

First Congregational Church
Our Church in Worship

July 21, 2019 9:30 AM

Season of Pentecost

PRELUDE *Grave* from Concerto in G Major BWV 592 – J. S. Bach Adam Peithmann

WELCOME Rev. Kevin Pleas

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME OF SILENCE

RINGING OF THE STEEPLE BELL

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

LEADER: Happy are those whose hope is in God, maker of heaven and earth.

PEOPLE: **For God keeps faith forever!**

LEADER: God executes justice for the oppressed and gives food for the hungry.

PEOPLE: **God sets the prisoners free and opens the eyes of the blind.**

LEADER: God lifts up those who are bowed down.

PEOPLE: **God watches over the strangers and upholds the orphan and the widow.**

LEADER: People of God, sing praise to the One who is your help—

PEOPLE: **for God keeps faith forever!**

*OPENING HYMN NO. 86 *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

Most Gracious God, we greet you once again in this sacred space. We have come because we need to be reminded of your love and your expectations for our living. We are like the vine you planted, watered and protected. We know in our hearts that we need, want and desire your presence in our lives. So we come in prayer and listen for your Word to speak to our hearts and reveal again your desires for us. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC *Give Me a Clean Heart* – Margaret J. Douroux Bridget Thornton

Give me a clean heart so that I may serve thee. Lord, fix my heart so that I may be used by thee. For I'm not worthy of all these blessings. Give me a clean heart and I'll follow thee.

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. 585 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

OUR MORNING OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Till We Meet Again* – Kirk Franklin

May his peace be with you till we meet again. Till we reach that distant shore, and we shed a tear no more, may he give you strength to endure till we meet again... Blessed Trinity.

*DOXOLOGY Chalice Hymnal No. 46

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

Bless, O God, these our gifts, and bless our desire to participate with you in the building of your realm among us. Accept these gifts as a sign of our love for you and for our neighbors. Amen.

RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE Psalm 146 Chalice Hymnal # 766

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 16:1-4 Grant Dugan

SERMON Predicting the Weather Rev. Kevin Pleas

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 432 *O Christ, the Way, the Truth, the Life*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Presto* from Concerto in G Major BWV 592 – J. S. Bach

*You are invited to stand if you wish

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 16:1-4 (New Revised Standard Version)

New Testament page 16 in RSV Pew Bibles

The Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test Jesus they asked him to show them a sign from heaven. He answered them, "When it is evening, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' And in the morning, 'It will be stormy today, for the sky is red and threatening.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times. An evil and adulterous generation asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah." Then he left them and went away.

First Congregational Church



July 21, 2019

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

