



**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  
Fourth Sunday of Easter  
Mother's Day  
Sunday, May 8, 2022  
10:00 am

Prelude

*"Spanish Dance"*

Granados

Welcome

Opening Hymn

*"God Our Author and Creator"*

(printed in bulletin)

Opening Prayer

Holy One, You call the Church to be a spiritual home for all Your people. You call it to be a place of nurture and growth. A place that promotes healing. A place that rejects violence and advances justice. A place that inspires courage and hope in the face of sorrow and struggle.

Help us, O God, to be that place. Help us to be the kind of spiritual home that invites all in; that offers shelter from the storms of life; that challenges and encourages members, friends and guests to become all that You created and call us to be, individually and together.

We ask You to help us do all this in the name of the Risen Jesus, and to give life to 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## Blessing and Presentation of the Mother's Day Flowers

Solo

*"The Lamb"*

Shaw

Text: Blake, from *"Songs of Innocence"*

Rebecca Shrimpton, soloist

Little lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee? Gave thee life, and bade thee feed by the stream and o'er the mead; gave thee clothing of delight, softest clothing, woolly, bright; gave thee such a tender voice, making all the vales rejoice?

Little lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee? Little lamb, I'll tell thee; little lamb, I'll tell thee; He is called by thy name, for He calls himself a Lamb. He is meek and He is mild. He became a little child. I a child and thou a lamb, we are called by His name.

Little lamb, God bless thee! Little lamb, God bless thee!

### Prayer Intentions

### Time of Silent and Spoken Prayer

### Invitation to the Offering

Music Meditation

*"To My Little Son"*

Price, text: Davis

Rebecca Shrimpton, soloist

In your face I sometimes see shadowings of the man to be and eager dream of what my son shall be, dream of what my son will be in twenty years and one.

When you are to manhood grown and all your manhood ways are known, then shall I wistful try to trace the child you once were in your face.

## **The Gospels**

### **Luke 1:26-38**

**(New Revised Standard Version Bible Translation)**

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' <sup>29</sup> But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

<sup>30</sup> The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. <sup>31</sup> And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup> He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.'

<sup>34</sup> Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' <sup>35</sup> The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup> And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup> For nothing will be impossible with God.'

<sup>38</sup> Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

## **The New Testament**

### **Acts 1:12-14**

**(New Revised Standard Version Bible Translation)**

<sup>12</sup> Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. <sup>13</sup> When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. <sup>14</sup> All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

## **Message**

**Choir Anthem**      *“Walk, While You Have the Light”*  
text: John 35-36

Beebe

Walk, while you have the light, now that you see the light, now lest the darkness cometh upon you; for they that walketh in the darkness knoweth not where they goeth, for a little while walk, while you have the light, see, you can see the light, go, though the doom of darkness be on you.

Walk, while you have the light, and you’ll see that you have the light, and believe that the light will guide you forever. Walk, while you have the light.

Walk, while you have the light, now that you see the light, now lest the darkness cometh upon you; for they that walketh in the darkness knoweth not where they goeth, for a little while walk, while you have the light, see, you can see the light, go, though the doom of darkness be on you.

Walk, while you have the light, and you’ll see that you have the light, and believe that the light will guide you forever. Walk, while you have the light.

**Closing Hymn**      *“God of Grace and God of Glory”* (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.

- Our Deacons this morning are Nancy Peterson and Liz Loomis.
- *The First Parish Office will be closed until Thursday, May 12.*

- ***Bible Study*** will next be held on the following date in May at 4pm on Zoom:

Thursday, May 26

**There will be no Bible Study on Thursday, May 12 or 19**

- ***Prayer and Meditation*** will next be offered on Zoom in May at 7pm:

Thursday, May 26

- Our newest ***Spiritual Exploration*** has begun:

***“These Things”: Considering Your Life Testament***

Tuesdays: May 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.

Each session can be participated in on its own for those concerned about missing one or more evenings.

The homework prompts for this coming Tuesday’s session are:

***“These Things I Have Cherished...”***

***“These Things I Have Outgrown...”***

**Remember:**

1. Write as many responses as you can.

2. Avoid “self-editing”
  3. Let go of concerns over how “trivial” a response might be to you or others.
  4. Be as detailed as possible.
- 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](mailto: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 May 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 Outreach and Service 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).

**Book Group will 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

# God Our Author and Creator

Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1985

Gen. 1:1-2:3; Acts 17:22-31; Rom. 12:2; John 3:16-17

Unison

1 God our Au - thor and Cre - a - tor, in whose life we find our own,  
2 Like those first a - pos-tles, Sav-ior, give us strength to love and serve:  
3 Keep us faith-ful, Ho-ly Spir-it, help us bear the mes-sage true,

make our dai - ly wit - ness great-er, by our lives make your love known.  
when our faint-ing spir - its wa-ver, fire our hearts and steel our nerve.  
that at last all lands may hear it: "God is love; Christ died for you."

Help us show how love em-brac-es those whom fear and greed down-trod;  
Teach us wis - dom and com-pas-sion: bid our rest - less thoughts be still;  
Join our lives in might-y cho-rus till we come from ev - ery place,

in all yearn-ing hearts and fac - es let us see a child of God.  
by your guid-ance help us fash-ion lives con-formed un - to your will.  
with all those who went be - fore us, to the full - ness of God's grace.

*In 1985, a hymn competition was held to commemorate the centennial of the Women's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention. This winning text by Carl P. Daw, Jr., fulfilled the guideline that the hymn address mission in the context of daily life.*

Tune: JEFFERSON 8.7.8.7.D.  
Southern Harmony, 1835  
Harm. John Ferguson, 1973

# 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

