

**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
Third Sunday of Easter
The Sacrament of Baptism
The Sacrament of Communion
Sunday, May 1, 2022
10:00 am

Prelude

"Song of India"
Rimsky-Korsakov

Welcome

Opening Hymn *"My Shepherd Is the Living God"* (printed in Bulletin)

Opening Prayer

Holy One, in this Easter season, we celebrate Your never-ending power to bring new life from the ways of death. We are grateful for Your never-ceasing call to rise to our higher selves. We are humbled and awed by Your never-wavering refusal to let anything separate us from You.

Help us to embrace and live the Spirit of Easter each day. In and through that Spirit, help us to choose Your life-giving ways over what is convenient. Help us to offer others a steady flow of Your life-giving compassion, justice, mercy and forgiveness. Help us to bring Your life-giving presence into the places where the forces of physical, emotional and spiritual harm seek to take hold.

We ask You to help us do all this in the name of the Risen Jesus, and with the words He gave us on our lips, hearts, minds and spirits...

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.

The Sacrament of Baptism for William Vickery

Introduction

Covenant of the One Being Baptized

Covenant of the Congregation

Blessing of the Baptismal Water

The Act of Baptism

Congregational Prayer for the One Baptized (together)

We give you thanks, O God, for William, and for his Baptism through water and Your Holy Spirit. May his reception into Your spiritual community help him find courage and strength in difficult times, know the joy that God desires him to find, and experience the fullness of life that comes from following the example of Jesus. Amen.

Solo

“My Way’s Cloudy”

Burleigh

Rebecca Shrimpton, soloist

Oh! brethren, my way, my way's cloudy, my way, Go send them angels down,
Oh! brethren, my way, my way's cloudy, my way, Go send them angels down.

This is the year of jubilee, Send them angels down,
The Lord has come and set us free, O send them angels down.

Old Satan's mad, and I am glad, Send them angels down,
He missed the soul he thought he had, Send them angels down.

Prayer Intentions

Time of Silent and Spoken Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

Music Meditation

“Gnossienne”

Satie

Dr. Herman Weiss, piano

¹ Later, Jesus himself appeared again to his disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. This is how it happened:

² Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, Zebedee's sons, and two other disciples were together. ³ Simon Peter told them, "I'm going fishing." They said, "We'll go with you." They set out in a boat, but throughout the night they caught nothing.

⁴ Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples didn't realize it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus called to them, "Children, have you caught anything to eat?" They answered him, "No." ⁶ He said, "Cast your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." So they did, and there were so many fish that they couldn't haul in the net.

⁷ Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It's the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard it was the Lord, he wrapped his coat around himself (for he was naked) and jumped into the water. ⁸ The other disciples followed in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they weren't far from shore, only about one hundred yards.

⁹ When they landed, they saw a fire there, with fish on it, and some bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you've just caught." ¹¹ Simon Peter got up and pulled the net to shore. It was full of large fish, one hundred fifty-three of them. Yet the net hadn't torn, even with so many fish. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples could bring themselves to ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came, took the bread, and gave it to them. He did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they finished eating, Jesus asked Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" Simon replied, "Yes, Lord, you know I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ Jesus asked a second time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Simon replied, "Yes, Lord, you know I love you." Jesus said to him, "Take care of my sheep." ¹⁷ He asked a third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was sad that Jesus asked him a third time, "Do you love me?" He replied, "Lord, you know everything; you know I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."

Message

Choir Anthem *“One Faith, One Hope, One Lord”* Courtney

One faith, one hope, one Lord, one church for which He died.
One voice, one song we lift in praise to Him who was and is and shall be
evermore.

There is one body, one spirit, as you were called to one hope. One Lord, baptism
and faith, one God and Father of all, who is in you all.

Though we be many people, diverse with various gifts, we are given to each
other for the unity of faith, that we grow in the knowledge of the Son of God, in
the fullness of Christ.

The Sacrament of Communion

The Invitation

Leader: God is with us;

People: In every moment of our lives.

Leader: Let us lift up our hearts.

