



EPIPHANY

January 1, 2019
FUMC Portsmouth, NH



We Gather for Worship

Prelude & Entrance of Christ's Light

Celebrations

***Call to Worship:**

L: We gather wondering, 'Where will we find the Baby born in Bethlehem?'

P: We will find the Babe in the laughter of children, in the wisdom of grandparents.

L: We gather asking, 'where will we find the Child of Christmas?'

P: We will find the Child where the needy are gifted with hope, where the oppressed are set free.

L: We gather wanting to know, 'where will we find the Christ who has come to give us life?'

L: We will find our Hope where fear is overwhelmed by grace, where hatred is overwhelmed by love, where all people are overwhelmed by joy.

***Hymn: "We Three Kings"**

UMH #254

A Time for the Child in all of Us

Prayer (unison):

God of light and darkness, we have seen the glimmer of your star-light beckoning to us, but we have turned away and followed other paths. We confess that we have not loved you with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not loved ourselves. Forgive us, Holy One. Strengthen our faltering steps and guide us in your holy way of peace. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

L: Lift up your eyes and see the grace of God poured out into your lives.

ALL: The light of God shines through the darkness. Our hearts rejoice for Christ is in our midst.

Sung Response: "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

UMH #349

Ministry of Music

We Proclaim the Word

Reading the Word: Matthew 2:1-12

L: The Word of God for the People of God.

P: Thanks be to God.

Message: "An Amazing Visit"

Rev. Deb Hanson

We Respond to God's Word

***Hymn:** "Star Child"

TFWS #2095

Concerns and Joys

Silent Prayer and Pastoral Prayer

The 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not in temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

***Doxology:** (*Please join in singing the following:*)

UMH #94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Prayer of Dedication** (unison):

Loving God, may these gifts reveal to us and to others the Light that is Jesus. And may this Light lead us on into new and challenging ways of living and serving. Amen.

A Service of Holy Communion - [see insert]

We Go Forth to Serve

***Hymn:** "The First Noel," vv. 1,2,5

UMH #245

***Choral Benediction:** (*Congregation encircles the Sanctuary*)

May the Lord, gracious God bless and keep you forever. Grant your peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor. Lift up your eyes and seek His face, and His grace forever. May the Lord, mighty God bless and keep you forever.

***Pastor's Charge**

Postlude

**Please stand as you are comfortable*

Large print bulletins are available from the greeters



Welcome!

Whether you are joining us for worship for the first time or after many years of attending here at First UMC, we want you to know that you are welcome!

We are an inclusive community that invites everyone to be part of our church fellowship. Thank you for being here, and we hope that you have had a meaningful experience of worshiping our God so you leave this place feeling that you have been blessed to be a blessing. Please join us again!

Rev. Deb Hanson

January 8th there will be a Finance/Trustee meeting at 6pm at the parsonage.

January 13th is Baptism of the Lord Sunday and during that service we will reaffirm our baptismal vows, and if anyone has not yet been baptized and would like to receive the sacrament of baptism, please let Rev. Deb know on or before January 6th. Those who have been baptized and want to renew their baptism with a laying on of hands and receiving the water of baptism should also let her know so she can plan ahead. A sign up sheet is on the table just outside the office door.

January 13th we will be packing up the Christmas decorations after church and could use your help. Grab a cup of coffee and snack and join us and have coffee hour with us packing up what was another wonderful Advent Season.

January 15th there will be a Church Council Meeting at 6 pm here at the church.

January 20th is Human Relations Sunday, we will receive a special Advance offering for Human Relations Sunday. Turn on the news or drive around the outskirts of your town and you will find what Jesus called “the least of these.” Those living in the margins of society, struggling to survive.

January 28th We celebrate and remember Martin Luther King Jr. day

UPCOMING
EVENTS
MARK YOUR CALENDARS



**WE WILL
GAIN COURAGE
FROM EACH OTHER
AND FROM OUR
SHARED STORIES OF
GOD'S MIGHTY POWER**

WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER:

Barbara & Jim Slater	Joette MacKenzie
Barbara Sylvester	Kim Hishop
Pauline Boynton	Rev. Sue Ellery
Barbara Millar	Rev. Bill Gardei
Clark Cole	Gayle Gardei
Irene Derosier	Marion Collishaw
Barbara Clement	Sue Goodhue
Malia Broe	Hunter Pinkley
Trudy Parkhurst	Sylvia Bartlett
Jim Pisani's Dad	BrianThompson

Our Church family



**Altar flowers this week are
In loving memory of my brother
Jay from Kaya Sarosiek**



DO THIS IN
REMEMBRANCE
OF ME.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Moria Laidlaw, Uniting Church of Australia

L: The God of glory be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them towards God.

L: Let us offer our thanks to God.

P: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

L: It is right that we give you our thanks and praise, O God, creator of all things, visible and invisible. You revealed your glory in the wonders of your creation and in the way you lovingly formed people - male and female - in your image and entrusted them with the ongoing task of revealing your ways of justice and righteousness in the world.

When they failed and turned from your ways you did not abandon them but spoke to them through prophets. You have forever touched and blessed our lives with the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ. Through the gift of his sacrificial love we are empowered to share his life and love with others.

And so, with all the company of heaven and earth we praise your holy name saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are you O God, and forever blessed are the people of this world since you chose to make your love so visible in Jesus and through all he said and did. That love was especially visible on the night when he washed his disciples' feet and sat down at a table to share the meal with them.

On that night - the night of his betrayal - he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for everyone. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, O God, and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the life of Christ and that we may make that life visible through serving as he served, and loving as he loved. This we pray in his name.

ALL: Amen

L: The bread we break and the cup we now take are a sharing in the life of Christ. The gifts of God for the people of God.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, we give you thanks for satisfying our hungry hearts with this holy meal shared in the Spirit with Jesus, your Son, our Lord. Strengthened and refreshed, we go from here to speak your love and to reveal your glory in the world. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.



Pastor - Rev. Dr. Debra J. Hanson

Pastor's Assistant - David Richards

Liturgist - Nancy Chesser

Lay Leader - Susan Sarosiek

Director of Music - Bevan Bloemendaal

Acolyte - Jenya Westbrook

Greeters - Yvonne Griffin & Marilyn Stebbins

Ushers - Ken & Jenya Westbrook, Mike & Anne Coffey

Sunday School - Evelyn New & Kaya Sarosiek

Sound Tech - Sue Sarosiek

Worship Service Tech - Sue Richards

Photographer - Dave Atkinson

**FUMC PORTSMOUTH
A RECONCILING CONGREGATION**

We, the congregation of the First United Methodist Church of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, are dedicated to worshiping, learning, and serving with all people as we embrace Jesus Christ's message of love and acceptance. As a United Methodist Church we stand fully behind the statement "Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors" We celebrate our diversity and invite all persons regardless of age, gender, racial or ethnic background, sexual orientation, marital or socioeconomic status, nationality, physical or mental ability into full membership and participation in the life of this community of faith.



**New England Annual Conference
Tri-State District**

The Rev. Sudarshana Devadhar, Bishop
The Rev. James McPhee, District Superintendent

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Pastor office hours - Tuesday and Thursday 9 am - 12 pm
[call to ensure availability]

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Debra J. Hanson

Check out our website at www.fumcportsmouth.com

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