

The Bible speaks about finances, material possessions, and wealth in 2,350 verses! To put it in context, the Bible speaks about baptism in only 40 verses, and prayer in 275 verses. 15% of everything that Jesus said related to money and possessions.

Why do you suppose this is so?



## We Gather to Praise God

\* indicates those who are able may stand



WELCOME AND SHARING NEWS

ORGAN PRELUDE *Jesus Christ, Our Savior*

J. S. Bach



\* INTROIT *sung by everyone* (Tune #21) Barb Bell *et al*, altered

**Light and love abound today, alleluia!**  
**Joyful hope is here to stay, alleluia!**  
**Wisdom dwells in every heart, alleluia!**  
**Outreach now must play a part, alleluia!**



\* CALL TO WORSHIP *responsively*

Lavon Bayler

Leader: Gather to remember and share stories of faith; rejoice in the goodness of the loving God.

**People: Before our stories began, there was God; through all our days, God walks with us.**

Leader: Worship the one who gives and sustains life; sing praises to the one who is our refuge.

**People: There is no place we can go where God is not; amid life's terrors, God's promises hold true.**

Leader: Delight in God, whose protection we enjoy; dance with God, who frees us for new possibilities.

**People: We call out to God, expecting to be heard; we listen, knowing there is truth to be received.**



\* OPENING HYMN #95 *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun*



\* GREETING ONE ANOTHER *please stand and greet those around you!*

\* RESPONSE *sung by everyone* (Tune #568) Marnie Deighton, *adapted*

**It's a time to be welcomed, it's a time to be free,  
 It's a time to join hands in community;  
 And when we feel released from all shame and fear,  
 We'll know that the love of God is here.**

INVOCATION *seated in unison*

Lavon Bay

**God of history, whose Word is alive in us,  
 write your truth into our lives this day.  
 Work your signs and wonders in our midst.  
 Show us your salvation.  
 Be present in our troubles and in our triumphs.  
 Lead us away from bondage to things that do not matter.  
 Show us the better land you intend for us,  
 where barriers no longer divide and true community is born.  
 Amen.**



PRAYER OF JESUS (using "sins")



## We Listen for God's Word



ANTHEM

*The Lord's my Shepherd*

Carl Muel

CHILDREN'S TIME

Money Play

HYMN #588

*Have Thine Own Way, Lord!*



SERVICE OF PRAYER

SHARING PRAYER JOYS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER — PASTORAL PRAYER — RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE READINGS Nehemiah 10:35, 37-39

3

Malachi 3:10-12

6

RESPONSE *sung by all*

*Ye are Witnesses*

Al Carmines, *et al*

**And you are witnesses, witnesses of these things.  
 And you are witnesses, witnesses of these things.  
 Good news and the purpose of life should be shared in his name  
 And you are witnesses, witnesses of these things.**

SERMON

"FIRST Fruits"

## We Respond to God's Word

THE OFFERINGS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

\* DOXOLOGY (verse 1 of Hymn #382)

**We give thee but thine own, what e'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION *by the pastor*

\* CLOSING HYMN #595 *Be Thou My Vision*

\* BENEDICTION *by the pastor*

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE  
*sung together while holding hands*

Tune #231 (last system)  
Heidi Koschreck

**Bless your people as we journey,  
Living every day for You.**

\* ORGAN POSTLUDE

## We Depart to Serve God

*Please join us in the Parish Hall for fellowship and refreshments  
hosted by World Service Committee.*

We extend a warm welcome to all who worship with us this morning. Visitors are encouraged to sign the guest book outside the center-aisle entrance at the back of the Sanctuary. Nursery care is provided for infants and young children, and there are rocking chairs at the rear of the Sanctuary for those with a child who needs comforting. Please see an usher if you need assistance. Older children are excused for classroom work as indicated. Thank you to those assisting in our worship this morning. Athena Petrin read from the Hebrew scriptures. Floyd & Dot Smith, Randy Shuey and Dean Hopps served as ushers.

