



**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
June 16, 2024, 10:00 am

Ringing of the Bell and Lighting of the Candles

Prelude It is Well with My Soul – Philip Bliss (1838-1876), arr. Christine Sullivan Robbins

Please maintain a prayerful quiet during the prelude as we prepare our hearts for worship.

*** Call to Worship** One: God of grace, You have made our minds,
Many: So help us to know you.
One: You have made our hearts
Many: So help us to love you.
One: You have made our voices,
Many: So help us to sing your praise.
One: Fill us with your Holy Spirit,
Many: So together we may celebrate and worship you! Amen!

Welcome

First Parish Church is rooted in the Congregational tradition of democratic governance and the full inclusion and participation of all who call this their spiritual home. We take seriously the responsibility to make the Christian faith our own in this time and place, and seek to live lives of generous service.

***Hymn** Jesus Loves Me - #327, NCH (play through once)

Children's Message Jeanne Westcott

Passing of the Peace

Anthem When in Our Music God is Glorified – Charles Stanford (1852 – 1924), adapted from Fred Green

When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride, it is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!

How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound, as worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!

So has the Church, in liturgy and song, in faith and love, through centuries of wrong, born witness to the truth in ev'ry tongue: Alleluia!

And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night when utmost evil strove against the light? Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia!

Let ev'ry instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise! And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!

Prayer Intentions

Pastoral 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.

Meditation American Tune – Paul Simon (1941-)

Paul Knox, solo

Many's the time I've been mistaken and many times confused

Yes, and often felt forsaken and certainly misused.

Aw, but I'm all right, I'm all right. I'm just weary to my bones.

Still, you don't expect to be bright and bon vivant

So far away from home, so far away from home.

And I don't know a soul who's not been battered

I don't have a friend who feels at ease

I don't know a dream that's not been shattered or driven to its knees.

Aw, but it's all right, it's all right. For we've lived so well so long.

Still, when I think of the road we're traveling on

I wonder what went wrong. I can't help it, I wonder what went wrong

And I dreamed I was dying, and I dreamed that my soul rose unexpectedly.

And looking back down at me smiled reassuringly and I dreamed I was flying
And high up above my eyes could clearly see the Statues of Liberty
Sailing away to sea. And I dreamed I was flying.
For we come on the ship they call the Mayflower,
We come on the ship that sailed the moon, we come in the age's most
uncertain Hours, and sing an American tune. Ah, and it's alright,
You can't be forever blessed.
Still, tomorrow's gonna be another working day and I'm trying to get some
rest.

Scripture Reading Joshua 4:1 -9

¹ When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua, ² "Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe, ³ and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, from right where the priests are standing, and carry them over with you and put them down at the place where you stay tonight. "

⁴ So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe, ⁵ and said to them, "Go over before the ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, ⁶ to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, 'What do these stones mean?' ⁷ tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever."

⁸ So the Israelites did as Joshua commanded them. They took twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, as the LORD had told Joshua; and they carried them over with them to their camp, where they put them down. ⁹ Joshua set up the twelve stones that had been in the middle of the Jordan at the spot where the priests who carried the ark of the covenant had stood. And they are there to this day.

Sermon " Tell the Story " Rev. Katherine Schofield

Church School Recognition

Invitation to the Offering

Anthem The Gift of Love – arr. Hal H. Hopson

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

*** Doxology #780 NCH**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.**

*** Prayer of Dedication**

*** Hymn Jesus Shall Reign - #300, NCH**

*** Blessing**

Closing Song God Be with You – Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872-1958)
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.

* Indicates the congregation is invited to rise in body or in spirit.

Our Deacons are Janet Groth and Nancy Peterson .

This morning we welcome our guest pianist Christina Maria Guibas.

Christina is a Victor Rosenbaum Scholarship recipient (2011) and Masters of Music and Mary Ellis Smith prize recipient (2013), from the Longy school of Music in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Her primary studies were with the late Ludmilla Lifson, graduate and former faculty of the Leningrad State Conservatory in Saint Petersburg, Russia (1968-1978). After the passing of her teacher, Ms. Guibas took up studies with the acclaimed Thomas Stumpf, faculty of Tufts in Somerville, Massachusetts, and graduate of the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. Ms. Guibas spent a decade teaching in the Greater Boston area. She performed both as a soloist, and as a piano duo with the now Music Director of the Paul Madore Chorale in Salem, Massachusetts, Rene Minalga-Rheault. Christina is now the staff pianist, a member of the choir, and serves on the Board as Vice President of the Paul Madore Chorale. She resides in Beverly, Massachusetts with her cat Lyra, where she works full-time as a real estate agent and consultant.

Welcome to all who are new to our Worship time.

Listening devices are available for those in need; they are at the back of the Sanctuary. Feel free to ask a Deacon should you need help.

Faith Formation Opportunities for All Ages

Children's Sunday will be celebrated on June 16.

Through study and prayer and service, we aspire to love God "with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength." From the youngest toddlers, to the wisest Elders, we each are called to grow in our faith and understanding.

Sunday School - During Worship will resume in September. Our kids engage in hands-on, age-appropriate learning opportunities that integrate storytelling, the arts and spiritual development in a safe and family-friendly environment. Breakfast Buddies will be held June 24-27, contact jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com for details.

Youth Group - Gathers monthly for service projects, arts and crafts, and social events.

Weekly Lectionary Bible Study – Meets on Tuesdays, 3:30-4:45p via Zoom. We will continue to meet during the summer months. We study scripture together, utilizing resources from a variety of traditions, and seeking meaning for our daily lives.

First Parish has ongoing collections for -



- **The Open Door** Most needed items – canned chicken & tuna, peanut butter, healthy snacks, 100% juice boxes, cereal, hearty soups, canned fruits & veggies.
- **Operation Troop Support** Socks, and small board and card games.
- **The Grace Center** Gift Cards from local grocery markets for perishables like cream, butter, milk.

Drop items at the Chapel (inside and outside bins) and at the Church.

Annual Tuck's Point Worship & Picnic! Sunday, June 23 . Join us at the Chowder House for worship, 10 AM . Stay after for a delicious lunch provided by the Vitality and Stewardship committees

We invite you to bring a friend!

