

**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
“Ask the Minister”
Sunday, July 31, 2022
9:00 am

Prelude *“Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart”*
Atkinson, arr. Larson

Welcome

Hymn *“Praise to the Living God”*
(printed in bulletin)

Opening Prayer (together)

Holy One, we gather together today with all our shared and private hopes, fears, joys and needs. In and through You, may we find peace of mind and strength of spirit. In and through You, may we find wisdom, courage and comfort.

May we embrace Your call for our lives, letting it transform us. May we trust in Your promise that the possibility for changed hearts and minds is never exhausted. May we find our sense of dignity and worth in being Your daughters and sons, and in the divine spark You have placed in each of us. And may Your Spirit fill us and free us to offer our highest selves to You and others.

We ask all this in the name of Jesus, the One You sent to show us and teach us the way to our highest selves. We pray to You now with the words He gave 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.

Solo

“The Lord’s Prayer”

Rorem

Joys and Concerns

Time of Silent and Spoken Prayer

Music Meditation

“Gymnopedie #1”

Satie

Dr. Herman Weiss, piano

The Gospels

Luke 12:22-31

Steve Carhart

(New Revised Standard Version translation)

²² He said to his disciples, ‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. ²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing.

²⁴ Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵ And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁶ If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest?

²⁷ Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ²⁸ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith!

²⁹ And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. ³⁰ For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹ Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

“Ask the Minister”

Solo *“Climb Ev’ry Mountain”* (from *“The Sound of Music”*)
 Rogers and Hammerstein II
 Rebecca Shrimpton, soloist

Climb ev’ry mountain, search high and low. Follow ev’ry byway, ev’ry path you know.

Climb ev’ry mountain, ford ev’ry stream. Follow ev’ry rainbow ‘till you find your dream

A dream that will need all the love you can give ev’ry day of your life for as long as you live.

Climb ev’ry mountain, ford ev’ry stream. Follow ev’ry rainbow ‘till you find your dream.

Closing Hymn *“O My Soul, Bless Your Creator”*

Blessing

Closing Song *“Grace”* Shaw, text McGee
 Rebecca Shrimpton, soloist

For the blanket of the night o’er a starlit sky;
For the hush of the dawn when morning is nigh;
For tender spring, for music, for joy the day may bring,
We thank Thee dear God. May all our lives sing. Amen

- Our Deacon this morning is John Feuerbach.
- **This Sunday, July 31** will be an *“Ask the Minister”* Sunday. Mark will address as many questions that have been sent to him as possible in the time normally allotted to the Sunday Message. These Sundays are always engaging, informative and fun.

- 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.

- **Book Group Summer News**

August 29, 6:30 PM- - location TBA.

“Mad About the Boy” by Helen Fielding

“West with Giraffes” by Lynda Rutledge

- **Mother Earth Sings Bible Experiences Week at First Parish Church**
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. Please pre-register by July 16, space is limited to 15 participants.

- **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

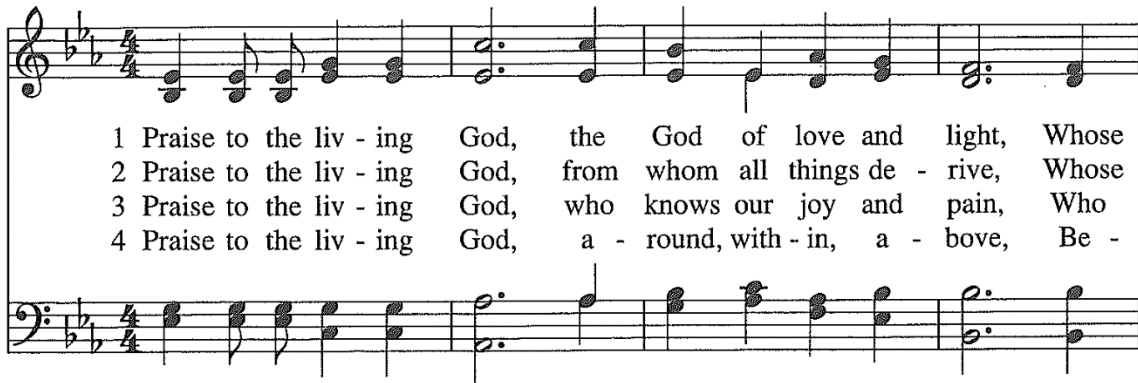
Troop items for August are:

