



**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*

**First Parish Church, Congregational
United Church of Christ
Sunday, October 30, 2022
10 AM**

Prelude Benedictus – Karl Jenkins (1944)

Welcome by John Feuerbach, Deacon

Opening Hymn *For All the Saints* #299

Call to Worship

Come let us join our hearts in a chorus of praise,

And lift up our voices with the saints of every age!

Let this place be filled with a spirit of joy,

For God is in this place with gifts of life and love!

Children's Moment (for young and young at heart) Jeanne Westcott
(Children will leave to go to Sunday School after)

Choir Anthem Beautiful Savior – arr. Michael Burkhardt (1957)

Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!

Truly I'd love Thee, truly I'd serve Thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flowers of Spring:

Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high;

Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer, than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory

and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be Thine!

The Service of Morning Prayer

"What We Ask"

Prayers of the People

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your name may be united in
your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice
and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Pastoral Prayer

(Your intercessions and prayers for those who have passed on will be lifted up at this time)

Prayer of Our Savior

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.

Stewardship “Why First Parish?” Betsy Joyce

The Service of Giving ***“What We Offer”***

Invitation to the Offering

Musical Meditation Lost in the Stars - Kurt Weill (1900 – 1950) lyrics by Maxwell Anderson (1888 - 1959)
Ute Gfrerer, solo

Before Lord God made the sea or the land He held all the stars in the palm of his hand, and they ran through his fingers like grains of sand and one little star fell alone. Then the Lord God hunted through the wide night air for the little dark star in the wind down there, and he stated and promised he'd take special care so it wouldn't get lost again.

Now, a man don't mind if the stars get dim and the clouds blow over and darken him, so long as the Lord God's watching over him keeping track how it all goes on. But I've been walking through the night and the day 'till my eyes get weary and my head turns gray; and sometimes it seems maybe God's gone away, forgetting his promise that we heard him say. And we're lost out here in the stars - little stars, big stars - blowing through the night. And we're lost out here in the stars - little stars, big stars - blowing through the night. And we're lost out here in the stars.

Prayer of Dedication

The Service of the Word **“What We Hear”**

Gospel Lesson Luke 6:20-31 Paul Lengeiza

²⁰Then [Jesus] looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

²²“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.

²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵“Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

²⁷“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you,

²⁸“bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you.

²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt.

³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

Contemporary Lesson “Everyone Sometime” Wislawa Szymborska
(1923-2012)

from *Map: Collected and Last Poems*; 2016, p. 425.

Everyone sometime has somebody close die,
Between to be or not to be
He’s forced to choose the latter.

We can’t admit that it’s a mundane fact,
Subsumed in the course of events,
In accordance with procedure:

Sooner or later on the daily docket,
The evening, late night, or first dawn docket;

And explicit as an entry in an index,
As a statute in a codex,
As any hance date on a calendar.

But such is the right and left of nature.
Such, willy-nilly, is her omen and her amen.
Such are her instruments and omnipotence.

And only on occasion
A small favor on her part—
She tosses our dead loved ones
Into dreams.

Sermon On Thinned Veils, Ghostly Apparitions, and Grief

Rev. Hamilton

Choir Anthem Laudate Dominum – W. A. Mozart (1756-1791); sung in Latin.

Ute Gfrerer, solo

Translation: Praise the Lord, all you nations, praise him, all you people because it is confirmed. His mercy is upon us and the truth, the truth of the Lord abides, abides forever. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

The Service of Commissioning
“What We Take with Us”

Closing Hymn *Forward Through the Ages* #377

Commission and Blessing

Closing Song Siyahamba (We Are Marching in the Light of God) – Zulu Song, arr. Doreen Rao

Our Deacon this morning is John Feuerbach.

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, we invite everyone to join us for **“Coffee Fellowship”** following the service.

We welcome Guest Minister Rev. Jared Hamilton back as our worship leader this morning. Rev. Jared Hamilton (United Church of Christ) has served the United Church of Hinesburg since 2013. Jared served as First Parish Church’s Youth Leader and led many Worship services here while earning his Master of Divinity from Andover Newton Theological Seminary, he was ordained at First Parish in November 2013. As pastor, Jared works in this vibrant faith community, advocating a faith of exploration, mutual support, inclusion, and works of justice. Ministering to a multi-generational community, Jared's work includes youth group and coordinating yearly youth trips, communion education classes, adult faith formation groups, pastoral visitation, and leading a community worship. He has served as a chaplain at New England Baptist Hospital and on staff at Human & Civil Rights Organizations of America.