People: We lift them up to God.

Leader: Let us present our lives to God.

People: Through all we do and say.

The Words of Institution

Consecration

Sharing God's Gifts

(gluten free bread available)

The Community's Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give you thanks, O God, for calling us to this table of nourishment and
healing for body, mind and spirit. May the sharing of this holy meal strengthen
our faith, increase our love for You and one another, and give us the courage we
need to go out into the world as Christ's disciples, inspired and supported by
Your Holy Spirit. Amen.

Closing Hymn “*As We Gather at Your Table*” (printed in Bulletin)

Blessing

Closing Song “*May the Road Rise Up to Meet You*” Lau

May the road rise up to meet you, may the wind be always at your back, may the shine warm upon your face, and the rain fall soft upon your fields.

And until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand. And until we meet again, may God hold you in His hand. Amen.

- Due to today’s “*Soup and Conversation*” gathering immediately after our Worship time, there will be **no “Coffee Hour Fellowship” today**. Please head over to the Chapel Hall at the conclusion of the service to participate.
- Our Deacons this morning are Nancy Peterson and Liz Loomis.
- ***Bible Study*** will be held on the following dates in May at 4pm on Zoom:
Thursday, May 5
Thursday, May 26
There will be no Bible Study on Thursday, May 12 or 19
- ***Prayer and Meditation*** will be offered on Zoom twice in May at 7pm:
Thursday, May 5
Thursday, May 26
- Our next ***Spiritual Exploration*** unit begins in May:

“These Things”: Considering Your Life Testament

Tuesdays: May 3, 10, 24, 31; June 7 and 14 (additional weeks as needed)
7:00pm – 8:30pm on Zoom

Based on a spiritual exercise crafted by Jesuit priest and author Father Anthony de Mello, this unit will involve considering and sharing our responses and insights regarding a number of “*these things*” statements – for example: “*These things I have loved in life:*” and “*These experiences I have cherished:*”

It promises to be a time of deep spiritual reflection, challenge, clarity and growth. After the first session, one or more “*these things*” prompts will be provided as “homework” in preparation for the following session.

- 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
- [Click to read](#) The Church Bell Newsletter of First Parish Church Congregational for April 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 **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid..**

- Stewardship – Though many of us do not use the pledge offering envelopes anymore, please look in the Narthex to see if your name is on a box. If you don’t need them, please let Mary Ellen know.

- 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

- **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/>

- **Announcing a new Service & Outreach opportunity!**

Each month the American Legion in Manchester collects items for *Operation Troop Support*, an organization that focuses efforts on helping our deployed troops as well as their loved ones back home. The Service & Outreach committee has agreed to help by collecting requested items. Each month we will let you know what the items are and have a collection bin outside the Chapel Office door and in the Church for donations. This collection is in addition to the mission for The Grace Center and The Open Door (which is ongoing, see next page for those items) to give another opportunity to participate in hands on service and outreach.

The troop items requested for May are sunscreen, foot powder and deodorant; for June they are powdered drink mixes (Gatorade, iced tea, lemonade).

- **Join us TOMORROW, Monday, May 1, 6:30 PM** at Mary Ellen Cook's home, 23 Harold St. Manchester, to discuss “The Henna Artist” by Aika Joshi. (This is the April gathering rescheduled from April 25th.)

Book Group is open to everyone! Consider joining us. Questions can be directed to Mary Ellen Cook at 978-500-0018.

We next meet on Monday, May 30 at 6:30 PM at Lauren Gudonis' home, 56 Masconomo St. Manchester. We will be discussing “Wish You Were Here” by Jodi Picoult.

Diana O'Toole is perfectly on track. She will be married by thirty, done having kids by thirty-five, and move out to the New York City suburbs, all while climbing the professional ladder in the cutthroat art auction world. She's not engaged just yet, but she knows her boyfriend, Finn, a surgical resident, is about to propose on their romantic getaway to the Galápagos—days before her thirtieth birthday. Right on time.

