



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

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

Rev. Dr. Mark Boyea, Minister  
Dr. Herman Weiss, Director of Music and Organist

First Parish Church, Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
Worship Celebration  
Sunday, January 23, 2022  
10:00 am

Prelude

*“Air”*

Bach

Welcome

Opening Hymn

*“The God of Abraham Praise”*  
(printed in Bulletin)

**Opening Prayer (together)**

Holy One, as we move through this New Year, we thank You for blessing us with everything we need to experience spirit-filled lives; everything we need to be Your hands, head, heart and voice in the world.

Help us to use what You have given us wisely and well; generously and joyfully. Help us to leave behind all that keeps us from hearing and responding to the places and people You are calling us to.

Help us to live into and up to who You created us to be. Help us to embrace and embody the name You gave us all from our first moment – Your daughters and sons.

We pray all this together in another name – the name of Jesus - the One You sent to help lead us to fulfilling the promise of that name You have given us...

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.

**Choir Anthem**      *“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”*      arr. Thomson

My Shepherd will supply my need, Jehovah is His name. In pastures fresh He makes me feed beside the living stream. He brings my wand’ring spirit back when I forsake His ways. He leads me for His mercy’s sake in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay. One word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away, Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread. My cup with blessings overflows, Thine all anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days, o may thy house be my abode and all my work be praise. There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come, no more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

**Prayer Intentions**

**Time of Silent and Spoken Prayer**

**Music Meditation**      *“Amazing Grace”*      Newton, melody *New Britain*  
Ute Gfrerer, soloist

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come; 'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun.

**The Hebrew Scriptures      Genesis 17:1-9, 15-16      Jason Smith  
(New Revised Standard Version Bible Translation)**

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous."

<sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.

<sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. <sup>8</sup>And I will give to you, and to your offspring after you, the land where you are now an alien, all the land of Canaan, for a perpetual holding; and I will be their God."

<sup>9</sup>God said to Abraham, "As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations.

<sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

**Message**

**Solo**

*“You’ll Never Walk Alone”* (from *“Carousel”*)

Rodgers and Hammerstein II

Ute Gfrerer, soloist

When you walk through a storm hold your head up high and don't be afraid of the dark. At the end of a storm there's a golden sky and the sweet silver song of a lark. Walk on through the wind, walk on through the rain though your dreams be tossed and blown. Walk on, walk on with hope in your heart and you'll never walk alone. You'll never walk alone.

**Closing Hymn**

*“God Our Author and Creator”*

(printed in Bulletin)

**Blessing**

**Closing Song**

*“God Be With You”*

Vaughan Williams

God be with you ‘till we meet again; by His counsels guide, uphold you, with His sheep securely fold you; God be with you ‘till we meet again.

**Sunday Morning Gathering Protocol:**

The Town of Manchester-by-the-Sea reinstated an indoor mask policy. In that regard, for the time being:

- Attendees are expected to wear masks and distance if possible.
- Worship Leaders will not need to be masked.
- The congregation may participate in hymn singing, the Opening Prayer, and the offering of prayer intentions.
- In addition, we will continue with the following:

- Contact info for attendees will still be taken in the event contact tracing becomes necessary.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in the narthex should you wish to use it.
- There will continue to be no formal Offering for now, but attendees are invited to place any offering they wish as they leave Worship in a plate which will be placed at the back of the Sanctuary.
- **As you are well aware, due to Covid precautions we continue to refrain from participating in “Coffee Hour” fellowship after Worship. Be assured however, that we have not forgotten about the importance this plays in our Worship time together. Church Council remains hopeful that we will soon be able to resume this time, and will keep you updated on those discussions.**
- **At the same time, remember that “Virtual Worship” is also here to stay so that we can continue to be one in Worship wherever you may be on any Sunday.**
- You can contribute to the work of First Parish Church or pay your pledge @ [PayPal.Me/FPChurchManchester](https://www.paypal.com/paytotheorderof?to=paypal.com&toEmail=FPChurchManchester)
- Click to read [\*The Church Bell Newsletter\*](#) of First Parish Church Congregational. **Please note that there will be no January *Church Bell*. The next edition of the *Bell* will be February 2022.**
- Manchester Affordable Housing Trust Announces Emergency Rental Housing Payment Assistance - The Manchester Affordable Housing Trust (MAHT), in collaboration with Action, Inc., a Gloucester-based human and social services agency, is offering short-term rental housing payment assistance to income eligible Manchester residents in response to job and income loss related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Consistent with its mission to support and promote community affordable housing, the MAHT is reaching out to income eligible residents who are experiencing housing rent payment issues.

