

If you think the world is all wrong, remember that it contains people like you.

– Henry H. Saunderson

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U.

ORDER OF SERVICE

April 30, 2023 A.D.

3rd Sunday after Easter

PRELUDE

Toccata in C Major
Toccata in G Major

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck
(1562-1621)

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Amid the bustling activity of our lives,
we take this moment to gather in peace.

Many: **We gather to give thanks for another day,
to give thanks for the gift of life.**

One: Let us open ourselves to that which is sacred and holy this day.

Many: **Let us be open to the opportunities of living more fully
and giving and forgiving more freely.**

One: This is the day that the Lord has made.

Many: **Let us Rejoice and be glad in it!**

* HYMN 57 – “I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

Minister: The Peace of God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE PEACE

WELCOME

CHURCH COVENANT

In the love of truth and the spirit of Jesus Christ

We join for the worship of God and service to humankind.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Gracious God, you are present in the sunshine and the rainfall, in both the loveliness of a spring day and the drama of a storm. Help us to discern and appreciate your many blessings and graces amidst the everyday moments of our lives. Inspire us to let go of our regular distractions and rediscover the deeper places in our souls. Help us to let go of irritation and appreciate the wonder of our lives and our place in your larger, awe-inspiring world. This we ask in the name of your son Jesus, who taught us to pray saying, Our Father...

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE

PULPIT EDITORIAL: Jessica Cirone, Director of Community Engagement
International Institute of New England (IINE)

ANTHEM "My Spirit Sang All Day" Gerald Finzi
(1901-1956)
(children will leave for Religious Education)

READING: Psalm 8

MUSIC MEDITATION

SERMON: "On Artificial Intelligence and Authentic Wisdom" Jeff Barz-Snell

ORGAN RESPONSE

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY "Cantate Domino" Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612)
DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, the Love we all may share;
Praise God, the beauty everywhere;
Praise God, the Hope of Good to be;
Praise God, the Truth that makes us free.**

*HYMN 518 – "Turn Back"

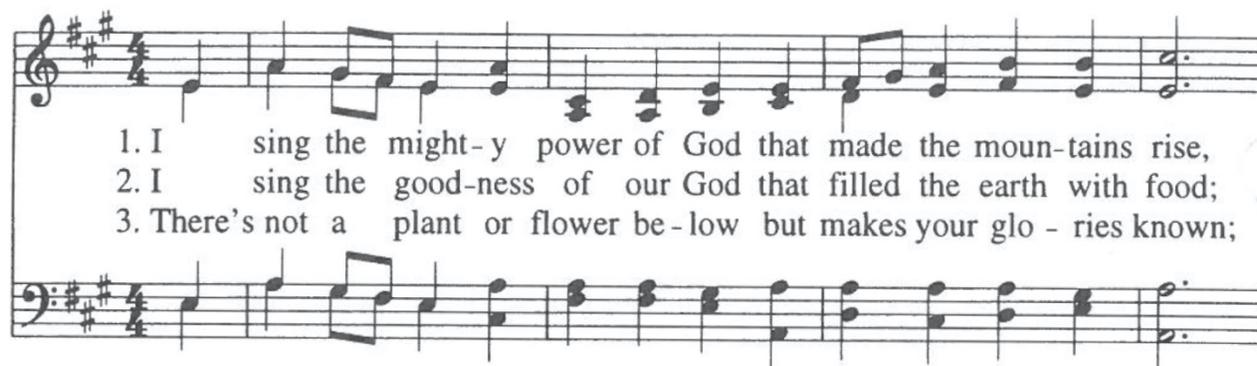
BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Sonata No. 2 – IV Fuga Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

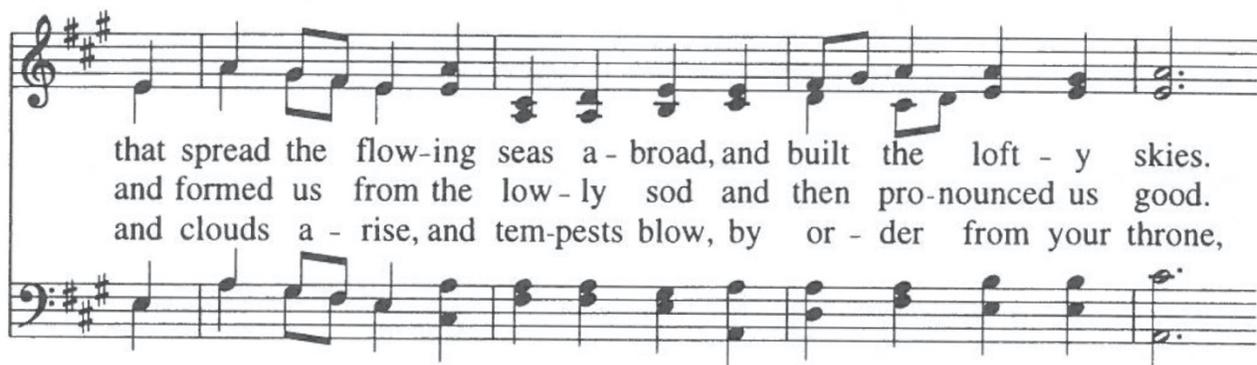
The flowers on the altar are given in loving memory of Mark and Ralph Griffin from
Gwain and the family

Our Greeter this morning is Alice Moylan.