But then a virus that felt worlds away has appeared in the city, and on the eve of their departure, Finn breaks the news: It's all hands on deck at the hospital. He has to stay behind. You should still go, he assures her, since it would be a shame for all of their nonrefundable trip to go to waste. And so, reluctantly, she goes.

Almost immediately, Diana's dream vacation goes awry. The whole island is now under quarantine, and she is stranded until the borders reopen. Completely isolated, she must venture beyond her comfort zone. Slowly, she carves out a connection with a local family when a teenager with a secret opens up to Diana, despite her father's suspicion of outsiders.

Diana finds herself examining her relationships, her choices, and herself—and wondering if when she goes home, she too will have evolved into someone completely different. goodreads

My Shepherd Is the Living God

Ps. 23; John 10:11, 27-30

Composite from Thomas Sternhold, 1549, and Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

C G C G7 C F G F C

1 My shep-herd is the liv - ing God, I there-fore noth-ing need;
 2 When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;
 3 The sure pro - vi - sions of my God at - tend me all my days;

Am G C F G Am G7 C G C

In pas - tures fair, near pleas - ant streams you set - tle me to feed.
 A word of your sup - port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.
 O may your house be my a - bode, and all my work be praise.

C F C Dm G C Am Dm Am FM7

You bring my wan-dering spir - it back when I for-sake your ways,
 Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread;
 There would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers come and go—

Em C Am Dm Am Em C G7 C

And lead me for your mer - cy's sake in paths of truth and grace.
 My cup with bless-ings o - ver-flows, your oil a - noints my head.
 No more a strang-er or a guest, but like a child at home.

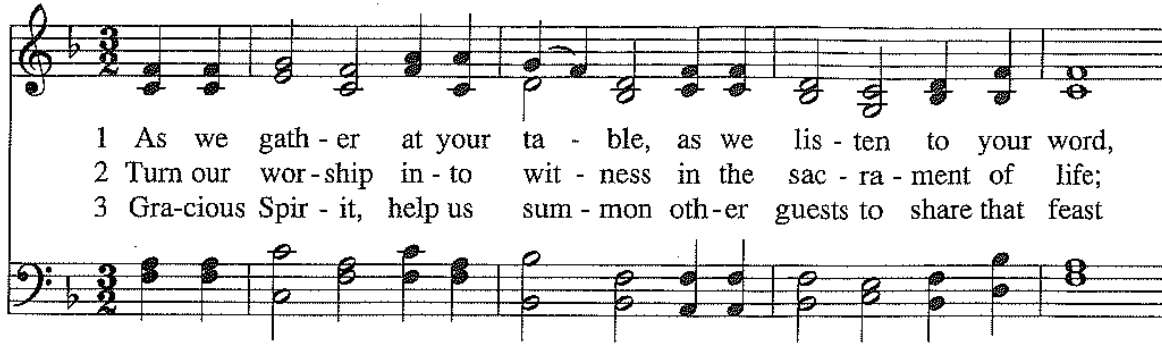
Isaac Watts, London's leading Congregational minister, wrote more than 600 hymns. His paraphrase of Psalm 23 has been altered here by combining a few phrases from Thomas Sternhold, a sixteenth-century English hymnwriter who also wrote metrical psalm texts.

Tune: CONSOLATION C.M.D.
 Southern Harmony, 1835
 Harm. Erik Routley, 1976
 Alternate tune: CRIMOND (Each stanza above becomes two stanzas.)