The MAHT can and wants to help during this difficult and uncertain time. For further information please contact Action, Inc. at 978-282-1000 or live chat at [www.actioninc.org](http://www.actioninc.org)<<http://www.actioninc.org>.

- The Outreach and Service collection continues for The Open Door and Grace Center. Bring items to the Chapel or Church. There is a box outside by the Church Office at the Chapel:

Baking Mixes - Cake, Brownie, Cookie, Muffin, Pancake

Peanut Butter

Canned Tuna, Chicken, and Turkey

Healthy Snack Items

100% Juice/Juice Boxes

Breakfast Cereal

Hearty Soups

Canned Vegetables and Fruits

Spaghetti Sauce

Macaroni and Cheese

Rice, Noodles, Pasta

Gift Cards from local grocery markets so they can purchase butter, cream and other perishables.

- **Book Group** is open to everyone! Consider joining us. We are postponing our **January 31 meeting and will meet through Zoom on February 28, 6:30 PM.** Location to be announced later. Questions can be directed to Mary Ellen Cook at 978-500-0018. The book to be discussed will be “Vanderbilt: The Rise and Fall of an American Dynasty” by Samantha Silva.

*When eleven-year-old Cornelius Vanderbilt began to work on his father's small boat ferrying supplies in New York Harbor at the beginning of the nineteenth century, no one could have imagined that one day he would, through ruthlessness, cunning, and a pathological desire for money, build two empires—one in shipping and another in railroads—that would make him the richest man in America.*

*His staggering fortune was fought over by his heirs after his death in 1877, sowing familial discord that would never fully heal.*

*Though his son Billy doubled the money left by “the Commodore,” subsequent generations competed to find new and ever more extraordinary ways of spending it.*

*By 2018, when the last Vanderbilt was forced out of The Breakers—the seventy-room summer estate in Newport, Rhode Island, that Cornelius’s grandson and namesake had built—the family would have been unrecognizable to the tycoon who started it all.*

*Now, the Commodore’s great-great-great-grandson Anderson Cooper, joins with historian Katherine Howe to explore the story of his legendary family and their outsized influence. Cooper and Howe breathe life into the ancestors who built the family’s empire, basked in the Commodore’s wealth, hosted lavish galas, and became synonymous with unfettered American capitalism and high society.*

*Moving from the hardscrabble wharves of old Manhattan to the lavish drawing rooms of Gilded Age Fifth Avenue, from the ornate summer palaces of Newport to the courts of Europe, and all the way to modern-day New York, Cooper and Howe wryly recount the triumphs and tragedies of an American dynasty unlike any other.*

*Written with a unique insider’s viewpoint, this is a rollicking, quintessentially American history as remarkable as the family it so vividly captures.*



- **From the Open Door and the Service and Outreach Committee–**

Hi friends,

Happy New Year! Thanks to your dedication, we are already off to a strong start this year with plenty of volunteers stepping up to feed our community. We still have a few openings on Friday that we'd love to see filled in! Consider registering for the following:

Fulfillment Center, 11-1pm

Fulfillment Center, 1-3pm

Pick-Up Assistant, 3-5pm

No Contact Deliveries, 3-5pm

There will also be another SORTING EXTRAVAGANZA on Friday, 10-12pm. We're looking for 6-8 volunteers to help us sort donations from our generous community. This opportunity is available to all fully vaccinated volunteers (full onboarding not required).

