



**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, February 20, 2022
10:00 am**

Prelude

“A Gothic Cathedral”

Pratella

Welcome

Opening Hymn

“God of Grace and God of Glory”
(printed in Bulletin)

Opening Prayer (together)

(adapted, George Washington)

O God, we pray that You would keep us in Your Holy care. Lead us to love and care for each other as fellow citizens and as Your children.

We ask that You help us answer Your call as individuals and a nation to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with You. For that is the only path to being a truly good and happy people.

Grant us this through our Lord, Jesus - the One who gave us the words we offer to You now...

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.

Organ Solo

“Toccatà in D Minor”
Dr. Herman Weiss, organ

Bach

Prayer Intentions

Time of Silent and Spoken Prayer

Music Meditation *“Oh, How Blessed You Are, You Godly Ones”* Brahms
Dr. Herman Weiss, organ

The Gospels

Matthew 22:23-40
(New International Version Bible Translation)

Paul Gudonis

²³ That same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to him with a question.

²⁴ “Teacher,” they said, “Moses told us that if a man dies without having children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up offspring for him. ²⁵ Now there were seven brothers among us. The first one married and died, and since he had no children, he left his wife to his brother. ²⁶ The same thing happened to the second and third brother, right on down to the seventh. ²⁷ Finally, the woman died. ²⁸ Now then, at the resurrection, whose wife will she be of the seven, since all of them were married to her?”

²⁹ Jesus replied, “You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God. ³⁰ At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven. ³¹ But about the resurrection of the dead—have you not read what God said to you, ³² ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is not the God of the dead but of the living.”

³³ When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at his teaching.

³⁴ Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

³⁷ Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Message

Choir Anthem

“In My Father’s House”

Choplin

The disciples drew closer, to hear the words of promise of the Lord: if you hear the truth I say and follow in My way, the great will be your heavens’ reward, and He said:

In my Father’s house there are many mansions, in my Father’s house there is room; and all who believe shall come to live with Me; for in my Father’s house I’ll prepare a place for you.

Let not your hearts be troubled: believe in God, believe now in Me; for if you will believe in Heaven you will see the glory of the great ‘I am’, and He said:

In my Father’s house there are many mansions, in my Father’s house there is room; and all who believe shall come to live with Me; for in my Father’s house I’ll prepare a place for you.

I will always be with you. Through every step you’ll never walk alone. And when your earthly days are over I will come again to welcome you home. I tell you:

In my Father’s house there are many mansions, in my Father’s house there is room; and all who believe shall come to live with Me; for in my Father’s house I’ll prepare a place for you. In my Father’s house there is room.

Closing Hymn

“You Are Salt for the Earth, O People”

(printed in Bulletin)

Blessing

Closing Song

“God Bless You and Keep You”

Althouse

God bless you and keep you wherever you may go; His love be a constant companion. God lead you and guide you and be at your side. God bless you and keep you forever.

- **Jazz Sunday returns February 27!** First Parish will celebrate Shrove Tuesday with a jazz-infused worship service. We'll be joined by a full jazz band, including our very own Brian Price and the First Parish Choir, for a morning of joyous worship and song. Join us in person or via livestream!

- **NEW Sunday Morning Gathering Protocols:**

Now that both the Town of Manchester-by-the-Sea and the State of Massachusetts have lifted mask mandates, our Church Council determined this week that beginning today:

- Attendees are no longer required to wear masks in the Sanctuary. You are, of course, fully welcome to continue to mask if you wish.
- We will no longer continue obtaining contact info for attendees for the purpose of contact tracing.
- Hand sanitizer will still be available in the Narthex should you wish to use it.
- There will continue to be no formal Offering. 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.

In addition:

- Church Council has also set **next Sunday, February 27 for the return of “Coffee Hour Fellowship”** in the Sanctuary immediately after Worship.
- 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
- [Click](#) to read The Church Bell Newsletter of First Parish Church Congregational for 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

- 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

Pet Food

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

- From the Open Door and the Outreach and Service Committee

Volunteers needed Fridays

Fulfillment Center, 11-1pm

Fulfillment Center, 1-3pm

Pick-Up Assistant, 3-5pm

No Contact Deliveries, 3-5pm

Visit VolunteerHub to claim your spot now:

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

- 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. The book to be discussed will be “Vanderbilt: The Rise and Fall of an American Dynasty” by Anderson Cooper and Katherine Howe.
- The Diaconate invites you to participate in the Compassion International Mission in 2022. You are invited to sign up for one month of support for \$38. Checks for that amount should be written to First Parish Church and sent to P.O. Box 187, Manchester, MA 01944. You can sign up through our [Sign Up sheet](#).