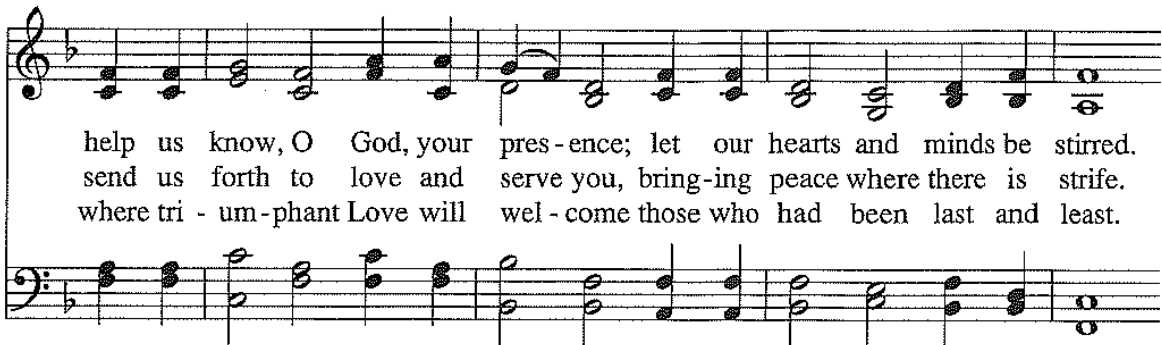
As We Gather at Your Table

Matt. 22:1-10; Luke 14:16-24

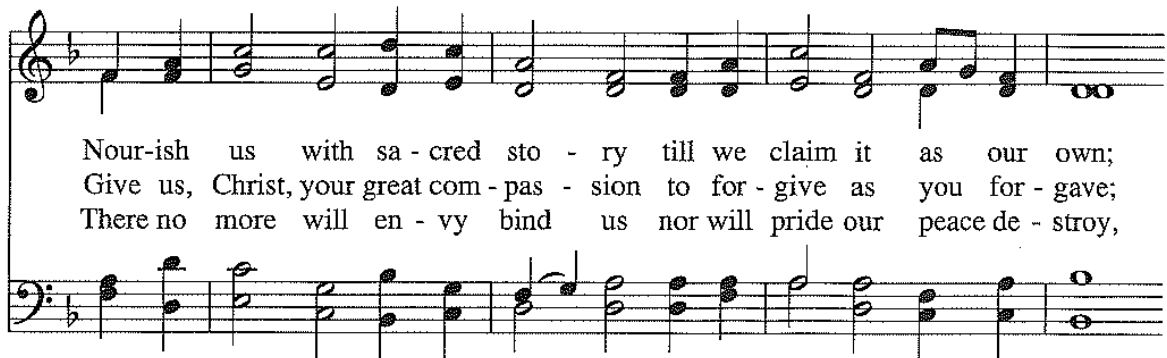
Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1989



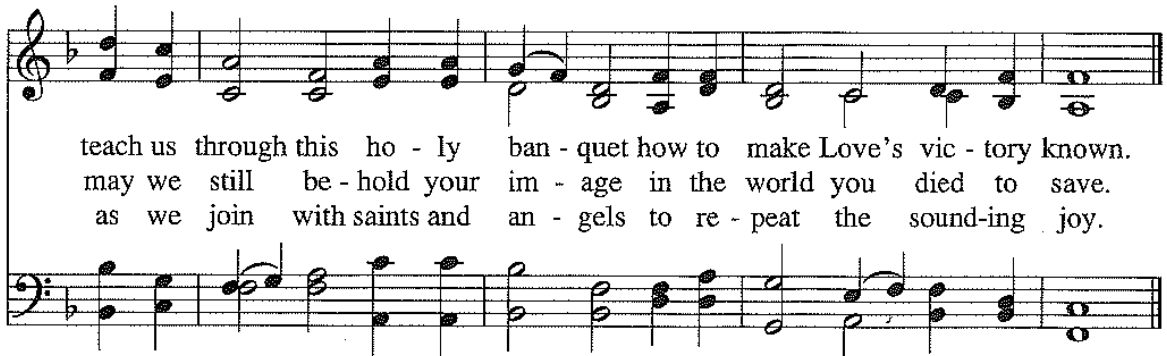
1 As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.



Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy bind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - tory known.
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

In this hymn, commissioned by an Episcopal parish in Virginia for the celebration of its tricentennial, Carl P. Daw, Jr., utilized a familiar phrase from Isaac Watts' "Joy to the World," which was the motto for the celebration: "Repeat the sounding joy."

Tune: BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7.D.
The Sacred Harp, 1844
Harm. The New Century Hymnal, 1992