

First Congregational Church
Our Church in Worship

August 19, 2018 9:30 AM

Season of Pentecost

PRELUDE *Adagio* – Charles Marie Widor Adam Peithmann

WELCOME Rev. Kevin Pleas

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME OF SILENCE

RINGING OF THE STEEPLE BELL

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: We may be thirsty and parched, like an unwatered garden, so we come into God's presence.

People: The Divine One is a spring of water!

Leader: We may be weary from worry and work, so we come into God's presence.

People: The Holy One offers us Sabbath rest!

Leader: We may be lost or confused, so we come into God's presence.

People: The Wise One offers us welcome and guidance!

Leader: We may be bent over with struggle or pain, so we come into God's presence.

People: The Healing One empowers us to stand strong!

Leader: Let us worship then, our Divine, Holy, Wise and Healing God.

*OPENING HYMN NO. 17 *O Worship the King*

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

O God of all goodness, you welcome us, forgive us and heal us. You seek us out from places where we have hidden from you. You crown us with steadfast love and mercy. Reveal yourself to us in this moment. Let us know your presence so that we may bless you. Bless you, O God! Bless your holy name! Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC *Be Thou My Vision* – arr. Joel K. Boyd Michelle Harrington

A SERVICE OF BAPTISM
Jackson Matthew Dionne
Born June 15, 2018 to Amy and Matthew Dionne
With Godparents, Laura and Dan Paquin

WELCOME AND ADDRESS

PROMISES OF COVENANT

BAPTISMAL PRAYER

ACT OF BAPTISM

QUILT PRESENTATION

WELCOME OF THE CONGREGATION

We receive Jackson Matthew as a newly baptized person in Christ and welcome him into the family of faith. We enfold him in our love, seeking together to grow in unity of spirit and abundance of life in Christ. We join together with joy to proclaim the gospel of grace, so that, through our words and deeds, God's love might be made known in all corners of the world.

PRAYER FOR THE BAPTIZED

BENEDICTION

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

Barbara Papagian

LEADER: God, in your mercy

PEOPLE: Hear our prayer

SILENT MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 573

Purer in Heart, O God

OUR MORNING OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC *There is a Balm in Gilead* – arr. Hall Johnson

*DOXOLOGY

Chalice Hymnal No. 46

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise Him all creatures here below;

First Congregational Church



August 19, 2018

**Manchester, New Hampshire
United Church of Christ**

508 Union Street, Manchester, NH * 603-625-5093
Sunday Worship 9:30 AM (Summer)

*You are welcome here!
An Open & Affirming Congregation*

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)**

With reverence and awe for your ways, we offer our gifts for the work of love and justice, the work of healing, restoring and setting free in your holy name, God of our hearts. Amen.

RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE Psalm 90 Chalice Hymnal No. 746

SCRIPTURE LESSON First Kings 3:5-12 Pam Pleas

SERMON A Discerning Mind, A Wise Heart Rev. Kevin Pleas

CLOSING HYMN NO. 464 *God of Grace and God of Glory

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Praeludium in C BWV 531 – J. S. Bach*

**You are invited to stand if you wish*

SCRIPTURE READING: First Kings 3:5-12 (Common English Bible)

Old Testament page 299 in RSV Pew Bibles

The Lord appeared to Solomon at Gibeon in a dream at night. God said, "Ask whatever you wish, and I'll give it to you." Solomon responded, "You showed so much kindness to your servant my father David when he walked before you in truth, righteousness, and with a heart true to you. You've kept this great loyalty and kindness for him and have now given him a son to sit on his throne. And now, Lord my God, you have made me, your servant, king in my father David's place. But I'm young and inexperienced. I know next to nothing. But I'm here, your servant, in the middle of the people you have chosen, a large population that can't be numbered or counted due to its vast size. Please give your servant a discerning mind in order to govern your people and to distinguish good from evil, because no one is able to govern this important people of yours without your help." It pleased the Lord that Solomon had made this request. God said to him, "Because you have asked for this instead of requesting long life, wealth, or victory over your enemies—asking for discernment so as to acquire good judgment—I will now do just what you said. Look, I hereby give you a wise and understanding mind. There has been no one like you before now, nor will there be anyone like you afterward.