Visit VolunteerHub to claim your spot now:

<http://foodpantry.volunteerhub.com/>

Thanks for all you do for this community. Please stay healthy, safe and hopeful!! We hope to see you soon.

Kayla

# Yigdal Elohim Chai

(The God of Abraham Praise)

Gen. 12:1; 17:15-16; Exod. 3:14; Isa. 44:6; Rev. 4:8

Moses Maimonides, 12th century  
Versification attrib. to Daniel ben Judah, c. 1400  
Transl. Max Landsberg and Newton Mann, 1884; alt.

1 Yig - dal e - lo - him chai v' - yish - ta - bach,  
1 The God of A - braham praise, all prais - es to God's name,  
2 God's spir - it free - ly flows, high surg - ing where it will;  
3 God has e - ter - nal life im - plant - ed in the soul;  
4 The God of Sar - ah praise, all prais - es to God's name,

nim - tza v' - ein eit el m' - tzi - u - to  
who was and is and is to be, for - e'er the same!  
God spoke of old in proph - et's word; that word speaks still.  
God's love shall be our strength and stay, while a - ges roll.  
who was and is and is to be, for - e'er the same!

E - chad v' - ein ya - chid k' - yi - chu - do,  
The one e - ter - nal God, be - fore what now ap - pears;  
Es - tab - lished is God's law, and change - less it shall stand,  
All praise the liv - ing God! Ex - tol that hal - lowed name,  
The one e - ter - nal God, be - fore what now ap - pears;

*The twelfth-century scholar Moses Maimonides drew up the thirteen articles of the Hebrew creed, which were subsequently cast in metrical form (the Yigdal). This translation represents an ecumenical collaboration between Rabbi Landsberg and Unitarian minister Mann.*

Tune: LEONI 6.6.8.4.D.  
Traditional Yigdal melody  
Adapt. Meyer Lyon, 1770

ne - lam v'-gam ein sof I' - ach - du - to.  
the First, the Last: be - yond all thought through time - less years!  
deep writ - ten on the hu - man heart, in ev - ery land.  
who was, and is, and ev - er shall be still the same!  
the First, the Last: be - yond all thought through time - less years!

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The first line of the score is circled. The lyrics are in German and English. The German lyrics are: "ne - lam v'-gam ein sof I' - ach - du - to." The English lyrics are: "the First, the Last: be - yond all thought through time - less years! deep writ - ten on the hu - man heart, in ev - ery land. who was, and is, and ev - er shall be still the same! the First, the Last: be - yond all thought through time - less years!"

# God Our Author and Creator

Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1985

Gen. 1:1-2:3; Acts 17:22-31; Rom. 12:2; John 3:16-17

Unison

1 God our Au - thor and Cre - a - tor, in whose life we find our own,  
2 Like those first a - pos-tles, Sav-ior, give us strength to love and serve:  
3 Keep us faith-ful, Ho-ly Spir-it, help us bear the mes-sage true,

make our dai - ly wit - ness great-er, by our lives make your love known.  
when our faint-ing spir - its wa-ver, fire our hearts and steel our nerve.  
that at last all lands may hear it: "God is love; Christ died for you."

Help us show how love em-brac-es those whom fear and greed down-trod;  
Teach us wis - dom and com-pas-sion: bid our rest - less thoughts be still;  
Join our lives in might-y cho-rus till we come from ev - ery place,

in all yearn-ing hearts and fac - es let us see a child of God.  
by your guid-ance help us fash-ion lives con-formed un - to your will.  
with all those who went be - fore us, to the full - ness of God's grace.

*In 1985, a hymn competition was held to commemorate the centennial of the Women's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention. This winning text by Carl P. Daw, Jr., fulfilled the guideline that the hymn address mission in the context of daily life.*

Tune: JEFFERSON 8.7.8.7.D.  
Southern Harmony, 1835  
Harm. John Ferguson, 1973