

First Congregational Church
Our Church in Worship

July 28, 2019 9:30 AM

Season of Pentecost

PRELUDE *There is a Spirit* – Ned Rorem Peter Labombarde, Guest Organist

WELCOME Barbara Papagian

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME OF SILENCE

RINGING OF THE STEEPLE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive – Please remain seated)

LEADER: Jesus said, “Ask and it will be given you; search and you will find;
Knock, and the door will be opened for you.”

PEOPLE: **Lord, as we search now, let us find you.**

LEADER: As we knock, open the door to us.

PEOPLE: **Let us know you, that we may praise you; and love you, that we may serve you.**

OPENING PRAYER (UNISON)

Lord God, Let us be still for a moment as we draw near to You. We take just a few seconds to remind ourselves why we are gathered together today. We listen as You speak even through the background noise of the world around us. In this short time together open our ears and our eyes to see Your vision for this place and our part within it. Teach us, hear our prayers, and enable us for service wherever You might take us. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN NO. 575 *Come and Find the Quiet Center*

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

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. 354 *Seek Ye First*

OUR MORNING OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*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)

For blessings of this and all our days, we thank you, gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just this money but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 11:1-13 Jonathan Martin

SERMON Thank God for Unanswered Prayers Barbara Papagian

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 265 *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Deo gratias* – François Couperin

*You are invited to stand if you wish

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 11:1-13

Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." Jesus told them, "When you pray, say: 'Father, uphold the holiness of your name. Bring in your kingdom. Give us the bread we need for today. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who has wronged us. And don't lead us into temptation.'" He also said to them, "Imagine that one of you has a friend and you go to that friend in the middle of the night. Imagine saying, 'Friend, loan me three loaves of bread because a friend of mine on a journey has arrived and I have nothing to set before him.' Imagine further that he answers from within the house, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can't get up to give you anything.' I assure you, even if he wouldn't get up and help because of his friendship, he will get up and give his friend whatever he needs because of his friend's brashness. And I tell you: Ask and you will receive. Seek and you will find. Knock and the door will be opened to you. Everyone who asks, receives. Whoever seeks, finds. To everyone who knocks, the door is opened. "Which father among you would give a snake to your child if the child asked for a fish? If a child asked for an egg, what father would give the child a scorpion? If you who are evil know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"

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July 28, 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