Flip Flops Shower wash Razors and toiletries

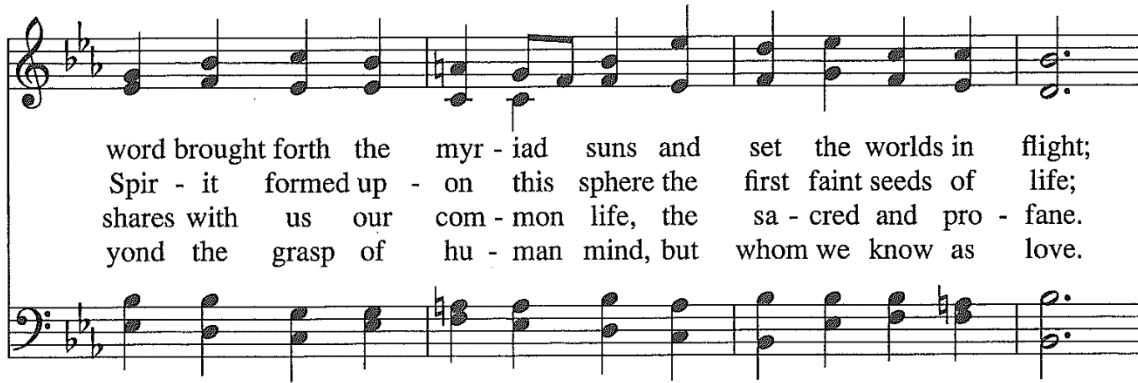
Praise to the Living God

Ps. 84:1-2

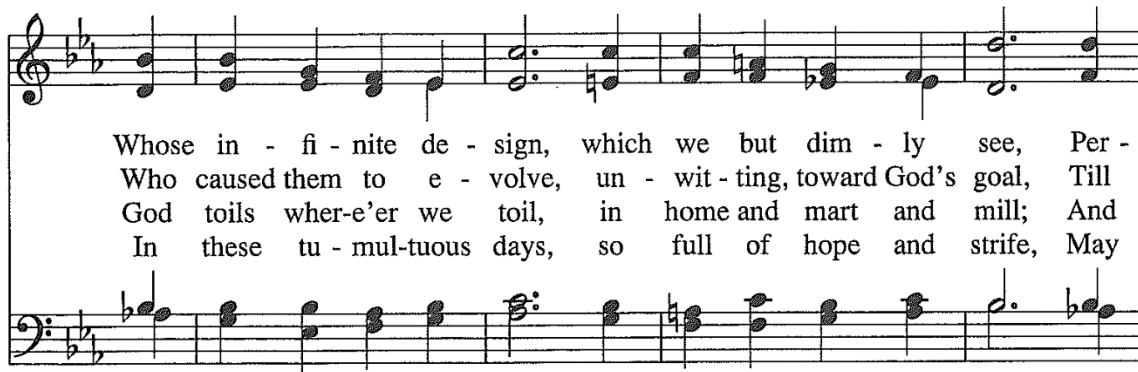
Curtis Beach, 1966; alt.



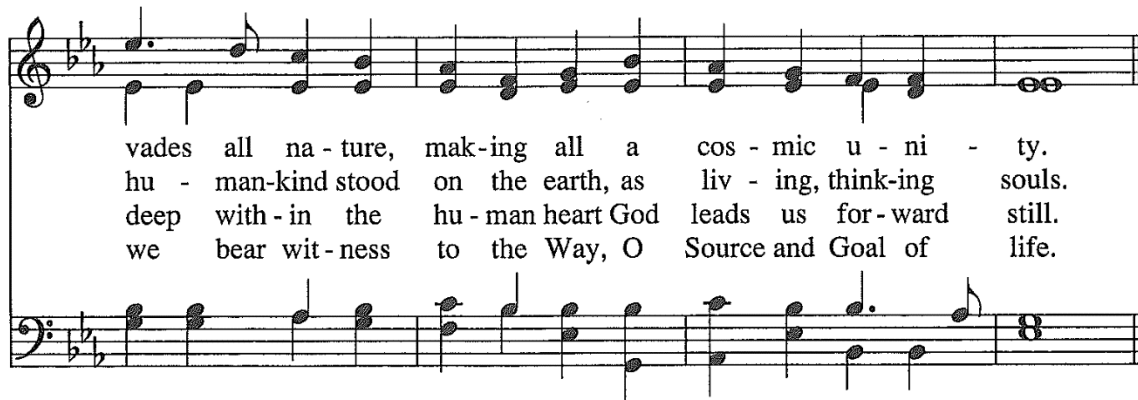
1 Praise to the liv - ing God, the God of love and light, Whose
2 Praise to the liv - ing God, from whom all things de - rive, Whose
3 Praise to the liv - ing God, who knows our joy and pain, Who
4 Praise to the liv - ing God, a - round, with - in, a - bove, Be -



word brought forth the myr - iad suns and set the worlds in flight;
Spir - it formed up - on this sphere the first faint seeds of life;
shares with us our com - mon life, the sa - cred and pro - fane.
yond the grasp of hu - man mind, but whom we know as love.



Whose in - fi - nite de - sign, which we but dim - ly see, Per -
Who caused them to e - volve, un - wit - ting, toward God's goal, Till
God toils wher - e'er we toil, in home and mart and mill; And
In these tu - mul - tuous days, so full of hope and strife, May



vades all na - ture, mak - ing all a cos - mic u - ni - ty.
hu - man - kind stood on the earth, as liv - ing, think - ing souls.
deep with - in the hu - man heart God leads us for - ward still.
we bear wit - ness to the Way, O Source and Goal of life.