Chepkirwok, is the seven-year-old boy FPCC is sponsoring. He lives in the valley of Sandai Community, Nakuru, Kenya, home to approximately 4,000 residents. Typical houses are constructed of dirt floors, mud walls and tin roofs. The primary ethnic group is Endorois. The regional diet consists of maize and cereal. A common health problem in this area is malnutrition. Most adults in Sandai Community are unemployed, but some work as animal herders, day laborers or market traders and earn the equivalent of \$30 per month. This community needs higher enrollment in primary schools and transformation of traditional values.

Our sponsorship provides Bible teaching, dramas, health screenings, immunizations, community service opportunities, gardening classes, counseling on and testing for HIV/AIDS, life skills training and mentorship programs. Modern farming techniques training is provided to Chepkirwok’s parents.

Chepkirwok’s birthday is June 21, 2014

His hobbies are dancing, arts and crafts, marbles, hide and seek, clapping hands to rhythm and jump rope

You are invited to sign up for one month of support for \$38. Checks for that amount should be written to First Parish Church and sent to P.O. Box 187, Manchester, MA 01944.

If you sign up for the month of May, for instance, you will be encouraged to write to the child that month. This can be done digitally or on a form supplied by Compassion. The Diaconate will contact you to facilitate the letter writing process. Letters from the child will be shared with the entire congregation. Understandably, during the pandemic, letter exchanges are slow.

A onetime additional financial gift can be given to the child on his/her birthday, Christmas as well as a designated gift for the entire family. Once we know detailed information about the child, those opportunities will also be available on the SUG and anyone can sign up to support these special occasions. Questions about the project can be directed to Sue at sueparker33@aol.com

God of Grace and God of Glory

Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930; alt.

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 From the e - vils that sur - round us and as - sail the
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Set our feet on loft - y plac - es; gird our lives that
5 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your power; crown your an - cient church - 's sto - ry;
Sav - ior's ways, from the fears that long have bound us—
your con - trol. Shame our reck - less, self - ish glad - ness,
they may be ar - mored with all Christ - like grac - es,
we de - plore; let the search for your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
free our hearts for faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
in the fight to set us free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
make our bro - ken spir - its whole, make our bro - ken spir - its whole.
in the quest for lib - er - ty, in the quest for lib - er - ty.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Harry Emerson Fosdick, a prophetic preacher and writer, taught at Union Theological Seminary from 1915 to 1946. This hymn was written for the opening service and dedication of Riverside Church, New York City, which he served for twenty years.

Tune: CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.
John Hughes, c. 1907

You Are Salt for the Earth, O People

Paraphr. by Marty Haugen, 1986; alt.

Matt. 5:13-15

Unison

D (allow to ring off)

1 You are salt for the earth, O peo-ple: salt for the reign of God!
 2 You are a light on the hill, O peo-ple: light for the Cit-y of God!
 3 You are a seed of the Word, O peo-ple: bring forth the reign of God!
 4 We are a blessed and a pil-grim peo-ple: bound for the reign of God!

Share the fla- vor of life, O peo- ple: life in the Cit-y of God!
 Shine so ho- ly and bright, O peo- ple: shine for the Cit-y of God!
 Seeds of mer- cy and seeds of jus- tice, grow in the Cit-y of God!
 Love our jour-ney and love our home-land: love is the Cit-y of God!

Refrain

Bring forth the reign of mer- cy, bring forth the reign of peace;

Bring forth the reign of jus- tice, bring forth the Cit- y of God!

During a residency at Holden Village, a retreat center in the state of Washington, Marty Haugen wrote this hymn to be used as a "processing song" for outdoor worship. The lectionary readings focusing on Jesus' teaching about the "reign of God" provided the basis for the text.

Tune: BRING FORTH Irr. with refrain
 Marty Haugen, 1986