

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit--fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.  
— John 15:16 (NIV)



## We Gather to Praise God

*\* indicates those who are able may stand*



WELCOME AND SHARING NEWS

ORGAN PRELUDE

*Christ is Risen*



J. S. Bach

\* CALL TO WORSHIP



Leader: Within the whole family of God on earth,

**People: we gather as God's church in the name of Jesus Christ**

Leader: for worship, for fellowship, and for service;

**People: for mission, witness, and mutual discipline;  
and for our nurture and renewal as disciples of Christ.**

Leader: Transcending all barriers within the human family

**People: we receive the gift of ministry and reconciliation.**

Leader: All dominion in the church belongs to Jesus Christ,

**People: its Lord and head, upon whom the whole body depends.**

\* OPENING HYMN #75 *I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry*



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

\* RESPONSE *sung by everyone* (Tune #229) 5<sup>th</sup> Century Latin Hymn

**Come, risen Christ, with us abide  
In this our joyful Eastertide,  
That we may give you all our days  
The tribute of our grateful praise.**



INVOCATION *seated, in unison*

**Grant, most Holy God,**

**that thinking, we may think your thoughts;**

**that speaking, we may speak your word;**

**that singing, we may sing your praise;**

**that hearing, we may hear your truth;**

**and that willing, we may make your will our own,**



**so that going out at the end of our worship,  
we may walk in your love and your peace,  
and departing from one another, not depart from you.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



## We Listen for God's Word



ANTHEM

*In Your Presence*

Ken Medema

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 10:13-16

p. 716

CHILDREN'S TIME "Jesus said, 'Come to Me'"

PRAYER OF JESUS (using "sins")



\* HYMN #494 *They'll Know We Are Christians*

At this time younger children adjourn to classes



UNISON READING (see insert) "Where Is The Church"

SERVICE OF PRAYER

SHARING PRAYER JOYS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER — PASTORAL PRAYER — RESPONSE

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 6:1-18

p. 829

GOSPEL READING

John 15:1-17; 16:1

p. 764

THE MESSAGE

"The Beginning Without An End or The Really Never Ending Story"

## We Respond to God's Word

CONFIRMATION (AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM) Worship Supplement p. 17

INVITATION & SENTENCES

QUESTIONS OF THE CANDIDATES

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Worship Supplement p. 2

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

CONGREGATIONAL RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL FAITH

PRAYER OF THE CANDIDATES

Worship Supplement p. 19

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

ACT OF CONFIRMATION (PRAYER & LAYING ON OF HANDS)

PRAYER OF CONFIRMATION AND ADDRESS *by the pastor*

QUESTION ABOUT PARTICIPATION

WELCOME

Worship Supplement p. 22

HYMN OF WELCOME #433, verse 1

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love:  
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

PRAYER

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 #431 *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

\* 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 the Membership Committee and Church Council*

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. Andrea Hudson read from the scriptures. Dave & Nancy Bibbins and Eric & Judy Pearson served as ushers.

The First Congregational Church of Pembroke

United Church of Christ

*Where Neighbors Meet*



**Confirmation**

May 22, 2011

*All are Welcome!*

## “Where Is The Church?”

The church of Jesus Christ  
is where a child of God brings a balloon  
is where old women come to dance  
is where young men see visions and old men dream dreams

The church of Jesus Christ  
is where lepers come to be touched  
is where the blind see and the deaf hear  
is where the lame run and the dying live

The church of Jesus Christ  
is where daisies bloom out of barren land  
is where children lead and wise men follow  
is where mountains are moved and walls come tumbling down

The church of Jesus Christ  
is where loaves of bread are stacked in the sanctuary  
to feed the hungry  
is where coats are taken off and put on the backs of the naked  
is where shackles are discarded and kings and shepherds  
sit down to life together

The church of Jesus Christ  
is where barefoot children run giggling in procession  
is where the minister is ministered unto  
is where the anthem is the laughter of the congregation  
and the offering plates are full of people