He is a member of the Society of Biblical Literature and the Next Generation Leadership Initiative of the United Church of Christ. Jared gardens and keeps bees. He is married to Leah Hamilton and spends his down time with their three young children, Camille, Simon and Miles. Contact Rev Jared at revjared@gmavt.net.

We once again welcome Ute Gfrerer as our soloist this morning.

A native of Austria, Soprano Ute Gfrerer studied voice and acting in Los Angeles before she started her international career singing operas, operettas and concerts in theaters all over the world, like the Vienna Volksopera, and the Zurich Opera, The Barbican Hall in London, The Megaron Theater in Athens, Alte Oper Frankfurt, Deutsches Theater Munich, NHK Hall in Tokyo, The Virginia Opera, and the Salzburg Music Festival to name but a few. In the past decade she has become a specialist in the music of Kurt Weill, having sung and recorded many of his pieces. In 2018 Ute was asked to be the first person to sing and record a Weill song (The Song of the Blind Girl) that was lost since 1930 and then found in a library in Berlin 88 years later! Last year she was also the judge of the prestigious “Lotte Lenya Voice Competition” at the Eastman School of Music. Ute Gfrerer enjoys doing her own cabaret shows and collaborating with other artists, like visual artist Lisa Rosowsky which whom she created a very personal program around the topic of the Holocaust. www.forourfathers.com She coaches young singers in artistic expression and has given masterclasses at the Vienna conservatory, Stanford University, the University of Maryland and NEC. She was also nominated for an IRNE award as “Best Actress in a Musical” for her portrayal of Aldonza in the Musical “The Man of La Mancha”. Ute is also a certified hypnotherapist and astrologer. She lives on the Boston North Shore with her German husband Christoph, her 16 year old daughter Maxine and her singing dog Barolo.

For more information, please visit her website www.ute-gfrerer.com

First Parish Staff

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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.

The Church Bell Newsletter [click to read](#) the most recent edition.

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>

Learn more about First Parish online:

[Facebook](#) www.facebook.com/FirstParishChurchManchesterMa/

[Instagram](#) www.instagram.com/fpcmanchesterbythesea/

[Website](#) www.firstparishchurch.org/

[YouTube Worship Services](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLUvfURhmsH8lfE13FLaRtWcw-pOTC9T2h>

First Parish will hold its first annual **Messiah Sing** in its Sanctuary on **December 11, 2022, at 7 PM**. Singers and listeners are welcome to join us in the glorious music of G. F. Handel. Featured will be soloists and orchestra, conducted by our Music Director, Dr. Herman Weiss. This event is open to the public and will be followed by a reception in the Chapel Hall. It also will be live streamed and recorded. A free will offering will be accepted at the door. You are encouraged to bring your musical scores. Additional scores will be available if needed.

Fall Children and Youth Fellowship

Sunday, November 6, Youth Fellowship Outing destination and time tbd. Community, friendship, and support built through dinners, movie nights, community service, escape rooms, retreats and more, open to all youth ages 13 – 18, twice a month. Questions? Contact Jeanne Westcott, Director of Children and Youth Ministries at jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com

Sunday, November 13, 5:30 PM Family-Friendly Movie Night with craft. Faith Formation will host a family-friendly movie, free for all accompanied by an adult, with crafts and snacks provided. Our “craft” will be a beeswax candle decoration suitable for Thanksgiving, Advent or to be given as a gift. Pre-registration required sign up [here](#)

Saturday, December 10, 12 PM - 4 PM Winter Queen's Emporium

A holiday shopping opportunity for children ages 5 – 10. Children bring a list and \$1 per family members, to shop in our stocked emporium. They will meet the Winter Queen, enjoy a treat, and wrap/tag their gifts to surprise their family! Pre-registration required sign children up [here](#)

Thursday Spiritual Study Join in a lively discussion, Thursdays, 4 PM, on Zoom using The Daily Word as a resource. Questions or to join in contact Paul Lengieza 978-526-4765, lengiezap@hotmail.com.

