



**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, August 14, 2022
9:00 am

Prelude *“Andante”* (from *“Italian Concerto”*) Bach

Welcome

Call to Worship

Leader: Gather round, with your aches and pains. May we gather together.

People: Come from near and far, come open and expectant. Create a symphony of praise, a bouquet of joy, and pray that God will weave us into a people of compassion, a community of prayer, and a family of care.

Leader: Come, gather round. Hear God’s Word, be challenged to serve, and raise a voice in song.

Opening Hymn *“Morning Has Broken”*
(printed in bulletin)

Prayer of Confession (together)

Loving God, with silent persistence and prophetic witness You have loved every person in all of Creation. You ache every time we destroy beauty, every time we harm one another, and every time greed squashes kindness. You see when we ignore the outstretched hand and turn a deaf ear to cries for help. Forgive us and let Your Spirit fill us with courage. Forgive us and remind us of the ways You bless us. Never let us forget Your all embracing love!

Words of Assurance

Leader: Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength.

People: They shall rise up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. God knows our weakness and replenishes us to love and serve.

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Solo

“A Place on the Earth”
Jim Brennan, soloist

Ortega and Schreiner

Find me a place on the earth where a weary man can rest and listen for Your voice in the turning seasons.

A quiet place in the world, where I can bow and confess that I fear where You have brought me, Mysterious God.

All of my life You have been with me, my comfort in loneliness, my hope in the dark. All of my life, Lord, please stay with me, be my sustaining breath, guardian of my heart.

My days are passing by like falling stars that blaze across the night sky, then they are gone.

But Father, at your side I will never be afraid, for You have held all me days in the palm of Your hand.

All of my life You have been with me, my comfort in loneliness, my hope in the dark. All of my life, Lord, please stay with me, be my sustaining breath, guardian of my heart.

Lord of Eternity, Father of mercy, look on my fainting soul. Keeper of all the stars, Friend of the poorest heart, touch me and make me whole.

If You are my defender, who is against me? No one can trouble or harm me if You are my strength. All I ask, all I desire, is to live in Your house all my days.

Lord of eternity, God of all mercy, come to my troubled soul. Keeper of all the stars, Friend of the poorest heart, touch me and make me whole.

Lord of eternity, Father of mercy, come to my troubled soul. Keeper of all the stars, Friend of the poorest heart, touch me and make me whole.

Closing Hymn *“Lift High the Cross”*
(printed in bulletin)

Blessing

Closing Song *“O God, You Are My God”* Ortega

Oh God, You are my God; earnestly I seek You. My soul thirsts for You, and my flesh yearns for You in a dry and weary land where there is no water. I remember You at night, through the watches of the night. In the shadow of Your wings I sing because You help me. My soul clings to You, and Your hand upholds me. You alone....

- Our Preacher and Worship Leader today is Rev. Dr. David VanArsdale. Dave retired in 2013 after 41 years in ministry, which started with Ordination in Edwards UCC in Framingham and concluded as Pastor of Faith Presbyterian Church in Sun City, AZ.

Ellen and Dave have become a part of South Church UCC in Andover since moving six years ago from Arizona to the Edgewood Retirement Community in North Andover. Dave is also serving as the chair of the Council on Aging for North Andover.

- **Rev. Mark will be away until 8/22 for his and Cindy's son's wedding. Please contact the Church Office or any of the Deacons regarding pastoral care needs.**
- Our Deacon this morning is Barbara Smith.
- 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 time. 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.
- You can contribute to the work of First Parish Church or pay your pledge @PayPal.Me/FPChurchManchester
- Our FPCC Compassion child, Chepkirwok needs supporters for 2023, [sign up now](#), questions can be directed to Sue Parker, sueparker33@aol.com.
- [Click to read](#) The Church Bell Newsletter of First Parish Church Congregational for Summer 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.

- **Mother Earth Sings Bible Experiences Week at First Parish Church Begins TOMORROW!**

August 15-19, 4-7pm Ages 6-12 Join us as we experience interactive storytelling, music, song, imaginative movement, yoga and meditation, games, visual art (in a variety of mediums), food creations and group creative writing in 5, three-hour sessions. This experience will integrate 5 different Bible stories with creative expression and fellowship for children ages 4-12.

Youth ages 14-16 are invited to apply as a junior counselor and parents are encouraged to volunteer. There is no cost for this experience and all materials are included.