CREDITS: Portions of today's liturgy were adapted and reprinted with permission from *Gathering*, Lent/Easter/Pentecost 2010, pp. 31, 83-84. *Gathered by Love* by Lavon Bayler. Copyright © 1994 The Pilgrim Press.

Bulletin Cover: Athena Petrin

The First Congregational Church of Pembroke

United Church of Christ

*Where Neighbors Meet*



All are Welcome!

# EASTERTIDE

April 25, 2010

**The First Congregational Church of Pembroke, N.H.**  
*United Church of Christ*

Ministers: All the People!

Pastor: Rev. Jim Howard, D.Min.

Organist: George Bozeman

Secretary: Nancy Jackson

Office hours: Monday-Friday 12:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Office: 603-485-9639

Pastor's home: 603-210-2368

Pastor: [pastor@pembrokechurch.org](mailto:pastor@pembrokechurch.org)

Secretary: [secretary@pembrokechurch.org](mailto:secretary@pembrokechurch.org)

Website: [www.pembrokechurch.org](http://www.pembrokechurch.org)

301 Pembroke Street

Pembroke, NH 03275

## CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, April 25	9am Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10:20am Sunday School
Monday, April 26	9am Parish Hall Carpet Cleaning 6pm Girl Scouts – PH/DN
Tuesday, April 27	6pm Girl Scouts - PH 6pm Cub Scouts – YR
Wed., April 28	6pm BSA – PH 6pm Cub Scouts – YR 7-8:30pm Adult Study
Thursday, April 29	6pm “AA” Group – MR 6pm Cub Scouts – YR
Sunday, May 2	9am Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship 10:20am Sunday School 1-5pm Hall Use (Gibbs) 2pm Merrimack. Assn. Meeting @West Congo.
Monday, May 3	6pm Girl Scouts – PH/DN
Tuesday, May 4	6pm Girl Scouts - PH 6pm Cub Scouts – YR 7pm Church Council
Wed., May 5	6pm BSA – PH 6pm Cub Scouts – YR 7-8:30pm Adult Study - MR
Thurs., May 6	6pm “AA” Group - MR 6pm Cub Scouts – YR
Sat., May 8	9am-2pm Christian Ed. Planning Meeting (being held elsewhere)

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Pembroke, NH 03275

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

John Vallee (friend of Mary Louise Grandmaison) – Recovering from cataract surgery

Alyssa LeMay's grandfather in the hospital following heart attack

Tom Miller (Tim's father) – recovering from heart surgery

Augustus Borghese (Steve's brother) recovering from strokes

Matt and Kelly Pearson, high-risk pregnancy

Laurie O'Neil (Jessica Hamel's co-worker's niece) - Stage 4 cancer

Robbe MacKenzie & family – multiple issues

Military personnel overseas & their families

### FROM THE FLOWER COMMITTEE ...

As always, donations of flowers are welcomed for our altar each Sunday morning. To contribute all you have to do is sign up on the Flower Sheet in the Parish Hall or let the flower committee member know. Please contact Robbe MacKenzie 485-7295 (**May**), Dori Rowden 485-3664 (**June**) and Lynn Matava (**April**) 485-8352.

### SCHEDULE OF USHERS ...

May 2	Helen Chapman, Don & Laurie Hill and Marc Herring
9	Peter & Eric Chase, Don Hill and Luke Bonenfant
16	Harold Matava, Lynn Matava and Eric & Judy Pearson
23	Dave & Nancy Bibbins, Randy Shuey and Dean Hopps
30	Kurt & Jodi Ehler and Floyd & Dot Smith

If you are **unable to usher on your given day, please contact Dean Hopps at 485-5509.**

**BROWN BAG SUNDAY** is the **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday** of the month. Donations of food & non-food items may be left in the Parish Hall.

### DEACONS FUND ...

Donations toward this fund are solicited on **Communion Sunday** the **first** Sunday of the month. This fund helps those in need in our church and community.