

First Parish Church, Congregational On the Village Green Alanchester-by-the-Sea, Alassachusetts

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 21, 2022 9:00 am

Prelude "Be Thou My Vision" arr. Linda Hartman

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: We gather, O God, to recall what living with You has taught us about prayer.

All: "As the deer longs for flowing streams, our hearts long for You, O God."

One: Jesus said, "Ask and it will be given to you."

All: As we worship, teach us again what to want and how to hope.

One: Jesus said, "Seek and you shall find."

All: Guide us again in the search for our best selves, our truest community.

One: Jesus said, "Knock, and the door will be opened."

All: Call on us again to pray with our lives, our choices, our resources.

One: Give us courage and persistence to pray, to praise, to proclaim;

All: For the sake of the coming of Your realm and reign on earth, as it is in heaven.

Opening Hymn "Hear the Voice of God So Tender" (printed in bulletin)

Duet "En Bateau" (from "Petite Suite")
Claude Debussy (1862-1918)

Dr. Bonnie Anderson and Dr. Herman Weiss

Prayer Intentions

Time of Silent and Spoken Prayer with 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Music Meditation "Pavanne" Gabriel Faure (1845-1924)
Dr. Herman Weiss, piano; Dr. Bonnie Anderson, flute

Prayer of Dedication (together)

The wonder of life itself, O God, and the opportunity to live with generosity and compassion – these are Your gifts to us. We receive them gratefully.

Our gifts to You are the commitments we make to be, with the help of Jesus, our truest and best selves.

We offer them humbly, in the name of all that is holy to us.

Amen.

The Gospels Luke 11:1-13 Dave Lumsden (New Revised Standard Version Bible Translation)

¹ He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.' ² He said to them, 'When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

- ³ Give us each day our daily bread.
- And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.'

⁵ And he said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; ⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him." ⁷ And he answers from within, "Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything." ⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹ 'So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'

Sermon "Unwearied Prayer"

Closing Hymn "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" (printed in bulletin)

Blessing

Duet "Hungarian Dances, nos. 4 & 5"
Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

- Rev. Mark is away until later today for his and Cindy's son's wedding. Please contact the Church Office or any of the Deacons regarding pastoral care needs until Monday.
- Our Preacher today is Rick Spalding. Rick retired in 2018 after nearly 20 years of service as Chaplain at Williams College in western Massachusetts – where his work included encouraging spiritual life and inter-faith collaboration and dialogue among students representing most of the world's great religious traditions. Since retiring, Rick served for 18 months as Interim Pastor at the First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor, Michigan.

He had previously served congregations in Boston, New York City, and Albany, and taught at Harvard Divinity School, Andover-Newton Theological School, and Trinity School in NYC. Rick has preached here at FPCC twice before; he and his partner of 48 years now live in Ipswich, and feel very much at home on the North Shore - perhaps partly because Rick's grandfather was born on Bridge Street here in Manchester.

We welcome Bonnie Anderson our Guest Musician.

Bonnie has a varied career as chamber pianist, orchestral pianist, soloist, and teacher of students ages 12-88. She enjoys collaborating with musicians from the Boston Symphony, New York Philharmonic, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and San Francisco Symphony. Highlights of her collaborations include performing Hindemith's Trio for Saxophone, Viola and Piano with Branford Marsalis and Christof Huebner on the Nantucket Island Musical Arts Society Series, recital with Joseph Foley on the River Oaks Chamber Orchestra "Unleashed Series" in Houston, and concerts with her Piano Duo partner Stella Owen around New England. As orchestral pianist, Bonnie is a member of Orchestra of Indian Hill and performs as guest pianist with Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra, Concord Orchestra, and Portland Symphony. An enthusiastic educator, Bonnie teaches at Phillips Andover Academy and was previously on the faculty at UMass Lowell. This year's projects include outdoor concerts on two keyboards with her Piano Duo, solo recitals of her solo arrangements of Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue and Rachmaninoff's Second Piano Concerto, and concerts with her new Piano Trio. Bonnie's recordings include a solo piano disc featuring French composers and a collaborative disc (Nightsongs) with trumpeter Joseph Foley. Bonnie attended the Juilliard School, Michigan State University, French Piano Institute in Paris and received her DMA from Boston University. She lives in Manchester with her family and two golden retrievers.

