

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

Awaken the Light and Love of God; Be a Joyful Beacon to Our World

Rev. Dr. Marlayna Schmidt, Interim Pastor
Donald R. Dunn, Director of Music-Organist
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MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, February 3, 2019, 10:00 AM

ORGAN PRELUDE: *“Adagio” from Concerto in A minor*
Music by Antonio Vivaldi (1675-1741)
Arranged for organ by J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: (from *Bread for the Journey*)

Leader: From the midst of our real lives with their very real problems,

People: We come to seek courage and strength from the presence of God and to support one another.

Leader: As persons who love imperfectly and are loved imperfectly,

People: We come to be renewed by the perfect love of God, proclaimed in the community of love and faith.

Leader: As persons who never fully live up to their high calling in Jesus Christ,

People: We come to be encouraged to do our best for one more week.

Leader: So, with hearts open to the love of God, with hands outstretched to one another, and with whole selves willing to accept the cost and joy of being Christ's disciples,

People: We come to worship God!

***HYMN:** *“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”* *PH #228 blue*

OPENING PRAYER: (from *Touch Holiness*)

Steadfast Lover of humanity, we come to you as those who search for ways to love more wisely, more genuinely, more steadily. We seek to base our lives on the love of Christ, that from day to day we may be passionate and patient, faithful and forgiving, in loving one another and this world of many peoples. Through your Spirit, build your church into a living temple, a sign of your presence on earth; through Jesus Christ, our foundation, we pray...

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

ANTHEM: *“Jesus! Name of Wondrous love!”*

Everett Titcomb (1884-1968)

Rebecca Shrimpton and Paul Knox, soloists

Jesus! Name of wondrous love!
Name all other names above!
Unto which must every knee
Bow in deep humility.
Jesus! Name decreed of old,
To the maiden mother told,

Kneeling in her lowly cell,
By the angel Gabriel.
Jesus! Name of priceless worth
To the fallen sons of earth,
For the promise that it gave,
“Jesus shall His people save.”

SCRIPTURE READING: John 2:1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” ⁴ And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.” ⁵ His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.” So they took it. ⁹ When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

***HYMN:** *“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”* *NCH #42 black*

LITURGICAL DRAMA: *“The Wedding at Cana in Galilee”*

written by John Stephen Paul (adapted by Rev. Dr. Marlayna Schmidt)

Note: *This drama takes a bit of “poetic license” with the order of things in the*

Scripture text. The play has the disciple Philip inviting Nathaniel to meet Jesus at the wedding in Cana (John, Chapter 2), when, according to Scripture, Philip invites Nathaniel to meet Jesus in the previous chapter (John, Chapter 1). Plus, the Scriptures never mention what the disciples Philip and Nathaniel did for a living before they met Jesus; this drama imagines that Philip was a waiter and Nathaniel was unemployed.

Cast

The Bride (Miriam) - Betsy Joyce

The Groom (Jonathan) - Mark Heslop

Jesus - John Feuerbach

The Wine Steward (Reuben) - George Nickless

Nathaniel (a friend of the disciple Philip; Nathaniel later becomes a disciple himself) - Paul Lengieza

Mother of the Bride (Sarah, whose best friend is Mary, Jesus' mother) - Lynda Griffiths

Philip (one of the disciples, who is working at the wedding as a waiter) - John Round

Mary the Mother of Jesus (who is called "Aunt Mary" by the Bride) - Diane Houghton

Narrator – Bethany

Special thanks to Diane Houghton, for her theatrical expertise in staging this drama!

MOMENT OF MEDITATION

PAY IT FORWARD STORY

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM: *"A Repeating Alleluia"*
 Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

***DOXOLOGY:**

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

(The bread in the middle of the plates is gluten free, the cup is non-alcoholic grape juice.)

Call to the Table and Communion Prayer

(There will be time, during the prayer, to bring our joys and concerns before God.)

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving – in unison:

Loving and gracious God, thank you for this holy meal. Thank you for Jesus and his all-inclusive love for humanity. Thank you for this day in which we worship and serve you. Amen.

***HYMN:** *“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”* *NCH #347 black*

*[The “Removal of the Flame”, which symbolizes the Spirit of God accompanying us out into the world]

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

ORGAN POSTLUDE: *“Prelude in F Major”*
 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

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After the service join us for hospitality.

The greeters and lay readers are Jeff, Muriel and Susan Parker.

The Deacons are Susan Parker and Paul Gudonis.

Readers and Greeters are always needed, to volunteer speak to the Deacons, or you can also sign up online.

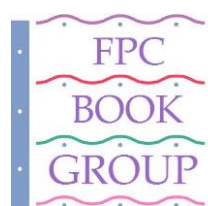
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4caba822a1f49-diaconate>

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.

Welcome to all who are new to our worship. To join our mailing list please fill out a “Welcome Card” to place in the collection plate or

contact office.fpchurch@gmail.com , 978-526-7661 ext 1.

SEASIDE PARISH KNITTERS Meeting the 1st & 3rd Thursdays, **February 7 & 21**, 3 - 5 PM, at the Chapel Conference Room. We all love to knit/crochet, but more importantly we have been rewarded with helping others by sharing our handwork. We would love to have you join us!



BOOK GROUP Next meeting, **Monday, February 25 at 6:30 PM** at Nina Gadmer's home at 20 Hickory Hill, Manchester, the book for discussion will be “Their Eyes Were Watching God”, by Zora Neale Hurston. *One of the most important and enduring books of the twentieth century, Their Eyes Were Watching God brings to life a Southern love story with the wit and pathos found only in the writing of Zora Neale Hurston. Out of print for almost thirty years—due largely to initial audiences’ rejection of its strong black female protagonist—Hurston’s classic has since its 1978 reissue become perhaps the most widely read and highly acclaimed novel in the canon of African-American literature.* Amazon RSVP to Nina at ngadmer@hotmail.com or 978-412-5017.

