

**First Congregational Church**  
**Our Church in Worship**

October 13, 2024 10:00 AM  
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

\*\*\*\*\*

PRELUDE *Jesus Loves Me* - William Bolcom Adam Peithmann

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Barbara Papagian

\*OPENING HYMN NO. 93 *Praise Him! Praise Him!*

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: The Kingdom of God is at hand.

**People: We want to enter this kingdom.**

Leader: The mercy of God is made known.

**People: We want to receive this mercy.**

Leader: The grace of God is abundant for all.

**People: We praise you O God for your compassion and your love. Accept our grateful praise as we come to worship you today.**

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

**Almighty God, we long to rest in your gentle arms. We need your compassion as we face the challenges and disappointments of life. When our hearts are hard, and our concern is only for ourselves, turn us back to you. Remind us of your saving love, and keep us close to you Lord. Love us as only you can love, in Jesus name, Amen.**

MUSICAL OFFERING *Come, Ye that Love the Lord* - arr. Alice Parker Chancel Choir

Come, ye that love the Lord, and let your love be known; Join in a song of sweet accord and thus surround the throne. The sorrows of the mind be banished from this place;

Religion never was designed to make our pleasures less. Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God; But children of the heav'nly King may speak their joys abroad.

PASTORAL PRAYER

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

SILENT MEDITATION

OUR LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

**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. 259 *Spirit of the Living God*

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

OUR MORNING OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Offertory* - John Ness Beck Chancel Choir

With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, Shall I come before Him with yearling calves? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I give Him my firstborn for my transgressions, the fruit of my body for the sing of my soul? He has shown you, O man; He has shown you what is good. And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

\*DOXOLOGY (Hymn 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)

**Bountiful God, everything we possess is a gift from you. You so freely give us all that we need, and you promise even greater treasures that await us in Heaven. Help us share generously with others all that you so graciously give to us.**

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 10:17-31 Liz Verity

SERMON *Let It Go, Let It Go, Let It Go* Rev. Barbara Papagian

\*CLOSING HYMN NO. 337 *Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *March for Joyous Occasions - C. Alexander Peloquin*

\*You are invited to stand if you wish.

\*\*\*\*\*

SCRIPTURE READING

**Mark 10:17-31**

<sup>17</sup> As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>18</sup> Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. <sup>19</sup> You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness. You shall not defraud. Honor your father and mother.’ ” <sup>20</sup> He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” <sup>21</sup> Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money<sup>[a]</sup> to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” <sup>22</sup> When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

<sup>23</sup> Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” <sup>24</sup> And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is<sup>[b]</sup> to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” <sup>26</sup> They were greatly astounded and said to one another,<sup>[c]</sup> “Then who can be saved?” <sup>27</sup> Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

<sup>28</sup> Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” <sup>29</sup> Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for my sake and for the sake of the good news<sup>[d]</sup> <sup>30</sup> who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. <sup>31</sup> But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

# First Congregational Church



**October 13, 2024**

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

508 Union Street · Manchester, NH · 603-625-5093

Sunday Worship 10:00 AM

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