



**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  
September 17, 2023, 10 AM**

**Prelude** Amina - Elena Kats-Chernin (b. 1957)

**Welcome by Deacon**

**Call to Worship**

One: Sing to the Lord a new song;  
Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

**Many: For great is the Lord, and worthy to be praised.**

One: Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;  
Let the sea resound, and all that is in it

**Many: Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them;  
Let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.**

One: Let all creation rejoice before the Lord

**Many: God's steadfast love endures forever.**

**Hymn** God of Grace and God of Glory NCH #436 (v. 1, 3, 4)

**Children's Moment** (for young and young at heart) by Jeanne Westcott

**Anthem** How Firm a Foundation – Mack Wilberg (1955)

How Firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in His excellent word! What more can He say than to you He hath said, who unto the Savior for refuge have fled? In ev'ry condition, in sickness, in health, in poverty's vale or abounding in wealth, at home or abroad, on the land or the sea as thy days may demand, so shall thy succor be. Fear not, I am with thee; oh, be not dismayed, I am thy God and will still give thee aid. I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand. Thy soul that on Jesus hath leaned, for repose I will not, I cannot, desert to his foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never forsake! Amen!

**Prayer Intentions**

**Time of Spoken Prayer**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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.

## **Invitation to the Offering**

**Meditation** At Last - Alexis Ffrench (b. 1970)

Dr. Bonnie Anderson, piano

## **Prayer of Dedication**

### **Scripture Reading Exodus 13:17-22 Paul Lengieza**

When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was nearer, for God thought, "If the people face war, they may change their minds and return to Egypt." So God led the people by the roundabout way of the wilderness bordering the Red Sea. The Israelites went up out of the land of Egypt prepared for battle. And Moses took with him the bones of Joseph, who had required a solemn oath of the Israelites, saying, "God will surely come to you, and then you must carry my bones with you from here."

They set out from Succoth and camped at Etham, on the edge of the wilderness. The Lord went in front of them in a pillar of cloud by day, to lead them along the way, and in a pillar of fire by night, to give them light, so that they might travel by day and by night. Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people.

### **Sermon "The Spirit Moves in Wind and Flame" Rev. Katherine Schofield**

**Anthem** The Gift of Love – arr. Hal H. Hopson (1933)

Rebecca Shrimpton, solo

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire, and have not love my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain. Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess, but not be giv'n by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come spirit come, our hearts control. Our spirits long to be made whole, O come, spirit, come let inward love guide every deed. By this we worship, and are freed. Amen

**Hymn** In the Midst of New Dimensions NCH #391

**Blessing**

**Closing Song** The Peace of the Earth - Guatemalan traditional

The peace of the earth be with you, the peace of the heavens too; the peace of the rivers be with you, the peace of the oceans too. Deep peace falling over you; God's peace growing in you.

**Our Deacon this morning is Susan Parker.**

**This morning we welcome Rev. Katherine Schofield, the Search Committee's candidate to be our settled pastor.**

FIRST PARISH CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL

United Church of Christ

Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts

WARRANT FOR SPECIAL MEETING

September 17, 2023

TO: The congregation of the First Parish Church, Congregational, United Church of Christ, Manchester-By-The-Sea, Massachusetts.

You are hereby notified to meet in the Church on Sunday, September 17, 2023, immediately following Worship Service for the following purpose:

To wit:

ARTICLE I: To respond and vote at the request of five members of the Search committee to call the Rev. Kathrine Schofield as full time Pastor. In accordance with the by-laws, this candidate shall be elected to an indefinite tenure by vote of the Church membership, and shall then be formally received into the active membership of the church by members of the DIACONATE BOARD and VITALITY COMMITTEE.

George A Nickless, Clerk

**The altar flowers** are given with great joy to welcome Rev. Katherine and her family to FPCC, by Jeff and Susan Parker.

**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.

**Please come to a gathering to thank you for supporting our Church in 2023**

Join us on the lawn, at Tuck's Point, this afternoon, Sunday, Sept. 17, 5 - 7 PM, for Pizza & First Parish Fizzes

We hope to see you there!

(If raining we will move to the Chapel Hall)

**We welcome Dr. Bonnie Anderson our Guest Music Director this morning.**

Bonnie Anderson has a varied career as chamber pianist, orchestral pianist, soloist, and teacher of students ages 12-88. She enjoys collaborating with musicians from the Boston Symphony, New York Philharmonic, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and San Francisco Symphony. Highlights of her collaborations include performing Hindemith's Trio for Saxophone, Viola and Piano with Branford Marsalis and Christof Huebner on the Nantucket Island Musical Arts Society Series, recital with Joseph Foley on the River Oaks Chamber Orchestra "Unleashed Series" in Houston, and concerts with her Piano Duo partner Stella Owen around New England. As orchestral pianist, Bonnie is a member of Orchestra of Indian Hill and performs as guest pianist with Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra, Concord Orchestra, and Portland Symphony. An enthusiastic educator, Bonnie teaches at Phillips Andover Academy and was previously on the faculty at UMass Lowell. This year's projects include outdoor concerts on two keyboards with her Piano Duo, solo recitals of her solo arrangements of Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue and Rachmaninoff's Second Piano Concerto, and concerts with her new Piano Trio. Bonnie's recordings include a solo piano disc featuring French composers and a collaborative disc (Nightsongs) with trumpeter Joseph Foley. Bonnie attended the Juilliard School, Michigan State University, French Piano Institute in Paris and received her DMA from Boston University. She lives in Manchester with her family and two golden retrievers.