March meeting Monday, March 25 at 6:30 PM at Mary Lumsden's house, 18 Woodcrest Rd., Manchester, the book for discussion will be “Becoming” by Michele Obama.

Book group is open to everyone! This is a time for church members as well as non-church goers to come together and engage with one another, build relationships, and share in discussion of books that are of interest to people of various backgrounds. We have fun visiting, discussing the book and sharing stories. Each month is a new host, who provides light snacks, beverages and dessert but only once a year!!!! The host then chooses the book for the next month. When we meet we will rate the book and give comments which we will record in a journal that hopefully the FPC book group will continue with many years from now!!!



SOUP & CONVERSATION: STORY-TELLING We are our stories. We get to know one another by listening and telling them. Do you have a story to share about a birth or a death in your life, about a miracle or hope? On February 24th, after worship, we will gather in small groups in the chapel to listen to each other's tales guided by a moderator.

After lunch you will select one topic of your choice to listen and share about during the event. Together we'll marvel at facets of each other we never knew and yet recognize, as we've been through something like it ourselves. Our goal in this story-sharing process will be to deepen our faith and strengthen our connections with one another in community. (Note: The list of topics is similar to those we had last year: "Birth," "Death," "Miracle," and "Hope," and the topics can be interpreted as widely as you wish. For instance, a story about a Birth could be a story about a new chapter in your life when you felt you "started over;" a story about "Hope" could be a story of someone who inspired your faith in some way. If you attended the event last year, we invite you to consider selecting a different topic this year.)

We ask if you provide a soup that it is warmed and ready to be served, (in a crock pot is OK). Also, if you have any dietary restrictions please bring something you can eat and share, such as: gluten free, dairy free, or vegetarian. Sign up to bring soups, salad and more [here](#)

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY Thursdays, 4:00 to 5:30 PM, at the home of Vin Terrill, 37 Beach Street. We will NOT meet on February 7th. Scripture for February 14th will be Matthew 5:1-3. We will be studying the lectionary texts for the following Sunday's worship. Format of the study is as follows: we begin with sharing joys and concerns, we have a time of prayer (where people are free to pray silently or out loud), and then 2 volunteers read the text out loud, while we all notice which words the Spirit draws our attention to. (This way of reading Scripture is called "Lectio Divina.") We each have the opportunity to share with others the words "speak" to us, as well as ask questions about the text. We also discuss how the text might apply to our lives today. The study is led by Rev. Marlayna. All are welcome to

join us! No prior knowledge of the Bible is necessary. Email or call Rev. Marlayna for more information.

**You can find more information about First Parish Church
Congregational, Manchester by the Sea**

Website: firstparishchurch.org

[Instagram.com/fpcmanchesterbythesea](https://www.instagram.com/fpcmanchesterbythesea)[Firstparishhurchmanchesterma](https://www.facebook.com/FirstParishChurchManchesterMa/)

[Facebook.com/FirstParishChurchManchesterMa/](https://www.facebook.com/FirstParishChurchManchesterMa/)

Today

10:00 AM Worship

11:00 AM Annual Business Meeting

2:00 PM Four Chaplain Service

Monday

7:30 PM Manchester Singers

Tuesday

10:00 AM COA Zumba

Wednesday

10:00 AM COA Yoga

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday

10:00 AM Health Clinic

3:00 PM Seaside Knitters

6:30 PM Search Committee

Friday

8:00 AM Yoga

Sunday

10:00 AM Worship

Nursery, Sunday School, Youth Group

FIRST PARISH CHURCH, CONGREGATIONAL
United Church of Christ
Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts

WARRANT FOR ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
February 03, 2019

TO: Active Members of the First Parish Church, Congregational,
United Church of Christ, Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts

You are hereby notified to meet in the Church on Sunday, February 03,
2019 immediately following the Worship Service, for the following
purposes:

To wit:

ARTICLE I: To accept the report of the Annual Business Meeting held
on February 18, 2018

ARTICLE II: To see what action the Church will take in regard to the
budget proposal for 2019 as submitted by the Church Council.

ARTICLE III: To hear and act upon the reports of the Financial
Secretary, the Board of Trustees, the Christian Education Committee, the
Diaconate Board, the Missions Committee, the Music Committee, the
Stewardship Committee, and the Vitality Committee.

ARTICLE IV: To hear and act upon any other business of a financial
nature that may come before the meeting.

George A. Nickless, Clerk

[Annual Business Meeting Report Online](#)
[Additional Report Church Building Online](#)

OUR CHURCH PROFILE IS COMPLETE

Our “Church Profile” is now ready to be posted with the UCC, and is scheduled to be posted in mid January. This is the document put together by the Transition Team, edited by both the Search Committee and our Church Council, and approved by our Council. The first part of this document can be seen on-line by Pastoral Candidates who might be interested in applying for the job of Settled Pastor here at First Parish. The whole document will be sent only to candidates our search committee decide to interview. Council has voted to make the whole document available for viewing by any active members of our church who request to see it. **As it is a confidential document whose purpose and use are for helping us find a settled pastor-- for the integrity of the process-- any viewing of the profile by our active church members needs to be done in church office area (such as the conference room.)** No electronic copies will be available. If you are an active church member and you would like to view the profile, **please email or phone the church office** to set up a time slot to come in during regular office hours, 9 am to noon, Monday - Friday, to view the profile. If you need to come outside of regular office hours, please email Rev. Marlayna to set up a time. Please continue to keep our Search Process in your prayers!

Nancy Peterson, Moderator