The Seaside Parish Knitters meet each 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at the Chapel, from 1-5 pm. In November - **Nov 3 & 17**. We welcome all to stop by anytime during that time. Over the years we have enjoyed our time knitting and crocheting items for baptismal events at the church, shawls and blankets for friends at home, scarves, neck gators, and helmet liners for our veterans in combat, and mittens and hats for Cape Ann children. We are always looking for knitting needles and yarn that you might be considering “casting” aside, especially wool. Contact Penny Lapham at 978-526-7128.

Book Group News This is a time for church members as well as non-church friends to come together and engage with one another, build relationships, and share in a discussion of books that are of interest to people of various backgrounds. We have fun visiting, conversing about the book and sharing stories and would love to have you join us! Questions? Call Mary Ellen Cook 978-500-0018. We next meet **November 28th** to discuss **“In the Woods” by Tana French** location TBD.

**The Outreach and Service collection continues for -
The Open Door and The Grace Center items needed**

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 November

For Hospitals – Blankets, Pillows, T-shirts & Underwear

Drop at the Church before Worship or at the Chapel.

Our **FPCC Compassion child**, Chepkirwok needs supporters for 2023, [sign up now](#), questions can be directed to Sue Parker, sueparker33@aol.com.

Our New Online Prayer Wall Give it a try! Request prayers and pray for others through the Prayer Wall on our website. Feel more connected to the Joys and Concerns of our congregation, and hear what's on each other's hearts. You will be touched to receive notifications every time someone prays for you. <https://www.firstparishchurch.org/prayer-wall/>

Forming a Stephen Ministry at First Parish

Several members are organizing a Stephen Ministry at First Parish. The Stephen Ministry, named for Stephen, who in Acts 6 was appointed to assist members of the community suffering acute hardships, is a 50 year old interdenominational Christian tradition which trains lay members of the Congregation in psychology and theology to be a Christian presence with all in the community suffering acute challenges. Typical examples would include bereavement, divorce, terminal illness, substance abuse, or mental illness.

Full details of the program are available by clicking [Stephen Ministries](#). A Stephen Minister's objective is not to "solve" the challenge but rather to ensure that none feel alone in their struggles. (Jesus, after all, did not come to "fix" all of our challenges, but rather to be *with* us in our struggles.) At the same time, a Stephen Ministry in a congregation develops a network of specialized services suitable to assist individuals with particular problems. For example, someone struggling with alcoholism would be introduced to a local AA group, while the Stephen Minister would continue to meet with that individual as a friend and witness. We are currently working closely with the Outreach & Service Committee and the Care Team on this project. In the short term, as the leadership is trained and the program develops, our intention is to augment the work of the Care Team and develop our network of specialized services to which we can refer people for specialized support. Our tentative expectation is that during the current program year we will assist people within the congregation, with the goal of offering a fully trained and developed service to the full local community in the following program year. If you are interested in learning more about this project, call Steve Carhart at 978-407-8454.

Contribute to the work of First Parish Church or pay your pledge by going to <http://www.PayPal.Me/FPChurchManchester> and clicking the "send" button to start your transaction.

First Parish is looking for help with streaming our worship services. Can you volunteer? Full training is provided! Not sure? Sign up to be an assistant to the volunteer who is streaming. We need your help to continue to provide online access to Worship services. Sign up [here](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C4CABA822A1F49-sunday2) <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C4CABA822A1F49-sunday2> or contact Richard Smith at richard.w.smith@gmail.com.

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!

Health clinic the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month, 10:00 - noon at the Chapel building, by The Visiting Nurses Association. Services offered include health assessments, blood pressure screenings, B12 administration, pulse, heart and lung monitoring, blood sugar screenings for diabetics, medication and diet consults. Drop in, free.

Upcoming Guest Worship Leaders

Today, October 30, Rev. Jared Hamilton

November 6, Rev. Teri Motley

November 13, Rev. Judy Brain

November 20, Outreach & Service Committee

November 27, Rev. Dr. Llewellyn Smith

December 4, Rev. Dr. Llewellyn Smith

December 11, Rev. Dr. Llewellyn Smith

December 18, Rev. Dr. Llewellyn Smith

December 24, 5 PM Jeanne Westcott, FPC Director of Youth and
Children's Ministry

December 24, 7 PM Rev. Dr. Llewellyn Smith

December 25, Rev. Dr. Llewellyn Smith