



**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  
Nov. 5, 2023, 10 AM  
Worship with Communion

**Prelude** Prelude in E Flat Minor (from 'WTC', book 1) – J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

**Welcome by Deacon**

**Call to Worship**

L: This is the day that the Lord has made, even though the world outside is fractured and afraid. Come into God's house, to find renewal and challenge.

**P: We are here to learn, to be comforted, to grow in faith.**

L: Share in the music, in the Words of Scripture, in the community of love.

**P: We come in hope for strength to be Christians in this disordered time.**

**All: Amen**

**Hymn TBA**

**Prayer of Confession**

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is merciful and just, will forgive us and cleanse us.**

Leader: Let us confess our sins before God and one another

**All: Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, lead us,  
so that we may delight in your word and follow in your ways.**

**Amen**

**Time of Meditation**

## **Words of Assurance**

**Anthem** Canon of Praise – Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706), arr. Hal Hopson (1933)

All within me bless the Lord, all within me bless His holy name.

O hear, you righteous, know that the Lord is good.

With truth, with hope, He crowns with truth.

## **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.

## **Stewardship Annual Fund Drive 2024 Bethany Woods**

1 Thessalonians 5:11 “therefore encourage one another and build up each other as indeed you are doing.”

Reflection question- what are your dreams for the future we are building together at First Parish?

## **Invitation to the Offering**

**Meditation** Come Thou Font of Every Blessing –Robert Robinson (1735-1790), arr. Linda Hartman

Dr. Herman Weiss, piano

## **Prayer of Dedication**

**All: God, we present these offerings,**

**that they may be used to expend your liberating reign.**

**With these gifts we offer our varied ministries in the days ahead**

**So that each of us may be part of your answer to the cries of the world.**

**Amen**

## **Scripture Reading Jonah 3:1-10**

<sup>1</sup> The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” <sup>5</sup> And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

<sup>6</sup>When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. <sup>7</sup>Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: “By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. <sup>8</sup> Humans and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. <sup>9</sup> Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish.”

<sup>10</sup> When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

## **Sermon Rev. Teri Motley**

**Anthem** Hear Me, Redeemer Henry Mollicone (1946 - 2022)

Rebecca Shrimpton, solo

Hear me, Redeemer, send down your love to cleanse my soul. Lord of Lords, wash away my sinful ways, show me the power of your love! Lord of Lords, shine your light through all my days, show me the power of your love! Hear me Redeemer, send down your love to cleanse my soul. Mighty God, take my hand and lead the way, show me the power of your love! Mighty God, let me praise you every day, show me the power of your love!

## **Communion**

### **Communion Prayer**

Leader: God be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to God.**

Leader: Let us give to God our thanks and praise.

**People: It is right to give thanks to God Most High.**

Leader: O Holy One, We praise you for creating us and all that is.

We thank you for revealing your will for us in the giving of the law  
and the preaching of the prophets.

We thank you that in the fullness of time you sent Jesus, to be born of Mary, to live in our midst, to share our common lot, and to accept suffering and the pain of death.

**People: We rejoice that in victory over the grave, you raised Jesus Christ with power to rule all things.**

**We celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to gather your church, through which your work is done in the world, and through which we share the gift of eternal life.**

Leader: God be with you

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts

**People: We lift them up to God.**

Leader: Christ has died.

**All: Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Words of Institution

Blessing of the Elements

Breaking bread and pouring wine

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**All: Bountiful God,**

**We give you thanks**

**That you have refreshed us at your table,**

**By granting us the presence of Christ.**

**Strengthen our faith,**

**Increase our love for one another,**

**And send us into this green blooming day,**

**With hope, courage, and faith,  
Rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen**

**Hymn TBA**

**Blessing**

**Closing Song** God Bless You and Keep You – Jay Althouse (1951)

God bless you and keep you wherever you may go; His love be a constant companion. God lead you and guide you and be at your side. God bless you and keep you forever.

**Our Deacon this morning is Nancy Peterson.**

**This morning we welcome Rev. Teri Motley.** Rev. Teri Motley was raised in Minnesota, in a family which she describes as “strict atheist”. Coming East to college, she moved with her first husband to Springfield Vermont, where she lived for over 20 years. In that time, she began her faith journey when she attended a UCC church, and then attended divinity school first in Bangor Maine, and then finishing her Masters in Divinity degree at Andover Newton Theological School, in Newton Massachusetts.

Moving with her second husband to Nahant, she was supported in her journey to ordination by the Nahant Village Church. She has served churches in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. She enjoys preaching and supporting the church in any way she can.

**Thank you, Liz Loomis,** for the altar flowers you have shared with us over the past several months.

We have been blessed by your generosity with another season from your gardens of annuals and perennials throughout the summer...and beyond.

**Missing from our remembrance list last Sunday was Peter Reid,** January 9, 2021. Many will remember Peter reading scripture during worship. From his obituary “His diction and passion for the spoken word were admired by many at the schools where he taught as well in his church, First Parish, Manchester-by-the-Sea, Mass., where he was an invited lectionary reader on many Sundays.”

