

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, July 10, 2022 9:00 am

Prelude "Adagio Cantabile" Beethoven

(from Sonata in C Minor, op.13)

Welcome

Opening Hymn "Arise, Your Light Is Come"

(printed in bulletin)

Opening Prayer (together)

A Prayer of St. Francis for Today

Holy One, lead us to be instruments of Your ways.

Where there is hatred, let us bring reconciliation.

Where there is injury, let us promote healing.

Where there is discord, let us encourage open, honest dialogue.

Where there is falsehood, let us demand truth.

Where there is doubt, let us invite further exploration.

Where there is despair, let us offer hope.

Where there is shadow, let us bring compassion.

Where there is indifference, let us inspire love.

Holy One, move us to be instruments of Your ways.

And may we do all this in the name of Jesus, the One you sent to show us and teach us those ways. We pray to You together 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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Solo "Come, Now is the Time to Worship"

Doerksen, arr. Schrader

Paul Knox, soloist

Come, now is the time to worship, come, now is the time to give your heart. Come, just as you are to worship, come, just as you are before your God. Come.

Come, now is the time to worship, come, now is the time to give your heart. Come, just as you are to worship, come, just as you are before your God. Come.

One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God. One day ev'ry knee will bow. Still the greatest treasure remains for those who gladly choose you now.

Come, now is the time to worship, come, now is the time to give your heart. Come, just as you are to worship, come, just as you are before your God. Come now.

Prayer Intentions
Time of Silent and Spoken Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

Music Meditation "Nocturne in E Flat, op.9, #2" Chopin
Dr. Herman Weiss, piano

Prayer of Dedication

The Hebrew Scriptures 2 Kings 5:19b-27 (New Revised Standard Version Bible Translation)

But when Naaman had gone from him a short distance, ²⁰ Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, thought, 'My master has let that Aramean Naaman off too lightly by not accepting from him what he offered. As the LORD lives, I will run after him and get something out of him.'

²¹ So Gehazi went after Naaman. When Naaman saw someone running after him, he jumped down from the chariot to meet him and said, 'Is everything all right?' ²² He replied, 'Yes, but my master has sent me to say, "Two members of a company of prophets have just come to me from the hill country of Ephraim; please give them a talent of silver and two changes of clothing."

²³ Naaman said, 'Please accept two talents.' He urged him, and tied up two talents of silver in two bags, with two changes of clothing, and gave them to two of his servants, who carried them in front of Gehazi. ²⁴ When he came to the citadel, he took the bags from them, and stored them inside; he dismissed the men, and they left.

²⁵ He went in and stood before his master; and Elisha said to him, 'Where have you been, Gehazi?' He answered, 'Your servant has not gone anywhere at all.' ²⁶ But he said to him, 'Did I not go with you in spirit when someone left his chariot to meet you? Is this a time to accept money and to accept clothing, olive orchards and vineyards, sheep and oxen, and male and female slaves.

²⁷ Therefore the leprosy of Naaman shall cling to you, and to your descendants for ever.' So he left his presence leprous, as white as snow.

Message

Solo "Recitative and Aria" (from "Elijah") Mendlessohn
Paul Knox, soloist

Draw near, all ye people, come to me! Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, this day let it be known that Thou art God; and that I am Thy servant!

Lord God of Abraham! Oh shew to all this people that I have done these things according to Thy word. Oh hear me, Lord, and answer me!

Lord God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, oh hear me and answer me, and shew this people that Thou art Lord God. And let their hearts again be turned.

Closing Hymn "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" (printed in bulletin)

Blessing

Closing Song "God Be with You" Vaughn Williams

God be with you 'till we meet again; by His counsels guide, uphold you, with His sheep securely fold you; God be with you 'till we meet again.

- The flowers this morning are given by Mark and Cindy Boyea in memory of Caitlin Lehmann and Terry Greer.
- Our Deacon this morning is Jan Marshall.
- *Bible Study* will not be held this **Thursday**, **but will resume on July 21** at 4pm on Zoom.
- *Prayer and Meditation* will next take place on **Thursday**, **July 21** on Zoom at 7pm.
- Our current *Spiritual Exploration* unit *concludes* on July 19:

"These Things": Considering Your Life Testament

Tuesdays: July 19

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 the session on **Tuesday**, **June 19** are:

"These Things I Still Hope To Do"

AND: Choose one saying, poem, scripture verse or story, song, etc. which you feel would be a fitting conclusion to your life "testament" – something which you feel captures the essence of who you have been to this point in your life.

