



**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  
Worship Communion Family Sunday  
May 4, 2025  
10:00 am

**Ringling of the Bell and Lighting of the Candles**

**Prelude** I Stand All Amazed - Charles H. Gabriel, 1856–1932, arr. Linda Hartman

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

**\* Call to Worship**

One: If you lift your net and it is empty, Come here!

**Many: We'll cast it out again into Christ's abundance.**

One: If you open your eyes but cannot find a friend, Come here!

**Many: We'll search out the Risen Christ in all Creation.**

One: If your life is filled with mourning, Come here!

**Many: Christ is leading a dance of joy .**

One: Come here, sisters and brothers!

**Many: To give blessing and honor and glory to God!**

**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.*

**Prayer of Invocation**

**\*Hymn** Listen to Your Savior Call - #250, NCH

**Message for All Ages**

**Passing of the Peace**

**Anthem** Magdalena – Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) (sung in English)  
Early on that Easter morn, Mary Magdalena came, forlorn; what found she  
where our Lord was laid, but an angel bright arrayed? The angel greeted  
her and said: “Woman, why weepest thou? He is not dead, He is arisen  
from the dead, Jesus, whom thou seekest?” “Mary”, Jesus saith to her.  
Mary turns and called him “Master”, for then in very truth she knew Him,  
that He was Christ the Saviour.

## **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** The Lamb – Clifford Shaw (1911-1976); text: William Blake  
(1757-1827), from ‘Songs of Innocence’

Rebecca Shrimpton, solo

Little lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee? Gave thee  
life, and bade thee feed by the stream and o’er the mead; gave thee  
clothing of delight, softest clothing, wooly, bright; gave thee such a tender  
voice, making all the vales rejoice? Little lamb, who made thee? Dost thou  
know who made thee? Little lamb, I’ll tell thee; little lamb, I’ll tell thee; He is  
called by thy name, for He calls himself a Lamb. He is meek and He is mild.  
He became a little child. I a child and thou a lamb, we are called by His  
name. Little lamb, God bless thee! Little lamb, God bless thee!

## **Scripture Reading s John 21: 1-19 Sarah Mellish**

<sup>1</sup> After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the  
Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup> Gathered there  
together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin,<sup>[a]</sup> Nathanael of Cana  
in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup> Simon  
Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with  
you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught  
nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” <sup>6</sup> He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup> That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. <sup>8</sup> But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup> When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup> Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” <sup>11</sup> So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup> Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup> This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup> When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” <sup>16</sup> A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” <sup>17</sup> He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup> Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” <sup>19</sup> (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

**Sermon “ Breakfast with Jesus ” Rev. Katherine Schofield**

## Invitation to the Offering

**Offertory Anthem** Walk, While You Have the Light – Hank Beebe (1926);  
text: John 35-36

Walk, while you have the light, now that you see the light, now lest the darkness cometh upon you; for they that walketh in the darkness knoweth not where they goeth, for a little while walk, while you have the light, see, you can see the light, go, though the doom of darkness be on you. Walk, while you have the light, and you'll see that you have the light, and believe that the light will guide you forever. Walk, while you have the light. Walk, while you have the light, now that you see the light, now lest the darkness cometh upon you; for they that walketh in the darkness knoweth not where they goeth, for a little while walk, while you have the light, see, you can see the light, go, though the doom of darkness be on you. Walk, while you have the light, and you'll see that you have the light, and believe that the light will guide you forever. Walk, while you have the light.

## \* 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: Welcome to Christ's table.

**All: We are glad to be here!**

One: Lift up your hunger.

**All: We do not hide our needs before God.**

One: Prepare yourself to be hosted and fed.

**All: The Bread of Life is our joy and satisfaction.**

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

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

**Many: Thank you for this meal shared in the company of friends.**

Having rested and been fed, may we go from this place committed to feeding any person who hungers for love, offering the same blessings we have received.

**\* Hymn** Like a Shepherd Lead Us - #252, NCH

**\* Blessing**

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

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

**Our Deacons are** John Feuerbach and Sue Parker .

**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.

**Join us following worship for coffee and conversation.**

**New Members Info Session Sunday, May 18th, following worship**  
Want to learn more about the life of this community of faith, ask any questions you may have, and get to know other newcomers and church members? Whether you're planning to join First Parish Church as a member or not, this Info Session will help you learn more about our commitments as a faith community, the various programs and ministries we offer, and how you can get involved. Contact Pastor Katherine for more info.

**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.

## **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.

**Family Worship** (first Sunday of the month) children of all ages stay in worship for these special intergenerational services.

**Church School** (all other Sundays) children depart from worship around 10:15a for their own time of learning, crafting, sharing and playing.

**Weekly Bible Study** (meets on Tuesdays, 3:30-4:45p via Zoom). We study scripture together, utilizing resources from a variety of traditions, and seeking meaning for our daily lives.

**Bird Houses** Although it doesn't feel like it, Spring will arrive and our feathered friends will need affordable housing. If you would like a birdhouse for your home or apartment outdoor area, please contact Jeanne at [Jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com](mailto:Jeanne.fpchurch@gmail.com).

**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](http://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).

**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](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4caba822a1f49_-diaconate)

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

**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.
- **The Open Door** the need is great so please donate what you can. Pantry items welcome. Coffee & tea, granola bars, oatmeal, pancake & waffle mix, maple syrup, 100% fruit juice. They are also grateful for bake mixes including muffin mixes.
- **The Grace Center** welcomes gift cards from local grocery markets to help the center provide cream, butter and other perishables.

**The Seaside Parish Knitters** meet each 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at the Chapel, from 1-3 pm, (May 1 & 15). 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 is open to everyone!** 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! Book Group usually meets on the last Monday of the month, at 6:30 PM, and hosting is shared among members.

In April we are meeting Tuesday, April 29 (due to town meeting on the 28th) at Mary Ellen Cook’s home, 23 Harold St, MBTS. We will discuss “These Precious Days” by Ann Patchett. RSVP to Mary Ellen at 978-500-0018 or jerris01@comcast.net for planning purposes.

**The collection for the Global Refugee Mission of New England has ended, thank you to all who donated.**