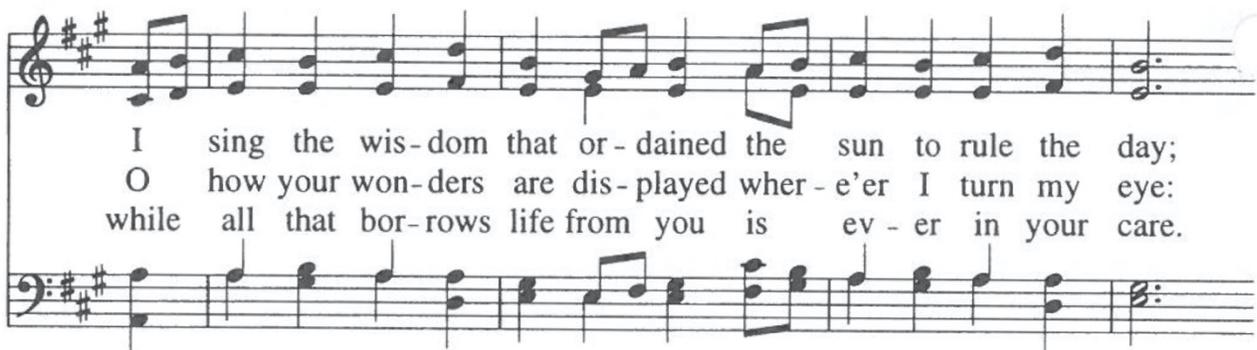
I Sing the Mighty Power of God



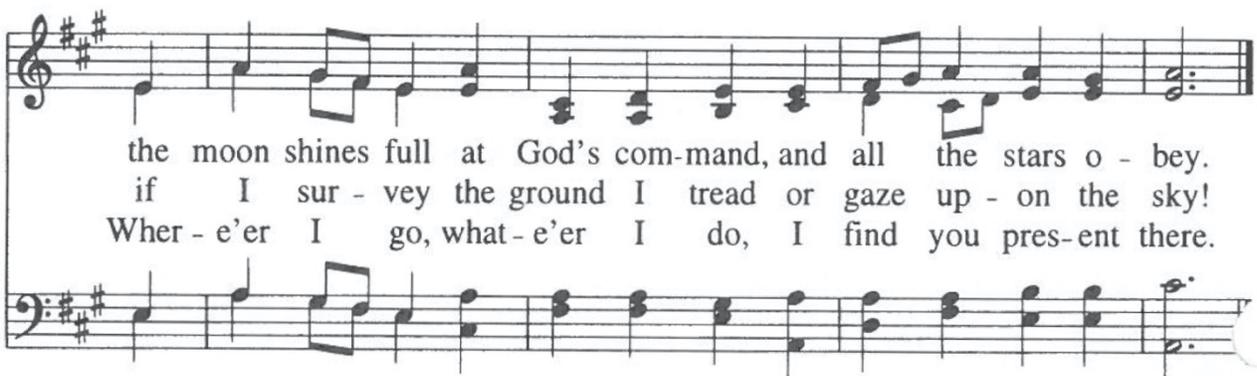
1. I sing the might-y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
 2. I sing the good-ness of our God that filled the earth with food;
 3. There's not a plant or flower be-low but makes your glo - ries known;



that spread the flow-ing seas a - broad, and built the loft - y skies.
 and formed us from the low - ly sod and then pro-nounced us good.
 and clouds a - rise, and tem-pests blow, by or - der from your throne,



I sing the wis-dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;
 O how your won-ders are dis-played wher - e'er I turn my eye:
 while all that bor-rows life from you is ev - er in your care.



the moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.
 if I sur - vey the ground I tread or gaze up - on the sky!
 Wher - e'er I go, what - e'er I do, I find you pres-ent there.

WORDS: Issac Watts, 1715, alt.

MUSIC: *Gesangbuch der Herzoglichen Wirtembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle*, 1784

ELLACOMBE
CMD

This text is taken from Congregationalist Watts' *Divine Songs attempted in Easy Language for the use of Children*, 1715—the first hymnal written exclusively for children.

