



**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
Summer Worship August 4 , 2024
Communion 9:00 am

Ringling of the Bell and Lighting of the Candles

Prelude Prelude, from Prelude, Fugue and Variation - Cesar Franck (1822-1890), transcribed by Harold Bauer

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

*** Call to Worship**

One: Hungering and thirsting, we come to the Lord.

Many: Jesus is the living bread!

One: Feed us with your love and healing power, O Lord.

Many: Give us the bread of hope and compassion that we may also feed others.

One: Praise be to you, O Lord, for your compassion for us.

Many: Praise be to you, O Lord, for your steadfast love.

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** Glorious Things of You Are Spoken - #307, NCH

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance

Passing of the Peace

Solo My Way's Cloudy – Spiritual, arr. H. T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

Rebecca Shrimpton, solo

Chorus: Oh! brethren, my way, my way's cloudy, my way, go send them angels down. Oh! brethren, my way, my way's cloudy, my way, go send them angels down.

Verse: This is the year of jubilee, send them angels down,
The Lord has come and set us free, o send them angels down.

Chorus:

Verse: Old Satan's mad, and I am glad, send them angels down,
he missed the soul he thought he had, o send them angels down.

Chorus:

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 To a Wild Rose -Edward MacDowell (1860-1908)

Dr. Bonnie Anderson, piano

Scripture Reading John 6:24 -35 Eleanor Harris

²⁴ Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus.

²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, “Rabbi, when did you get here?”

²⁶ Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. ²⁷ Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval.”

²⁸ Then they asked him, “What must we do to do the works God requires?”

²⁹ Jesus answered, “The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.”

³⁰ So they asked him, “What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’”

³² Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

³⁴ “Sir,” they said, “always give us this bread.”

³⁵ Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Sermon “ Bread of Life ” Rev. Katherine Schofield

Invitation to the Offering

Solo The Gospel Train – spiritual, arr. H. T. Burleigh (1866 -1949)

Rebecca Shrimpton, solo

The gospel train is comin', I hear it just at hand. I hear the car wheels rumblin', and rollin' thro' the land. Then get on board, little children (3×), there's room for many a more. I hear the train a-comin', she's comin' 'round the curve, she's loosened all her steam and brakes and strainin' ev'ry nerve. Then get on board, little children (3×), there's room for many a more. The fare is cheap and all can go, the rich and poor are there. No second class about this train, no difference in the fare. Then get on board, little children (3×), there's room for many a more.

*** 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.**

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts!

All: We lift them up to God!

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Breaking, Pouring, and Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

**Host of hosts, receiving Jesus at his table means
keeping food on our minds and in our hands.**

**Well-fed and grateful, send us into the world
that waits in aching hope for bread and justice multiplied,
ready to serve, and forever praising your name.**

*** Prayer of Dedication**

*** Hymn Come, O Fount of Every Blessing - #459, NCH**

*** Blessing**

**Closing Song Grace – Clifford Shaw (1911-1976), text Nora D. McGee
Rebecca Shrimpton, solo**

**For the blanket of the night o'er a starlit sky;
For the hush of the dawn when morning is nigh;
For tender spring, for music, for joy the day may bring,
We thank Thee dear God. May all our lives sing. Amen**

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

Our Deacons are Barbara Smith and Sue Parker.

Next week we will have special music for our service. Bonnie Anderson and our Music Director Herman Weiss will appear as duo-pianists with some very entertaining and uplifting music. They will be joined by Paul Knox, our vocal soloist. Don't miss it!

We welcome , Bonnie Anderson our guest musician, 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.

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 x 1.

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.

Readers and Greeters are always needed. To volunteer speak to the Deacons, or you can also sign up [online](#).

The Seaside Parish Knitters meet each 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at the Chapel, from 1-3 pm, we begin meeting again in September.

Altar Flowers

With gardens and yards now in bloom, please consider creating an arrangement for the FPCC altar.....it does not need to be large or tall....and can be as simple as you wish.....just from your yard would be a beautiful gift to share. Call Penny Lapham 978-526-7128.

Faith Formation Opportunities for All Ages

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 and Youth Group begin again in the fall.

Weekly Lectionary Bible Study – Meets on Tuesdays, 3:30-4:45p via Zoom. We will continue to meet during the summer months, except July 2nd. We study scripture together, utilizing resources from a variety of traditions, and seeking meaning for our daily lives.

The First Parish Office will be closed on Fridays through Labor Day.

Contribute to the work of First Parish Church
@PayPal.Me/FPChurchManchester

First Parish Stephen Ministers are highly trained lay volunteers who stand ready to provide confidential, one on one presence and counsel for anyone facing a life challenge such as divorce, job loss, major illness, or bereavement, under the direction of our Minister. This service also provides referrals to local agencies which can provide tangible assistance for needs such as housing, energy, or medical care. This program is part of the national interdenominational Christian movement described here: stephenministries.org. If you or anyone you know might benefit from this service, please contact Rev. Katherine or Stephen Leaders Linda Crosby (978-314-1526) and Steve Carhart (978-407-8454).

Book Group News –August 26, 6:30 PM, We will discuss “A True Account” by Katherine Howe at Mary Ellen's home, 23 Harold St. Manchester. RSVP to Mary Ellen at cook.maryellen7@gmail.com.



ART SHOW SUBMISSIONS WANTED!

The Faith Formation Ministry of First Parish Church is seeking art submissions for a judged Art Exhibit themed "BRIGHT and BEAUTIFUL!"

Art will be displayed to view from August 21-August 28, 3-7 PM

Art will be judged, and winners will be announced August 26.

Winners will be awarded prizes in First and Second place in the following age range categories:

The Matisse Group: Ages 3-6 years

The Van Gogh Group: Ages 7-10 years

The Picasso Group: Ages 11-14 years

The Renoir Group: Ages 15- 18 years

The DaVinci Group: Ages 19- and over

Painting, drawing, mixed media, collage, sculpture, and nature items art are sought.

Submissions will be accepted daily outside at 1 Chapel Ln. MBTS beginning August 5 and closing August 15. Look for specially marked drop bins.

For questions or more information, contact Jeanne Westcott
jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com