The church of Jesus Christ  
is where people go when they skin their knees or their hearts  
is where frogs become princes  
and Cinderella dances beyond midnight  
is where judges don't judge and each child of God is beautiful  
and precious

The church of Jesus Christ  
is where the sea divides for the exiles  
is where the ark floats and the lamb lies down with the lion  
is where people can disagree and hold hands at the same time

The church of Jesus Christ  
is where night is day  
is where trumpets and drums and tambourines  
declare God's goodness  
is where lost lambs are found

The church of Jesus Christ  
is where people write thank-you notes to God  
is where work is a holiday  
is where seeds are scattered and miracles are grown

The church of Jesus Christ  
is where home is  
is where heaven is  
is where a picnic is communion  
and people break bread together on their knees

The church of Jesus Christ  
is where we live responsively toward God's coming.

Even on Monday morning the world will hear  
An abundance of alleluias!

*from Ann Weems Reaching for Rainbows, pp. 77-78.*

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## **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

### THE FLOWER COMMITTEE ...

Donations of flowers are always welcome 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 know of your intention. Please contact Doris Rowden, 485-3664 (**May**), Robbe MacKenzie, 485-7295 (June), and Lynn Matava, 485-8352 (July).

### SUMMER WORSHIP PLANNERS NEEDED ...

If you would be interested in working with Rev. Jim on the worship services for the summer season, including up to four outdoor chapel services, please be in touch with him by June 1st.

**OUR CONFIRMANDS TODAY** are Brianna Lynn Hamel, Darian Roger Hancarik, Amelia Faith Herring, James Joseph Paul, Lila Jean Paul, Evan Jay Shuey, Madeline Marie Soriano, Emily Joyce Stevens and Jasmine Heather Welch. Amelia and Madeline are also being baptized today.

### MESSENGER ARTICLES ...

Please plan to have any articles you want in the June newsletter to be in the church office no later than **May 24<sup>th</sup>**. It will be run on May 25<sup>th</sup>.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

**Evelyn Hoyt (Barbara Matava's sister-in-law) – colon cancer**

Prayers for Steve & Erica Peaslee and family – their son Jacob has been diagnosed with Autism

Mary Louise Grandmason's brother-in-law Bob - fighting his 3rd bout with cancer and on chemo.

Abby Duffy – diagnosed with LHON (6 years old)

Stacy Driscoll's dear friend Joanne Kerstetter and her 16-year old granddaughter were severely injured in a bomb blast in South Africa on July 11<sup>th</sup> while on a mission trip. Please keep them and the other six who were also injured in your prayers.

Military personnel overseas & their families

Athena Petrin's address: TF 3643 D, Camp Command Cell LSA,  
APO AE 09815

### SCHEDULE OF USHERS FOR MAY ...

**29** Luke & Cindy Bonenfant, Rick Hochsprung, and Randy Shuey  
June

5 Don & Laurie Hill, Helen Chapman, Marc Herring

12 Peter, Sharon & Eric Chase, Dean Hopps

19 Dot Smith, Allison Hardy, Cindy Bonenfant, Lynn Matava

26 Kurt & Jodi Ehler, Rick Hocksprung, Randy Shuey

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

### CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, May 22	9am Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship & Confirmations 10:20am Sunday School
Monday, May 23	6pm Girl Scouts – PH
Tuesday, May 24	6pm Cub Scouts – DN 6pm Girl Scouts – PH 7pm Hospitality Plus Committee Meeting
Wed., May 25	7pm BSA – PH
Thurs., May 26	10:30am Wonderland Program – PH 6pm Girl Scouts – DN 6pm Cub Scouts – PH 6pm “AA” Group – MR
Friday, May 27	10:30am Wonderland Program – PH
Sunday, May 29	9am Choir Rehearsal 10am Worship & Baptisms 10:20am Sunday School
Monday, May 30	Memorial Day – church office closed 6pm Girl Scouts – PH
Tuesday, May 31	6pm Girl Scouts – PH 6pm Cub Scouts – DN
Wed., June 1	6pm BSA – PH
Thurs., June 2	6pm “AA” Group – MR