**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.

**Fall hands on Community Service, all items can be dropped at the Chapel or Church –**

**Operation Troop Support** Socks, any size any color. Small board and card games.

**Thanksgiving Food Drive for The Open Door** Cereal, coffee & tea, granola bars, oatmeal, pancake & waffle mix, maple syrup, 100% fruit juice.

**The Grace Center** Gift Cards from local grocery markets.

**Gift bags for the Council on Aging and Freshman care packages** See the sticky notes with items needed in the Church.

**Toys for Tots** Ballet de Mar is collecting new toys for Christmas.

**Coming in December, mark your calendar!**

**Sunday, Dec. 3, Community Carol Sing**, just before the Friendship Tree concert. 2:30-3:15 PM inside First Parish Church, 10 Central St. Join us around the piano to sing some traditional carols and get in the mood for the tree lighting. Happening no matter the weather.

**Sunday, Dec. 10, 2nd Annual Messiah Sing**, 7:30 PM followed by a reception at the Chapel Hall.

**Poinsettias**, the Deacons will once again offer the opportunity to purchase a poinsettia to decorate the church for Christmas. Order forms coming later this month.

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)**.

**Our Stewardship Annual Fund Drive** has begun. We will be taking a month to reflect on our theme, Thessalonians 5:11, “therefore encourage one another and build up each other as indeed, you are doing”. A reflection question for the fund drive is - What are your dreams for the future we are building together at First Parish? In the next few weeks, we will have speakers from the First Parish community give their reflections during worship. In November our **Annual Fund Drive Sunday will be November 19**. Please bring your pledge cards! If you have any questions, please call Mary Ellen Cook 978-500-0018. We look forward to receiving your pledge for 2024, your Stewardship Committee.

**The Seaside Parish Knitters** meets each 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at the Chapel, from 1-3 pm. Oct. 5 & 19. 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.

**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).

**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**.

**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/>



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).

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!

**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.

**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>

or contact Richard Smith at [richard.w.smith@gmail.com](mailto:richard.w.smith@gmail.com).

**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 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.

**Book Group** Please note the change in the book for November\* 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! Book Group meets on the last Monday of the month and hosting is shared among members.

Listed further below are more Book Group reads for the new year.

**Monday, November 27**, at Nancy Peterson's home, the November book is *Catcher in the Rye* by JD Salinger. It's Christmas time and Holden Caulfield has just been expelled from yet another school...Fleeing the crooks at Pencey Prep, he pinballs around New York City seeking solace in fleeting encounters— shooting the bull with strangers in dive hotels, wandering alone round Central Park, getting beaten up by pimps and cut down by erstwhile girlfriends. The city is beautiful and terrible, in all its neon loneliness and seedy glamour, its mingled sense of possibility and emptiness. Holden passes through it like a ghost, thinking always of his kid sister Phoebe, the only person who really understands him, and his determination to escape the phonies and find a life of true meaning.

The *Catcher in the Rye* is an all-time classic in coming-of-age literature- an elegy to teenage alienation, capturing the deeply human need for connection and the bewildering sense of loss as we leave childhood behind. J.D. Salinger's (1919–2010) classic novel of teenage angst and rebellion was first published in 1951. The novel was included on Time's 2005 list of the 100 best English-language novels written since 1923. It was named by Modern Library and its readers as one of the 100 best English-language novels of the 20th century. It has been frequently challenged in the court for its liberal use of profanity and portrayal of sexuality and in the 1950's and 60's it was the novel that every teenage boy wants to read. goodreads

**December 11**, a potluck dinner, and book swap at Joanne Hadaegh's home.

**January 29** at Mary Ellen's home, 23 Harold St. The book is Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano.

An emotionally layered and engrossing story of a family that asks: Can love make a broken person whole?

William Waters grew up in a house silenced by tragedy, where his parents could hardly bear to look at him, much less love him. So it's a relief when his skill on the basketball court earns him a scholarship to college, far away from his childhood home. He soon meets Julia Padavano, a spirited and ambitious young woman who surprises William with her appreciation of his quiet steadiness. With Julia comes her family; she is inseparable from her three younger sisters: Sylvie, the dreamer, is happiest with her nose in a book and imagines a future different from the expected path of wife and mother; Cecelia, the family's artist; and Emeline, who patiently takes care of all of them. Happily, the Padavanos fold Julia's new boyfriend into their loving, chaotic household.

But then darkness from William's past surfaces, jeopardizing not only Julia's carefully orchestrated plans for their future, but the sisters' unshakeable loyalty to one another. The result is a catastrophic family rift that changes their lives for generations. Will the loyalty that once rooted them be strong enough to draw them back together when it matters most?

Vibrating with tenderness, Hello Beautiful is a gorgeous, profoundly moving portrait of what's possible when we choose to love someone not in spite of who they are, but because of it. goodreads

**February 26** at Meredith Tufts' home. The book is Beyond That, the Sea by Laura Spence-Ash.

**March 25** at Carol Spence's home. The book is Genesis in the Bible.