

*You have not lived today until you have done something
for someone who can never repay you.*

– John Bunyan

Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud.

– Maya Angelou

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U.

ORDER OF SERVICE

October 24, 2024 A.D.

The 22nd Sunday after Pentecost / Stewardship Sunday

PRELUDE	Prelude and Fugue in A Minor, BWV 559 Prelude and Fugue in C Major, BWV 553	attr. J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
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CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come into this place of peace

Many: **and let its silence heal your spirit.**

One: Come into this place of memory

Many: **and let its history warm your soul.**

One: Come into this place of prophecy and power

Many: **and let its vision change your heart.**

*HYMN S-1 (*front of hymnal*) – “Unto Thy Temple Lord We Come”)

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

Gracious Mystery both beyond and within our lives, we enter your presence with a mix of anxiety and hope. You have called us to be your people. You beckon us on this journey of life through valleys, upon mountains, and on the plains. We set our attention and seek your wisdom, encouragement, and grace. Reveal your will and help us find our center as we strive to mend this broken world and serve you in this life. This we ask in the name of your servant Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying together:

LORD'S PRAYER

Traditionally said at First Parish:

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Today's prayer:

**Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,
Holy and blessed is your true name.
We pray for your reign of peace to come,
We pray that your good will be done,
Let heaven and earth become one.
Give us this day the bread we need,
Give it to those who have none.
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,
From each one to each one.
Lead us to holy innocence
Beyond the evil of our days —
Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
Forever your name is All in One.**

– version by Parker Palmer (inspired by Matthew 6: 9-13, Luke 11: 2-4)

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE

Anne Morgan

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Sarah Napoline

DISMISSAL TO CHURCH SCHOOL

**Go now in Peace, Go now in Peace,
May the love of God surround you,
Everywhere, everywhere, you may go.**

ANTHEM:

“Beautiful City” from *Godspell*
arr. Mac Huff

Stephen Schwartz
(b. 1948)

READING

*HYMN – “We Gather Together to Support First Parish” (*see insert*)

SERMON

Caroline Marple, Stewardship Committee Chair
Rev. Jeff Barz-Snell

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE

OFFERTORY

Caritas et Amor

Z. Randall Stroope
(b. 1953)

*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 S-17 (*front of hymnal*) – “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” (vs. 1-3)”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Lord God, Now Be Glorified, BWV 601

J. S. Bach

Our Greeter this morning is Caroline Marple.

First Parish Church has long welcomed people with different perspectives, backgrounds, and orientations. As a Welcoming Congregation, we happily invite all people to be a part of our 21st century community and church. If you are visiting, we hope you will fill out a welcome card and put it in the collection plate and then join us for a time of fellowship and light refreshment.

STAFF

Minister:

Asst. Minister of Families & Community Outreach:

Youth and Family Ministries Coordinator:

Interim Choir Director:

Organist:

Choir Section Leaders:

Parish Administrator:

Sexton:

Fellowship Coordinator:

Video Production Staff:

Rev. Jeffrey Barz-Snell

Rev. Sarah Napoline

Robert Jones

TJ Rufo Curran

Geoffrey Wieting

Nathaniel Bear

Benjamin Doyle

Rose Hegele

Nathan Savant

Betsy Gibson

Alan Flynn

Paula Leger

Peter Constable

“We Gather Together”

Sung to the music of Hymn 23, *Hymns of Truth and Light*,
by an unknown 16th century Dutch composer,
with alternative lyrics written in 2016 by Linda Kilburn
in support of the annual Stewardship Campaign.

**We gather together this day for First Parish
To nurture her health as her future unfolds;
To strengthen her coffers
With generous offers
Of talent and treasure and hands to enfold.**

**Our worship inspires us to make a commitment;
Our music ascends to the rafters above.
We stand here for justice,
For teaching and for outreach.
This parish does surround us with caring and love.**

**Our journeys of faith brought us here to First Parish.
Our spirits uplifted with God at our core.
As these walls surround us,
And faith . . . sustains and grounds us,
May we each do our part, so our mission may soar.**

Today’s Offering – Share the Plate

Today’s offering will be shared with groups providing relief after the hurricanes in North Carolina and Florida. Over the last three weeks two powerful storms have literally inundated and damaged portions of western North Carolina and central Florida. The damage in North Carolina alone will take years to repair after the regional drinking water system was destroyed. Thus we will share our offering plate today with the following reputable and vetted organizations seeking to help people at risk in areas devastated by these storms:

- 1) The Manna Food Bank in Asheville, NC
- 2) The Rapid Response Fund of the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, FL
- 3) The UUA Disaster Relief Fund

Unto Thy Temple, Lord, We Come

S 1

1. Un - to thy tem - ple, Lord, we come with thank - ful
2. The com - mon home of rich and poor, of bond and
3. May thy whole truth be spo - ken here; thy gos - pel

hearts to wor - ship thee; and pray that this may
free, and great and small; large as thy love for -
light for - ev - er shine; thy per - fect love cast

be our home un - til we touch e - ter - ni - ty.
ev - er - more, and warm and bright and good to all.
out all fear, and hu - man life be - come di - vine.