1. Turn back, turn back, for - swear your fool - ish ways. Old now is
 2. Earth might be fair, its peo - ple glad and wise. Age af - ter
 3. Earth shall be fair, and all its peo - ple one, nor till that

earth, and none may count its days; yet all who live, whose
 age our trag - ic em - pires rise, built while we dream, and
 hour shall God's whole will be done. Now, e - ven now, once

heads are crowned with flame, still will not hear their in - ner God pro -
 in that dream - ing weep: would we but wake from out our haunt - ed
 more from earth to sky, peals forth in joy our old un - daunt - ed

claim - "Turn back, turn back, for - swear your fool - ish ways."
 sleep, earth might be fair, and peo - ple glad and wise.
 cry - "Earth shall be fair, and all its peo - ple one."

WORDS: Clifford Bax, 1916, alt.

MUSIC: *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

OLD 124th
 10 10.10 10 10

Bax was an English playwright and poet. His words are set to OLD 124th, one of the earliest of Louis Bourgeois' hymn-tune arrangements done for John Calvin.

First Parish Church has long welcomed people with different perspectives, backgrounds, and orientations. As a Welcoming Congregation, we happily invite all people as part of our 21st century community and church. If you are visiting, we hope you will check in at our welcome table, introduce yourself to the Ministers and join us in the Parish Hall for some light refreshment and fellowship.

STAFF

Minister:	Rev. Jeffrey Barz-Snell
Asst. Minister of Families & Community Outreach:	Rev. Sarah Napoline
Youth and Family Ministries Coordinator:	Robert Jones
Interim Choir Director:	TJ Rufo Curran
Organist:	Geoffrey Wieting
Choir Soloists:	Nathaniel Bear, Benjamin Doyle, Rose Hegele
Parish Administrator:	Betsy Gibson
Sexton:	Alan Flynn
Fellowship Coordinator:	Paula Leger
Video Production Staff:	Hussein Al-Massarani, Jonah Barz-Snell

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HANDCRAFT SALE, TODAY, DURING FELLOWSHIP HOUR. Representatives from *Sew Seeds for Hope* will be here with beautiful items made by resettled Afghan women in New Hampshire who augment their families' incomes using their artisan skills. The group is also looking for cotton duck/upholstery fabric, sewing machine needles, cutting mats/rotary cutters, ribbon, zippers, and gift cards to JoAnn Fabric and Wal-Mart.

UU URBAN MINISTRY MOTHERS' DAY CARDS – During Fellowship Hour, visit the table in the Parish Hall today and next Sunday, May 7, to make a donation to the UU Urban Ministry to benefit their Roxbury Youth Program and receive a lovely card for the favorite Mom in your life. If you wish, you may also donate online (uum.org), personalize your card, and they will send it for you.

ON DISPLAY IN THE PARISH HALL – We have set up an “Idea Board” in the Hall and invite all members and friends of the church to engage with the problem of and solutions for gun violence in this country. How can the U.S. reduce the epidemic of mass shootings that have occurred over the last few years?

WEEKLY KNITTERS & STITCHERS will tomorrow at noon in the Parlor.

RETIRED MEN'S LUNCH, TUESDAY, MAY 2, AT NOON in the Library or via Zoom.

<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/92355109066>

FPCW BEREAVEMENT GROUP, TUESDAY, MAY 2, AT 4:00 PM in the Library

SPECIAL PROGRAM COMING TO FIRST PARISH, TUESDAY, MAY 2, AT 7:00 PM – MetroWest Climate Solutions, of which First Parish is a member, presents The Rev. Mariama White-Hammond, Boston's Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space. She oversees policy and programs on energy, climate change, sustainability, historic preservation, and open space in the City. She is also the founding pastor of New Roots African Methodist Episcopal Church in Dorchester, MA. Register for virtually attending this free event at metrowestclimatesolutions.org.

SUNDAY WORSHIP ON MAY 7 will be a special time of remembrance of Terry O. Decima, organist at First Parish for 50 years, who died in March 2022. A string quartet will accompany the choir and Fellowship Hour will feature a light lunch.

FPCW Book Group, Thursday, May 11, at 9:30 am in the Library or on Zoom. We'll discuss *We Should Not Be Friends* by Will Schwalbe. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81921953852> / Meeting ID: 9102 1053 952

MOTHER'S DAY WALK FOR PEACE, SUNDAY, MAY 14, AT 8:00 AM. Sign up to walk with Nancy Piedra for this 27th Annual Walk organized by the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute or consider a donation at www.mothersdaywalk4peace.org/firstparishweston.

CELEBRATE WESTON DAY RETURNS, SATURDAY, MAY 20, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm – First Parish will host a clock tower climb, architecture tour, a special exhibit of Barbara Elmes' photography, and much more. But we need your help to welcome townspeople to our campus! To see what help is needed and to sign up, go to: tinyurl.com/westoncelebrationsignup