

A vibrant sunset over a mountain range. The sky is filled with horizontal bands of orange, red, and yellow, with the sun low on the horizon. The mountains below are silhouetted against the colorful sky.

# **GOD SAW IT WAS GOOD**

**First United Methodist Church**

**129 Miller Ave Portsmouth NH 03801  
September 2, 2018 10 AM**

We Gather for Worship

**Prelude & Entrance of Christ's Light**

**\*Call to Worship:** (from Psalm 100)

L: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth!

**P: Worship God with gladness; Come into God's presence with singing.**

L: Know that the Lord is God.

**P: It is God that made us, and we belong to God. God's faithfulness to all generations.**

**\*Hymn:** "All Things Bright and Beautiful" UMH #147

**A Time for the Child in All of Us - insert**

**Prayer** (unison):

**Incarnate God, for the times we've hurt you, forgive us.**

**For the times we've hurt others, forgive us.**

**For the times we've hurt ourselves, forgive us.**

**For the times we've hurt your creation, forgive us.**

**For we are made in your image, and it is very good. Amen.**

Words of Assurance:

L: In Christ's life, ministry, death and resurrection, we are made able to persist, upright and strong, because of Christ, our sins are forgiven.

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

**Sung Response:** "Lead Me, Lord" UMH #473

**Ministry of Music**

We Proclaim the Word

**Reading the Word:** Genesis 1:1-2:3

L: The Word of God for the People of God

**P: Thanks be to God.**

**Message:** "God Created" Rev. Deb Hanson

We Respond to God's Word

**\*Hymn:** "God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale" UMH #122

**Joys and Concerns**

**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**

**Gratitude Moment** John VanReenen

**\*Doxology:** (Please join in singing the following) UMH #95

*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):

**Loving Triune God, teach us, your children, to praise and glorify you with our lives and all that we have, by serving others. Amen.**

**A Service of Holy Communion - insert**

We Go Forth to Serve

**\*Hymn:** "This is My Father's World" UMH #144

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

**May the Lord, gracious God bless and keep you forever. Grant you 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

## **KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS...**

**Malia Broe Rev. Sue Ellery Rev. Bill Gardei  
Brenda West PennySue Orr Gerry Royer  
Trudy Parkhurst Barbara Millar Cynthia Drake  
Barbara Glidden Marion Collishaw Sue Goodhue  
Kim Hishop Hunter Pinkley Sylvia Bartlett BrianThompson  
Friends and Family of Barbara Johns  
Our church family  
Those in rehab and care facilities**



### **New England Annual Conference**

#### **Tri-State District**

The Rev. Sudarshana Devadhar, Bishop

The Rev. James McPhee, District Superintendent

## **Our Sunday Worship Team**

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Debra J. Hanson

Pastor's Assistant - David Richards

Liturgist -John VanReenen Lay Leader - Susan Sarosiek

Director of Music - Bevan Bloemendaal ~ Pianist - PaulaJ Jacobson

Acolyte - Sue Richards Greeters - Marilyn Stebbins & Jane Richards

Ushers - Ken Young, Ken & Jenya Westbrook

Sunday School - Evelyn New

Sound Tech David Richards ~ Worship Service Tech -Steve Scott

Photographer - Dave Atkinson

Secretary - PaulaJ Jacobson

### **ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION...**

**“Happy Birthday to Nancy,  
and remembering Fran Smith  
on her birthday.”**





**Our Mission  
Outreach project  
is for the UMCOR  
Puerto Rico  
Disaster Fund  
Please use the  
red bucket for all  
your loose  
change.**



**Join us for coffee hour  
after the church**



- Pumpkin Delivery 9/29**
- Golf Tournament 10/19**
- Pumpkin Delivery 10/20**
- Laity Sunday 10/21**
- Turkey Dinner 11/3**
- Bell Bazaar 11/17**
- Church Conference 11/19**

**NEW BULLETIN BOARDS...**

**The bulletin board just inside Sanborn Hall has been updated with all FUMC news and the new "COMMUNITY NEWS" bulletin board is up...CHECK THEM OUT!**

**Student Addresses**

As our students begin another exciting year of learning please keep them in your prayers and drop them a line to let them know you're thinking of them!