WORDS: Robert Collyer, 1823-1912
MUSIC: John Hatton, c. 1710-1793

DUKE STREET
L.M.

4. And dwell thou with us in this place,
Thou and thy Christ, to guide and bless!
Here make the wellsprings of thy grace
Like fountains in the wilderness.

1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
 2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to ev - ery
 3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, Let us all Thy
 4. Fin - ish, then, Thy new cre - a - tion; Pure and spot - less

earth come down, Fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing,
 trou - bled breast! Let us all in Thee in - her - it,
 life re - ceive; Sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er,
 let us be; Let us see Thy great sal - va - tion

All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown! Je - sus, Thou art all com -
 Let us find the prom - ised rest; Take a - way the love of
 Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways
 Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee; Changed from glo - ry in - to

pas - sion, Pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art; Vis - it us with
 sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be; End of faith, as
 bless - ing. Serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove; Pray, and praise Thee
 glo - ry, Till in heaven we take our place, Till we cast our

Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart
 its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

KNITTERS & STITCHERS, Mondays at noon in the Parlor. Newcomers always welcome!

BRISTOL LODGE SUPPER, Wednesday, Oct. 23, Noon-1:30 pm in the Kitchen – We still need 2 15-serving meatloaves (your recipe and choice of meat), 2 people to make 16 servings each of the delicata squash recipe (in Breezeway), 30 apples and 90 16 oz bottles of water. Please contact Ellen Touart-Grob (etouartgrob@gmail.com) or Betsy Gibson in the Church Office if you can fill in one of the missing pieces to this meal.

WEEKLY THURSDAY MORNING MEDITATION at 8:30 am – Join us on Zoom; go to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87938995674> / Meeting ID: 8793 8995 674

FPCW BOOK GROUP, Thursday, Oct. 24, 9:30 in the Library or via Zoom. We'll talk about *James* by Percival Everett – the Huck Finn story as told from the perspective of the enslaved Jim. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83268162066> / Zoom Meeting ID: 832 6816 2066

CHOIR REHEARSAL – Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm in the Loft. Newcomers always welcome. Questions? Reach out to Music Director TJ Rufo-Curran.

HARVEST FEST & TRUNK OR TREAT, Sunday, Oct. 27 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!

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER: AMY DAIN ON HOUSING IN MASSACHUSETTS, Tuesday, Oct. 29, 7:00 PM in the First Parish Parlor. We are excited to welcome Amy Dain, author of *Exclusionary by Design*, to First Parish. Amy is a leading expert on housing policy in the state zoning by-laws. She'll provide valuable insights into how these policies shape communities and what they mean for the future of housing in our state's communities. All are welcome to come for this engaging and informative event.

ALL SOULS SUNDAY WORSHIP WITH MEMORIAL CANDLE LIGHTING, Nov. 3, at 10:30 am

METROWEST CLIMATE SOLUTIONS presents “Forests for our Future: The Role of Massachusetts Forests in Combating Climate Change (Part III), November 12, 7 PM, in person at First Parish in Lincoln or at <https://fplincn.altarlive.com/stream/df41-3hh1-4z7o5>

3RD ANNUAL WALLET-FRIENDLY WINE CHALLENGE, Friday, Nov. 15, 7 pm. To compete, sign up with Robert Jones (rjones@FirstParishWeston.org) and bring 3 bottles of your favorite under-\$30 wine. Winner will take home a special bottle of wine and bragging rights for the year! For those who just want a fun night of sipping, savoring, and voting for a winner, minimum donation is \$25. A delightful house wine, handpicked by Robert, and a selection of hors d'oeuvres will be served. Dress code is festive casual, so come ready to enjoy and celebrate!

PART-TIME VAN DRIVER NEEDED at Waltham Boys & Girls Club. For more info, see the Oct. 20 issue of the e-Parish Post or contact Leila Hooper.

BEHIND THE SCENES AT FIRST PARISH – Your Nominating Committee is putting together a slate of officers and committees for Annual Meeting on Feb. 2, 2025. They invite you to become part of the church's inner workings - a great way to become more connected to the First Parish family. More info is in the Oct. 20 *e-Parish Post* or you may reach out to Nominating Committee members Janie Plank, Geoff Blum, Chet Cekala, Cindy Flory, or Sharyn Lenhart. Go to www.firstparishweston.org/get-involved/ for descriptions of our committees.