**You can contribute to the work of First Parish Church or pay your pledge  
[@PayPal.Me/FPChurchManchester](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https://www.firstparishchurch.org/)**

**Thursday Bible Study with Elsa Marshall 4 PM** Join in a lively discussion, Thursdays, 4 PM, on Zoom. The link to join is sent each Thursday morning. Questions contact [office.fpchurch@gmail.com](mailto:office.fpchurch@gmail.com).

The **Seaside Parish Knitters** meets each 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at the Chapel, from 1-3 pm. Sept. 7 & 21. We welcome all to stop by anytime during that time and join in. 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.

**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>

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

Use the links below to **learn more about First Parish Church** online

Facebook [www.facebook.com/FirstParishChurchManchesterMa/](https://www.facebook.com/FirstParishChurchManchesterMa/)

Instagram [www.instagram.com/fpcmanchesterbythesea/](https://www.instagram.com/fpcmanchesterbythesea/)

Website [www.firstparishchurch.org/](http://www.firstparishchurch.org/)

YouTube Worship Services

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

### **First Parish Staff**

Dr. Herman Weiss, Director of Music, [hweiss05@comcast.net](mailto:hweiss05@comcast.net)

Jeanne Westcott, Director of Youth and Children’s Ministry

[jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com](mailto:jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com)

Nancy Klebart, Office Manager, [office.fpchurch@gmail.com](mailto:office.fpchurch@gmail.com), 978-526-7661 x1

**Manchester Seniors - Drop in for Coffee and Conversation** Every Monday 10 AM-12:30 PM (except holidays) at the First Parish Community Hall located behind Santander Bank. Hospitality provided by The Friends of The Manchester Council on Aging. Come sit down and talk! **Sept. 18 we will have pizza at noon to celebrate 1 year of the Coffee Social!**

**Visiting Nurses Health Clinic, free.** Held on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month, 10 - 11:45 AM at First Parish Chapel Hall. 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 and open to all.

**Our Online Prayer Wall** Request prayers and pray for others through the Prayer Wall on our website. You will be touched to receive notifications every time someone prays for you. <https://www.firstparishchurch.org/prayer-wall/>

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](mailto:richard.w.smith@gmail.com).

**Book Group!** Book Group meets on the last Monday of the month and hosting is shared among members. Please come back in September with some suggestions for books in the coming year. We will choose for the year! Happy reading! Our next book group will be on **September 25th** at 6:30 PM at Mary Lumsden's home at 18 Woodcrest Road, Manchester. "Rough Sleepers" by Tracy Kidder will be discussed. Book Group 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.

**The Stephen Ministry.** There are many ways to participate depending upon your gifts and availability, so if you think you might be interested, email [scarh10428@aol.com](mailto:scarh10428@aol.com) to receive and email Zoom invitation. If you would like to discuss the program in greater detail, call Linda Crosby at 978-314-1526 or Steve Carhart at 978-407-8454.

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

## **Outreach and Service Collections continue - drop at the Church before Worship or at the Chapel**

**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 Spaghetti Sauce, Canned Vegetables and Fruits, 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.

**Faith Formation is collecting school supplies**, to benefit the Beeman School of Gloucester, the sales are currently on! If you are out and about, please consider the following to add - Spiral bound notebooks (not college ruled), Pencils, Pens, Washable Markers in thin and thin variety, Composition notebooks, Crayons in 24 pack size, Small staplers and staples, Paper clips, Dry Erase markers, Sharpies (for teachers), Construction paper, Sketch pads, Index cards, Pink Pearl Erasers. Any assorted Art Supplies: like paint brushes, washable paint, craft foam sheets, stickers, glitter glue. Let's support our educators and students by limiting their needs and preparing them for success!

## **Operation Troop Support**

### **Items for Care Packages**

#### **FOOD**

- Cup of soup, ramen noodles, mac & cheese cups, individual cereal
- Individual containers of apple sauce, oranges, peaches, etc.
- Tuna packages, individual cans of tuna, chicken, deviled ham
- Power bars, beef jerky, granola bars, raisins
- Cookies, crackers, peanut butter crackers, pretzels, nuts
- Popcorn, cheez-its, candy, fruit snacks, pop tarts

#### **TOILETRIES**

- Toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, body wash
- Sunscreen, insect repellent, skin cream, baby powder, foot powder
- Cotton swabs, individual tissues, sanitizer wipes, band aids
- Disposable razors, deodorant, shaving cream (not aerosol)
- Chapstick, Vaseline

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

- Men and women socks, fleece blankets
- Playing cards, travel games, frisbees
- Word puzzle books, crossword puzzle books, brain teasers
- Current magazines, paperback books, stationary, pens, DVDs

#### **MONETARY DONATIONS**

- Please go to our website for more information