

*The world is too dangerous for anything but truth,
and too small for anything but love.*

~ Rev. William Sloan Coffin

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U.
ORDER OF SERVICE
October 15, 2023 A.D.

PRELUDE

Jesus, Life of My Life
Adagio (Symphony No. 5)

Ronald Besemer (b. 1950)
Charles-Marie Widor
(1844-1937)

CALL TO WORSHIP by the Rev. Dr. Reinhold Neibuhr

One: Nothing that is worth doing can be achieved in our lifetime;

Many: **therefore we must be saved by hope.**

One: Nothing which is true or beautiful or good
Makes complete sense in any immediate context of history;

Many: **therefore we must be saved by faith.**

One: Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone'

Many: **therefore we are saved by love.**

One: No virtuous act is quite as virtuous from the standpoint
of our friend or foe as it is from our standpoint;

Many: **therefore we must be saved by the final form of love
which is forgiveness.**

* HYMN 456 – “God of the Fertile Fields”

Minister: The Peace of God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*EXCHANGE OF PEACE AND 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 FOLLOWED BY LORD’S PRAYER

Source of life and light, when the world grows heavy and uncertain, grant us moments of understanding and clarity. When the world fans the flames of division and hate, grant us the courage to foster compassion, consideration and a willingness to listen. When the world demands indignation and destruction, grant us the ability to look for connection and reconciliation. When the world pushes us towards enmity and strife, strengthen our resolve to look for pathways to genuine peace. This we ask in the name of your son, Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying together, Our Father...

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE

Dirk Coburn

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Sarah Napoline

MUSIC MEDITATION, and dismissal to Religious Education

READING: Psalm 42

ANTHEM: "The Paper Reeds by the Brooks"
from *The Peaceable Kingdom*

Randall Thompson
(1899-1984)

SERMON: "Reflections on the Holy Land"

Rev. Jeff Barz-Snell

MUSIC MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER, followed by a moment of silence

OFFERTORY "The Road Not Taken"
from *Frostiana*

Randall Thompson

*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.**

*CLOSING HYMN 80 – "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Fugue in E flat, BWV 552
(St. Anne/Our God, Our Help in Ages Past)

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)

The flowers on the altar are given in loving memory of
Elizabeth and Irving Wolf by their children

Our Greeter this morning is Caroline Marple.

First Parish Church has long welcomed people with different perspectives, backgrounds, and orientations. As a Welcoming Congregation in the Unitarian Universalist Association, we happily welcome all people as part of our 21st century community and church. We hope you will introduce yourself to the Ministers and join us for a time of fellowship in the Parish Hall after the service.

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 Section Leaders:	Nathaniel Bear, Benjamin Doyle Rose Hegele, Nathan Savant
Parish Administrator:	Betsy Gibson
Sexton:	Alan Flynn
Fellowship Coordinator:	Paula Leger
Video Production Staff:	Hussein Al-Masarani

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE INVITE EVERYONE to a time of fellowship and refreshment in the Parish Hall following the service.

KNITTERS & STITCHERS will meet tomorrow, Oct. 16, at noon in the Parlor.

WEDNESDAY MORNING MEDITATION – Join us virtually on Zoom at 8:30 am on Wednesdays for a time of reflection and renewal! Beginner or experienced - all are welcome!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83090765817> / Meeting ID: 8309 0765 817

METROWEST CLIMATE SOLUTIONS PRESENTS: *Stove Wars: Gas vs. Induction*, Wednesday, Oct. 17, 7:00-8:30 pm. Recent studies have raised concerns about hazardous air pollutants from gas stoves. A peer-reviewed study reported that gas units are responsible for 12.7 percent of childhood asthma cases nationwide and 15.4 percent of cases in Massachusetts. And gas cooking produces over 25 million tons of carbon pollution each year in the U.S., according to rmi.org. Go to **metrowestclimatesolutions.org** to register for this free event.

LADIES WHO LUNCH, WEDNESDAY, OCT. 18 – Pack a lunch and join us at noon in the Library for an hour or more of conversation and connection. Coffee and tea will be ready on your arrival!

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS – Youth Group meetings will resume on Sunday, Oct. 22 from 9:15 to 10:20 AM in the Youth Room. We'll continue on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month unless otherwise noted. Questions? Contact Robert Jones.

MUSIC SURVEY PRESENTATION, SUNDAY, OCT. 22, during Fellowship Hour. Members of the Standing Committee will make a brief presentation about the findings from the recent parish-wide Music Discernment survey.

OCTOBER BRISTOL LODGE SUPPER – WEDNESDAY, OCT. 25. Prep in the FPCW Kitchen from Noon – 1:30 pm. Our menu will be roast pork with apples and onions, butternut squash, green beans, and streusel-topped apple cupcakes. Please let Ellen Touart-Grob or Betsy Gibson know if you plan to contribute or can help with preparations and/or delivery to Waltham.

FPCW BOOK GROUP, THURSDAY, OCT. 26, at 9:30 am in the Library and via Zoom. We'll discuss *The Good Life*, by Marc Schulz and Robert J. Waldinger, and FPCW's Common Read for this year. There are two copies in the church library for borrowing.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89058754028> / Meeting ID: 8905 8754 028

HARVEST FEST & TRUNK OR TREAT, SUNDAY, OCT. 29 AFTER WORSHIP – Bring your little ghouls, goblins, and superheroes and heroines for an afternoon of fun! There will be parishioners' cars with festive Halloween decorations and treats for kids (and kids at heart) to “trick or treat” around the parking lot. Costumes are encouraged for all – young and old alike!