**SUNDAYSCHOOL**

**Right after "a time for the child in all of us"**

## Recognition of Church School Workers

Pastor: Dear Friends, let us recognize those who have responded to the call of God to become workers in the church school and with our youth. To teach, to administer the world of teaching or leading, and to support the work of teaching are ministries of Christ among us. Those called to these ministries need our loyal support and our prayers.

Let us pray together:

**Eternal God, you have entrusted us with the message of your power, grace, justice, and love. Provide us with your guidance, so we may be teachers and learners together. Believing that you are in our midst, we set apart those who would serve in our church school and with our youth. May they serve you in nurturing the spiritual growth of all who are entrusted in their care. Bless each one gathered before us, enabling them to be channels of your grace. We pray through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen**

To the Church School teachers and helpers:

You have recognized God's call in your lives. Will you endeavor to develop your gifts for teaching so as to continue to pass on the Christian faith? Will you be faithful to the task, taking seriously the commitments of time and talent? Will you take seriously your role as learner, studying diligently the Scriptures and traditions of the faith?

*Church School Teachers and Helpers:*

*We have heard God's call to teach and have responded to that call. We teach, trusting in God's promises to support, sustain, and encourage us through gifts sufficient for the task. We teach, relying on prayer and the presence of the Holy Spirit. We teach, inviting others to recognize and respond to God's call in our lives. We teach, depending on this congregation to uphold us in this task.*

**Congregation:**

**We pledge ourselves to pray for you and for the educational ministry of this congregation. We pledge ourselves to enable, encourage, and love you in this ministry. We pledge ourselves to be learners with you, diligently studying with you the Scriptures and traditions of the faith.**

*“Train children [youth] in the right way,  
and when old, they will not stray.”*

Proverbs 22:6

# SUNDAY SCHOOL





**A Service of Holy Communion  
By Rev Moira Laidlaw**

**GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

L: The Lord be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**P: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to God.

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

L: Living God, we offer our thanks and praise to you; creator of heaven and earth, lover of all humanity. You revealed that love when you heard your people's cries of pain and rescued them from slavery. The signs of your love were visible even in the wilderness as, feeding them with bread from heaven and quenching their thirst, you led them to freedom.

L: You bless us and feed us with the greatest sign of all of your love with Jesus - bread of life. In him our hunger is eternally satisfied and our thirst forever quenched. And so, with all the company of heaven and earth we praise your holy name saying:

**ALL: 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.**

L: Holy God, this meal which we share today is indeed the celebration of your love for the world love revealed in Jesus, your Son, our Lord. Through his life and sacrificial love, he graced lives with healing and hope, with compassion and power and as if that were not enough, he gave his very life for us.

L: On the night of his betrayal, as he sat at the table and broke bread with his friends, he said: 'Take and eat; this is my body which is broken for you. Remember me each time you do this.'

After they had eaten, he took the cup, and said: 'Remember me as you drink from this, for it is my life, poured out for you - the beginning of a new relationship with God.'

L: God of all power, we praise you for these signs of your everlasting love and pray that you will breathe your Holy Spirit upon us 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 our faithful witness to him. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

**BREAKING THE BREAD**

L: We break this bread and take this cup so that we can all share in the life of Christ.

**P: God's gifts for God's people.**

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS**

**UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for making this no ordinary meal. It has been one in which we have been fed and nourished with your life. May we go from here, refreshed and eager, to share your life and love with others. Amen**



**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.

Be sure to  
"check in" on our Facebook  
page this morning!

And check out all the  
updates on our church  
website  
[www.fumcportsmouth.com](http://www.fumcportsmouth.com)



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
129 MILLER AVENUE - PORTSMOUTH, NH 03801  
Office Phone 603-436-6038  
[office@fumcportsmouth.net](mailto:office@fumcportsmouth.net)  
PASTOR - REV. DR. DEBRA J. HANSON**

**New England Annual Conference  
Tri-State District  
The Rev. Sudarshana Devadhar, Bishop  
The Rev. James McPhee, District Superintendent**

Check out our website at [www.fumcportsmouth.com](http://www.fumcportsmouth.com)

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