Curtis Beach, born into a family of several generations of ministers, was educated at Harvard University, the Boston University School of Theology, and the University of Southern California. A minister in the United Church of Christ, Beach authored The Gospel of Mark: Its Making and Meaning.

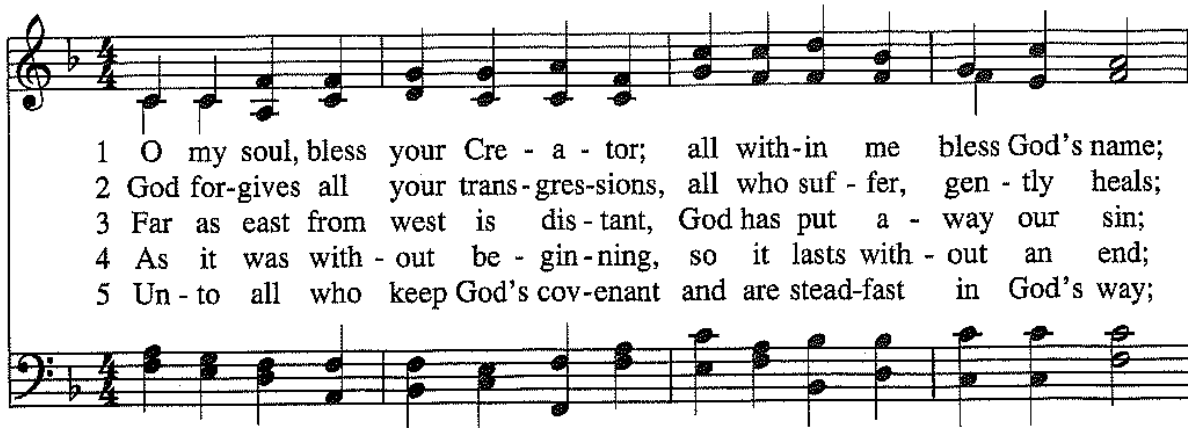
Tune: DIADEMATA S.M.D.
George J. Elvey, 1868

O My Soul, Bless Your Creator

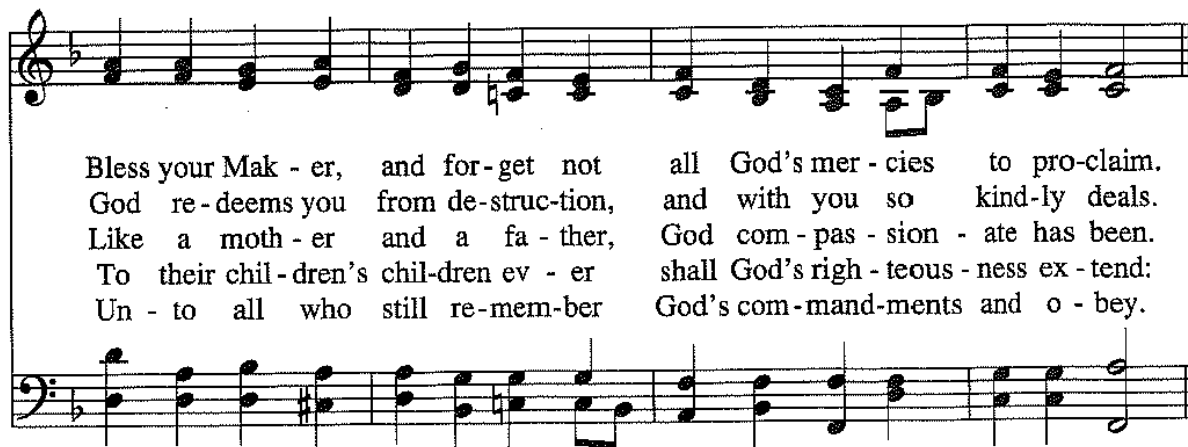
Anon.

Ps. 103

United Presbyterian Book of Psalms, 1871; alt.



1 O my soul, bless your Cre - a - tor; all with-in me bless God's name;
2 God for-gives all your trans-gres-sions, all who suf - fer, gen - tly heals;
3 Far as east from west is dis - tant, God has put a - way our sin;
4 As it was with - out be - gin - ning, so it lasts with - out an end;
5 Un - to all who keep God's cov - enant and are stead-fast in God's way;



Bless your Mak - er, and for-get not all God's mer - cies to pro-claim.
God re - deems you from de-struc-tion, and with you so kind-ly deals.
Like a moth - er and a fa - ther, God com - pas - sion - ate has been.
To their chil - dren's chil-dren ev - er shall God's righ - teous - ness ex - tend;
Un - to all who still re-mem-ber God's com - mand - ments and o - bey.

Psalm 103, a beautiful psalm of thanksgiving for God's forgiveness and steadfast love, is summed up in the lines of this hymn. The author of the paraphrase is unknown.

Tune: STUTT GART 8.7.8.7.
Attrib. to Christian F. Witt
Psalmodia Sacra, Gotha, 1715