Notes about the music:

Linda Hartman is a retired high school choir director from Fontana, CA. Her many arrangements of hymn tunes have provided rich materials for our keyboard service pieces.

Claude Debussy, whose music served as a bridge to the 20th century, composed *Petite Suite* as a kind of sunny and pastoral respite from the futuristic music he was composing. It was premiered with Debussy and his publisher, Jacques Durand at the piano. En Bateau (Sailing) is one of many works by Debussy that evoke nature images.

Gabriel Faure's Pavane, originally a piano solo, has been adapted for chorus and piano, for orchestra and (as heard today) flute and piano. Composed at the time of Debussy's Petite Suite (1886-1889), it was conceived as an adaptation of the Spanish court dance of the same name.

Johannes Brahms conceived his 21 Hungarian Dances as an expression of the great variety which exists in the realm of Hungarian gypsy music. Originally composed for piano 4 hands, numbers 4 and 5 were published in the first volume in 1869. They are adaptations of well known melodies. Most of those melodies have a folk origin, with the one exception being #5 (composed by Bela Keler). Most of the dances were subsequently orchestrated by various composers.

Notes by Herman Weiss

- Our Deacon this morning is Barbara Smith.
- Manchester Seniors Drop in for Coffee and Conversation
 Starting September 12th and continuing every Monday 10 AM-12:30 PM (except holidays) at the First Parish Chapel Hall located behind Santander Bank

Hospitality provided by *The Friends of The Manchester Council on Aging* Come sit down and talk!

• Thank You Get Together

Stewardship is inviting everyone to a thank you get together at Tuck's Point, Sunday, September 11. We want to thank all who supported our Church with finances, donations, and time in 2022. Join us for pizza and First Parish Fizzies, 5-7 PM. We hope to see you there!

- Readers and Greeters are always needed, to volunteer speak to the Deacons, or you can also sign up <u>online</u>.
 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, <u>sign up now</u>, questions can be directed to Sue Parker, sueparker33@aol.com.
- <u>Click to read</u> 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.

 Book Group Summer News August 29, 6:30 PM at Wendy Hiller Clark's home, 18A Kennedy Road Magnolia. Please RSVP for planning purposes to Wendy at 978-500-9039 or hillerclark@gmail.com

"Mad About the Boy" by Helen Fielding - location TBA.

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:

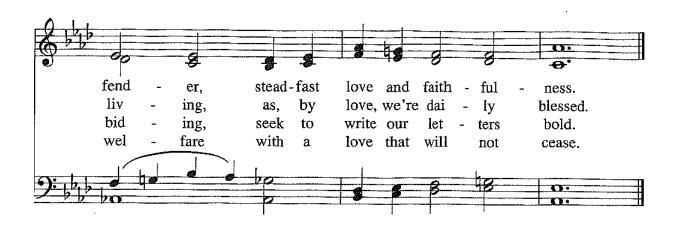
Flip Flops Shower wash Razors and toiletries

Hear the Voice of God, So Tender



This is one of the hundreds of hymn texts Lavon Bayler has provided in her books of liturgical resources related to the common lectionary. It appears in the volume for year B, aptly titled Whisners of God

Tune: RAQUEL 8.7.8.7.D.
Skinner Chávez-Melo, 1985
Alternate tune: BEACH SPRING



What a Friend We Have in Jesus



No stranger to sorrow himself, Joseph Scriven wrote this hymn to comfort his mother in Ireland. Scriven, who moved to Canada as a young man, attempted to follow literally the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount.

Tune: ERIE 8.7.8.7.D. Charles C. Converse, 1868