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 <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 July is a free month, enjoy your summer reads!
- August 29, 6:30 PM, location TBD, choice of 2 books -

"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 for The Open Door and The Grace Center and Operation Troop Support. Drop any of the items below at the Church 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 and Fruits

Spaghetti Sauce

Macaroni and Cheese

Rice, Noodles, Pasta

Pet Food

Gift Cards from local grocery markets

(Shaw's, Stop & Shop, Market Basket, etc.)

so they can purchase butter, cream and other perishables

Troop items for June, July & August are:

Powdered drink mixes- Gatorade, iced tea, lemonade

Dry fruits & nuts

Hard candy

Beef Jerky

Flip Flops

Shower wash

Razors and toiletries

Breakfast Buddies: Ocean Stories begins TOMORROW! July 11-15, 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

A program especially designed for 2–4-year-old children and an adult at no cost. Breakfast Buddies introduces a Bible character to our youngest seekers with a short presentation, an activity, and a craft over breakfast. Each day will introduce a different character so sign up for one day or all five!

<u>Pre-registration</u> is required and food allergies/ sensitivities will be accommodated.

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 <u>pre-register</u> by July 16, space is limited to 15 participants.

ART SHOW SUBMISSIONS WANTED!

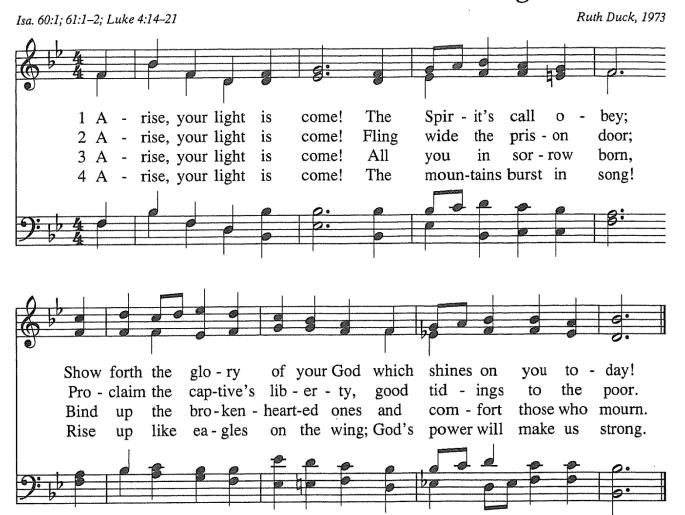
The Christian Education Committee of First Parish Church is seeking art submissions for a judged Art Exhibit themed – "Our Earthly Home"

Art will be displayed From July 23 – July 29, 2022 Art will be judged, and winners announced July 26. Winners will be awarded prizes in 1st and 2nd place in age range categories: Painting, drawing, mixed media, collage, sculpture, and nature items art are sought.

Submissions will be accepted daily outside the First Parish Chapel building at 1 Chapel Lane, MBTS beginning July 6 and closing July 19. Look for specially marked drop bins. *Tell your friends and family and join us for some fun, some laughter, some learning, and some food!*

For questions or more information, contact Jeanne @jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com or sign up here.

Arise, Your Light Is Come



This hymn was first published by the Ecumenical Women's Center of Chicago in the 1974 collection of hymn adaptations, Because We Are One People. Ruth Duck later included it in her own collection, Dancing in the Universe.

Tune: FESTAL SONG S.M. William Walter, 1872

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Frederick William Faber, 1854; alt.



Of Huguenot Protestant ancestry, Frederick William Faber was influenced by the Oxford Movement and eventually became a Catholic priest. He wrote 150 hymns to correspond to the number of psalms.

Tune: IN BABILONE 8.7.8.7.D.

Dutch melody

Arr. Julius Röntgen, 1906

Alternate tune: HOLY MANNA