- **Book Group Summer News August 29, 6:30 PM location TBA.**

“Mad About the Boy” by Helen Fielding

Move over, Bridget Jones’s diary: She’s back, and this time she’s texting and tweeting. . .

Fourteen years after landing Mark Darcy, Bridget’s life has taken her places she never expected. But despite the new challenges of single parenting, online dating, wildly morphing dress sizes, and bafflingly complex remote controls, she is the same irrepressible and endearing soul we all remember—though her talent for embarrassing herself in hilarious ways has become dangerously amplified now that she has 752 Twitter followers.

As Bridget navigates head lice epidemics, school-picnic humiliations, and cross-generational sex, she learns that life isn’t over when you start needing reading glasses—and why one should never, ever text while drunk.

Studded with witty observations about the perils and absurdities of our times, Mad About the Boy is both outrageously comic and genuinely moving. As we watch her dealing with heartbreaking loss and rediscovering love and joy, Bridget invites us to fall for her all over again.

“West with Giraffes” by Lynda Rutledge

An emotional, rousing novel inspired by the incredible true story of two giraffes who made headlines and won the hearts of Depression-era America.

“Few true friends have I known and two were giraffes...”

Woodrow Wilson Nickel, age 105, feels his life ebbing away.

But when he learns giraffes are going extinct, he finds himself recalling the unforgettable experience he cannot take to his grave. It’s 1938. The Great Depression lingers. Hitler is threatening Europe, and world-weary Americans long for wonder.

They find it in two giraffes who miraculously survive a hurricane while crossing the Atlantic.

What follows is a twelve-day road trip in a custom truck to deliver Southern California’s first giraffes to the San Diego Zoo. Behind the wheel is the young Dust Bowl rowdy Woodrow. Inspired by true events, the tale weaves real-life figures with fictional ones, including the world’s first female zoo director, a crusty old man with a past, a young female photographer with a secret, and assorted reprobates as spotty as the giraffes.

Part adventure, part historical saga, and part coming-of-age love story, West with Giraffes explores what it means to be changed by the grace of animals, the kindness of strangers, the passing of time, and a story told before it’s too late.

- **The Outreach and Service collection continues this summer for
The Open Door, The Grace Center and Operation Troop Support**

Drop at the Church before Worship or 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 & Fruits

Spaghetti Sauce

Macaroni and Cheese

Rice, Noodles, Pasta

Pet Food

Gift Cards from local grocery markets (Shaw's, Stop & Shop, Market Basket, etc.) for perishables

Troop items for August are:

Flip Flops

Shower wash

Razors and toiletries

Morning Has Broken

Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-

BUNESSAN 5.5.5.4.D.

Gaelic Melody

Harm. by David Evans, 1874-1948

In unison

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken Like the first morn - ing, Black-bird has
2 Sweet the rain's new fall Sun - lit from heav - en, Like the first
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing Born of the

spo - ken Like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing!
dew - fall On the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion,

Praise for the morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing Fresh from the Word!
Of the wet gar - den, Sprung in com-plete - ness Where his feet pass.
Praise ev - ery morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion Of the new day!

Lift High the Cross

George William Kitchin (1827-1912)
Rev. by Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916; alt.

John 1:29-34; Rom. 5:6-11; 6:3-8; Rev. 7:9-17; 22:1-5

Refrain, in unison

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim; Let

Last time, end

all a-dore and praise that sa-cred name.

Stanzas, in harmony

1 Come, Chris-tians, fol-low where our Sav-ior trod, the
2 Each new-born ser-vant of the Cru-ci-fied bears
3 O Christ, once lift-ed on the glo-rious tree, your
4 Set up your throne, that earth's de-spair may cease, be-
5 So shall our song of tri-umph ev-er be: praise

to Refrain

Lamb vic-tor-ious, Christ the Child of God.
on the brow the seal of Christ who died.
death has brought us life e-ter-nal-ly.
neath the shad-ow of its heal-ing peace.
to the Cru-ci-fied for vic-to-ry.

Since its first inclusion in a U.S. hymnal in the 1970s, this hymn has become enormously popular. G. W. Kitchin and M. R. Newbolt were Church of England ministers. Sydney Nicholson

Tune: CRUCIFER 10.10. with refrain
Sydney Hugo Nicholson, 1916