

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
Jessica Skidmore, Christian Ministry Coordinator
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MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, January 27, 2019, 10:00 AM

ORGAN PRELUDE: *“Deep River” African-American Spiritual
Setting by Adolphus Hailstork (b. 1941)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: (from *Touch Holiness*)

Leader: We come seeking the holy love of God, that we may become whole and loving.

People: **As Jesus Christ has shared the life of earth, through Christ we may share the life of God, in growing holiness, justice, and love.**

Leader: In awe, faith, and thanksgiving, let us rejoice in God’s presence and share God’s life!

All: Let us worship God.

***HYMN:** *“Jesus, the Light of the World”* *NCH #160 black*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (from *Touch Holiness*)

God of pure, unbounded love, we are a people who long to be loving, and a people who often fail. Forgive us when our actions hurt ourselves and others. Forgive us when we do not choose our words with care, lest they hurt our family, friends, or neighbors. Help us to go the second mile in loving and giving of ourselves; make us strong and wise in our loving. Teach us what it means to love our enemies. Hear now as we pray to you for healing in our relationships: with you, with our loved ones, with friends and associates, with our world neighbors, and with ourselves. Through Jesus Christ 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

MORNING PRAYER

Joys and Concerns Pastoral Prayer Silent Prayer

ANTHEM: *“Come, Christians, Join to Sing “*
Words by Christian Henry Bateman (1813-1889)
Melody based on a Cuban folk song
Arranged by Hal H. Hopson (b. 1933)

Come, Christians, join to sing
Loud praise to Christ our King;
Let all, with heart and voice,
Before his throne rejoice
Rejoice and sing.
Be joyful in the Lord,
Lift up your voice of praise;
Your alleluias raise.

Come, lift your hearts on high;
Let praises fill the sky;
He is our guide and friend;
His love shall never end.

Rejoice and sing.
Be joyful in the Lord,
Lift up your voice of praise;
Your alleluias raise.

Praise Christ with heart and soul;
His endless love extol.
On heaven’s blissful shore
Sing songs forever more.

Rejoice and sing.
Be joyful in the Lord,
Lift up your voice of praise;
Your alleluias raise.

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:43-48 (The *Message* paraphrase)

[Jesus said:] “You’re familiar with the old written law, ‘Love your friend,’ and its unwritten companion, ‘Hate your enemy.’ I’m challenging that. I’m telling you to love your enemies. Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst. When someone gives you a hard time, respond with the energies of prayer, for then you are working out of your true selves, your God-created selves. This is what God does. He gives his best—the sun to warm and the rain to nourish—to everyone, regardless: the good and bad, the nice and nasty. If all you do is love the lovable, do you expect a bonus? Anybody can do that. If you simply say hello to those who greet you, do you expect a medal? Any run-of-the-mill sinner does that.

“In a word, what I’m saying is, *Grow up*. You’re kingdom subjects. Now live like it. Live out your God-created identity. Live generously and graciously toward others, the way God lives toward you.”

***HYMN:** *“O for a World”*

NCH #575 black

SERMON: *“Love Your Enemies”*

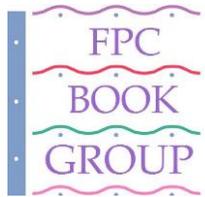
MOMENT OF MEDITATION

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, this upcoming **Monday, January 28, 6:30 PM** at Marianne Round's home, 3 Greenbrier Rd. Manchester, the book for discussion will be “Alias Grace” by Margaret Atwood.

RSVP to Marianne at Marianne.Round@nemoves.com or 978 902 5452.

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY Thursdays, **4:00 to 5:30 PM**, at the home of Vin Terrill, 37 Beach Street. Scripture for Jan 31 is John 2:1-11. 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.

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

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

6:30 PM Book Group
7:00 PM Search Committee
7:30 PM Manchester Singers

Tuesday

10:00 AM COA Zumba
11:30 AM COA Luncheon

Wednesday

10:00 AM COA Yoga
7:00 PM Diaconate
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday

4:00 PM Bible Study

Friday

8:00 AM Yoga

Sunday

10:00 AM Worship
Nursery, Sunday School, Youth Group
11:30 AM Annual Business Meeting
2:00 PM 4 Chaplain’s Service

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