecca Shrimpton, soprano

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes;
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray;
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for Heaven to live with Thee there.

SCRIPTURE READING: Titus 3:4-7
Luke 2:1-20

MORNING PRAYER

As we are glad, O Creator God,
when the dawn reveals the world to us,
innocent and fresh;

**So may we discover the infant in the manger,
and in delight be ready to start anew.**

Born in the night,
a long way from home,
born in a borrowed room;

**Yet, the clear light shining from the infant’s face,
strangely guides our path in the dawning
of this Holy Day.**

The truth of our lives is realized this day,
our God is good.

**Hope of this world,
come and reign in our lives,**

**come walk the dark passage ways of our minds,
come inhabit the depth and breath of our souls,
come reign as justice in our dark world,
this we ask ... this we pray.**

God, who never tires of birthing love in this tired world,
has come to us as a child. Let us offer our thanks and praise.

Amen.

SILENT PRAYER - PASTORAL PRAYER - CHORAL RESPONSE

***HYMN:** *“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”* *NCH #129 black*

SERMON: *“A Boy with 5 Names”*

MOMENT OF MEDITATION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *“On This Day Earth Shall Ring”*
 Music and words from rom Piaae Cantiones, (1582)
 Arranged by Gustav Holst, 1925

On this day earth shall ring	God’s bright star, o’er his head
With the song children sing	Wise men three to him led,
To the Lord, Christ our King,	Kneeling low by his bed,
Born on earth to save us;	Lay their gifts before him,
Him the Father gave us.	Praise him and adore him.
<i>Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo! †</i>	<i>Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!</i>

His the doom, ours the mirth,	On this day angels sing;
When he came down to earth;	With their song earth shall ring,
Bethlehem saw the birth:	Praising Christ, heaven’s King,
Ox and ass beside him	Born on earth to save us.
From the cold would hide him.	Peace and love he gave us.
<i>Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!</i>	<i>Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo!</i>

† Therefore, glory to God in the highest!

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God, above ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

***HYMN:** “Angels We Have Heard on High”

NCH #125 black

ORGAN POSTLUDE: “Noël in G”

Louis-Claude Daquin (1694-1772)

*[The “Removal of the Flame”]

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Our greeters this morning are Rev. John and Marilyn Hughes.

The lay reader this morning is Mary Ellen Cook.

The Deacons are Eleanor Harris and Mary Ellen Cook.

The flowers on the altar are given in Celebration of the birth of the Christ Child and in loving memory of Dr. Wilson E. Hughes, Ernest W. and Gladys Mander, and Barbara Jean Robinson, by the Rev. John and Marilyn Hughes and their family.

The Poinsettia gracing our Sanctuary through the Christmas season is given by Doris Milne, in loving memory of her husband, Forrest, and their families.

Readers and Greeters are always needed, to volunteer speak to the Deacons.

Listening devices are available for those in need; they are at the back of the Sanctuary. Feel free to address a Deacon should you need help using them.

After the service join us in the front of the church for hospitality.

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.

No choir rehearsal Wednesday, December 28.

Seaside Parish Knitters meets alternating Thursday afternoons in the Conference Room of the Chapel, 3-5 PM. Join us!





There are so many new visitors to our church services. Vitality hopes to answer any of your questions. We will have a get together in the new year but feel free to call Mary Ellen 526-717, Allison 526-1904, or Jane 526-7137. Welcome to our church family.

Bible Study resumes on Thursday, January 5
at 4 PM at 37 Beach St.



The Stewardship Committee thanks everyone for getting their 2017 pledges in by the end of the year. We are all so blessed!



Brown Bag Lunches
Friday, December 30 [sign up online](#)
or contact Lelly or Nancy (info. below)
Still needed- kitchen help and a volunteer to drop
off the lunches

Upcoming Missions Opportunities

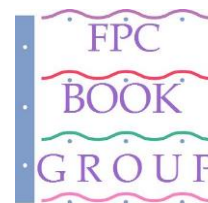
Beginning in January there will be containers in the Chapel and Narthex for **grocery donations**, it is the hope of the Mission Committee that these will be reminders that one item from each family's routine grocery shopping trip will go a long way towards fulfilling the mission of our local food pantries.

January 27 Brown Bag Lunches for Action Shelter [Donate online](#)
February 12 Grace Center at the Open Door, noon-4 PM. Help to serve and clean up lunch, visit with the guests. Bring cards, a craft project, games or musical instruments to enjoy with the guests are welcomed. Contact Lelly Smith to sign up or for more information.

Interested in helping out with missions projects?

Contact Lelly Smith lellysmith@verizon.net 978-526-9717
or Nancy Peterson nancypete1@gmail.com 508-284-0883

Book Group continues with a new selection for December/January; “A Man Called Ove” by Fredrik Backman. *A grumpy yet loveable man finds his solitary world turned on its head when a boisterous young family moves in next door. Meet Ove. He's a curmudgeon, the kind of man who points at people he dislikes as if they were burglars caught outside his bedroom window. He has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. People call him the bitter neighbor from hell, but must Ove be bitter just because he doesn't walk around with a smile plastered to his face all the time?*” from goodreads



We are going to meet next on January 23rd @ 7 pm at 37 Beach St (the snow date is January 30th). All are welcome!

Monday

Office Closed

6:30 PM Diaconate

Tuesday

4:30 PM Friends of the COA

Wednesday

10:00 AM COA Yoga

NO choir rehearsal tonight

Friday

8:00 AM Yoga

Sunday

10:00 AM Worship

NO Nursery, Sunday School

Middle School Youth Group