

IDOLATRY

Thus does the world forget You, its Creator,
and falls in love with what You have created instead of with You.
— St. Augustine of Hippo



We Gather to Praise God

** indicates those who are able may stand*



WELCOME AND SHARING NEWS



ORGAN PRELUDE

* CALL TO WORSHIP *responsively* *Passionsspiele 2010 Oberammergau*

Leader: Aflame with the spirit of God,
Jesus struggles for humankind!



**People: He proclaims the compassion of the All High,
and teaches the law of reconciliation with Heaven
as with the earthly brother.**

Leader: When Moses carried God's Law down the mountain,
and saw the fickle folk adore and celebrate an idol
made of gold, he commanded:

**People: "Whoever belongs to the Lord, come over
and stand with me!"**

Leader: Thus Jesus gathers round himself
people who love the Father with their whole soul.

**People: He calls them and us to decide to serve either God
or the idol of their own might.**

* OPENING HYMN #192 *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*



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

* RESPONSE *sung by everyone* (Tune #277)



**Christians, we have met to worship and adore the living God;
Let us pray for all earth's people til our God makes all things new.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *seated, in unison*

Gayle Murphy

**Gracious God, we know we have caused your righteous anger
and we ask your forgiveness.**

**We confess the times we have sold our souls
for something that is not worthy.**

**We know we have cheapened our relationship with you
when we let it become just one of the things in our busy lives.**

**We realize that you have given us guidelines to live by
and we make our own rules.**

**Forgive us and help us turn from our foolish ways to retain our
focus on you. We pray this in the name of Jesus, Amen.**



WORDS OF ASSURANCE *by the pastor*

You have lost your way and have departed from God.

But it is God's delight to recover the lost and turn us back to God.

Praise and thanks be to God!



We Listen for God's Word



ANTHEM

HEBREW SCRIPTURE Exodus 20:1-17

CHILDREN'S TIME "What Are the Rules?"

PRAYER OF JESUS (using "sins")

* HYMN #633 *Lead On, O Cloud of Presence*
At this time children through high school adjourn to classes



SERVICE OF PRAYER

SHARING PRAYER JOYS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER — PASTORAL PRAYER — RESPONSE

GOSPEL READING Matthew 21:12-17

SERMON "Breaking down the Boundaries"

We Respond to God's Word

THE OFFERINGS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

* DOXOLOGY #46 (*altered rhythm*)

Thomas Ken (1674)

**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.**

- * PRAYER OF DEDICATION *by the pastor*
 - * CLOSING HYMN #589 *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*
 - * BENEDICTION *by the pastor*
 - * CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #441 *sung together while holding hands*
- Peace be upon you and guard you forever.
Go in the knowledge that God is with you.**
- * ORGAN POSTLUDE

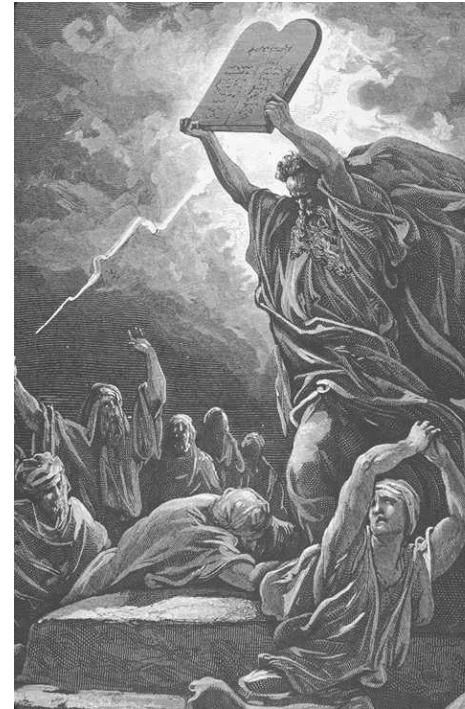
We Depart to Serve God

*Please join us in the Parish Hall for fellowship and refreshments
hosted by*

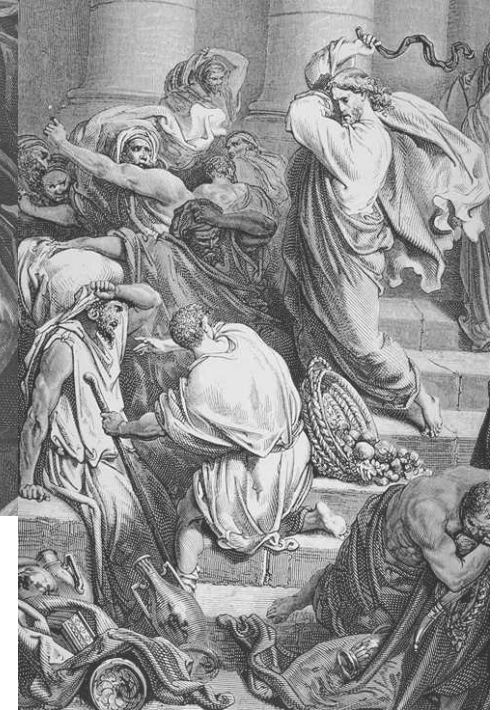
We are delighted to welcome The Rev. Gayle Murphy, pastor of the Northwood Congregational Church, to lead us in worship this morning! Rev. Jim is preaching at the Lee Congregational Church and Rev. Gail Kindberg is preaching at the Northwood Congregational Church today.

CREDITS: Call to Worship and projected images are from *Passionsspiele 2000, 2010 Oberammergau*, Otto Huber, playwright. Used by permission. Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance courtesy of Rev. Gayle Murphy, Northwood Congregational Church.

LENT WORSHIP TEAM: Rev. Gail Kindberg, Lee Congregational Church
Rev. Gayle Murphy, Northwood Congregational Church, & Rev. Jim.



Moses & the Tablets of the Law
Dore Woodcut (ca 1865)



Jesus Cleansing the Temple
Dore Woodcut (ca 1865)

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

Where Neighbors Meet

**The First Congregational Church of Pembroke
United Church of Christ**

MARCH 27, 2011

All Are Welcome!

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

Secretary: secretary@pembrokechurch.org

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