Faith is not the clinging to a shrine but an endless pilgrimage of the heart. — Abraham Joshua Heschel

The longest journey is the journey inwards. ~ Dag Hammarskjöld

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U. Weston, Massachusetts *Gathered in 1698* ORDER OF SERVICE In-Person and Streamed Worship October 6, 2024 A.D. at 10:30 am 20th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE:

Adagio (Sonata I) Andante religioso (Sonata IV) Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

CALL TO WORSHIP, inspired by Psalm 90

- One: Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, O God, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- Many: The Sacred meets us in the stillness of our thoughts, in the joy of our laughter, in the spontaneity of our encounters, in the hope of our presence.
 One: Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, O God,
- so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- Many: The Spirit sustains us with mercy, reassures us with compassion, and challenges us with grace.
- One: Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, O God, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Many: Let us worship the Sacred in spirit and in truth, through pain and despair, knowing that our gathering brings joy and peace.

*HYMN S-9 (front of hymnal)- "O Life That Maketh All Things New"

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 Spirit, we come before you with questions, and you question us in return. We declare that you are good, and you have declared us good. In your presence, there is joy, and there is struggle. Peace surpasses understanding, and our hearts break. This defines the fullness of human community and experience in companionship with you. We give thanks for your presence and trust that you will continue to transform the impossible into the possible. Make it so in us and through us. This we ask in the name of your son, Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying together:

THE 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:

God, lover of us all, most holy one. Help us to respond to you, to create what you want for us here on earth. Give us today enough for our needs. Forgive our weak and deliberate offences, just as we must forgive others when they hurt us. Help us to resist evil and to do what is good. For we are yours, endowed with your power to make your world whole. Amen.

– Unattributed

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR ALL AGES

DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

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

READINGS:	Isaiah 58: 1-3, 6-9	True Worship
	Excerpt from "The Sum	of Us," by Heather McGhee

Silent Devotion and Response, from Sacred Service Ernest Bloch ANTHEM: (1880-19590

"Small Gifts and Necessary Promises: SERMON: Reflections on Ten Years of Learning"

MUSIC MEDITATION

Jean Masland

Rev. Sarah Napoline

Rev. Mary Margaret Earl

PASTORAL PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE

OFFERTORYexcerpt from Sanctification, from Sacred ServiceErnest Bloch

*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 (see insert) – "God of the Earth, the Sky, the Sea"

*BENEDICTION and CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE: Sonata II – Allegro maestoso; Fuga Felix Mendelssohn

Our Greeter this morning is Beanie Marvel.

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: Music Director: Organist: Choir Soloists:

Parish Administrator: Sexton: Fellowship Hour Coordinator: 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

O Life that Maketh All Things New



God of the Earth, the Sky, the Sea



Words: Samuel Longfellow, 1819–1892 Music: John Hatton, 1710–1793

duke street L.M.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13 World Communion Service at 10:30 am

FALL PANCAKE BREAKFAST Sunday, Oct. 20 9:30 – 10:30 am

Come early and bring your appetite to enjoy a hearty, hot breakfast prepared by our youth and others under the guidance of Robert Jones. Pancakes with maple syrup will be served up with bacon/sausage, and fruit.

HARVEST FEST & PRE HALLOWEEN TRUNK OR TREAT CELEBRATION Sunday, Oct. 27, after worship

Save the date for this annual celebration of fall and the magical fun of costumes and makebelieve. First Parishioners will fill the trunks of their cars with festive decorations, provide candy or prizes, and kids (and kids at heart) will go from car to car to trick or treat around the parking lot.

Costumes for everyone are encouraged!

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 and has researched extensively zoning bylaws. She will 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.

ANNUAL ALL SOULS DAY MEMORIAL CANDLE LIGHTING SERVICE

SUNDAY, NOV. 3, AT 10:30 AM.

We will remember First Parishioners who died this past year and other family and friends with the lighting of candles in their memory.



There are collection bins for costume donations in the main Breezeway and in the vestibule outside the Church Office entrance on Church St. The latter is open 24/7 for drop-offs at your convenience.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- WE EXTEND A WARM WELCOME TO THE REV. MARY MARGARET EARL, Executive Director and Senior Minister of the UU Urban Ministry, and our guest preacher. We thank her for her ministry with us today.
- COZY BONFIRE TONIGHT, 6:00-7:30 PM Bring your family or come solo for a relaxing evening around the fire in the upper parking lot at First Parish. Bring your own seat and be sure to dress for the weather (or bring a blanket!) We'll have wine and snacks to enjoy as we gather under the autumn sky. All are welcome! ??s Contact **rjones@FirstParishWeston.org.**
- KNITTERS & STITCHERS meet most Mondays at noon in the Parlor. If you'd like to be on the mail list for any schedule changes, please contact the Church Office.
- RETIRED MEN'S LUNCH will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 8, in the Library (or via Zoom) at noon. Bring your lunch and join Jeff Barz-Snell and others for conversation and camaraderie in the Library or participate via Zoom.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81040760383 / Meeting ID: 8104 0760 383

- FPCW BEREAVEMENT GROUP will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 8, at 4:00 pm in the Parlor and then resume meeting on the first Tuesday of the month. Anyone grieving the loss of a loved one, no matter what stage of grief is being experienced, is welcome to come share supportive conversation, facilitated by Rev. Jeff Barz-Snell.
- METROWEST CLIMATE SOLUTIONS VIRTUAL WEBINAR: "CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY FOR MASSACHUSETTS." Tuesday, Oct. 9, 7-8:00 pm. Sen. Michael J. Barrett will present an update on the State's climate policy. Register for this free event: **https://www.metrowestclimatesolutions.org/events**
- 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
- CHOIR REHEARSAL Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm in the Loft. Newcomers always welcome. Questions? Reach out to Music Director TJ Rufo-Curran.
- CALLING ALL YOGIS Our All-Levels hatha/vinyasa yoga flow classes, led by Rev. Sarah Napoline will meet next on Friday, Oct. 18, in the Parish Hall from 10:00-11:00 am (and subsequently on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month). This free class is open to all and includes stretching, strengthening, balance, and relaxation. Bring a mat, water bottle and a friend! Injuries or other questions or concerns? Contact **SarahNapoline@FirstParishWeston.org**.
- HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP will meet on Sunday, Oct. 20, for Pancake Breakfast prep.
- STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20 A service where we celebrate the gift that is the congregation of First Parish and look to insuring the ability to grow our ministries, providing support to people in need locally and globally.
- FPCW BOOK GROUP, THURSDAY, OCT. 24 AT 9:30 AM Come to the Parlor or join via Zoom for a discussion of *James* by Percival Everett, A brilliant, action-packed reimagining *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, both harrowing and darkly humorous, told from the enslaved Jim's point of view.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83268162066 / Meeting ID: 8326 8162 066

One of my Favorite Hymns

Do you have a favorite hymn that you love to sing or hear? This fall we are continuing with an occasional element in our Service on Sundays. People are invited to sign up to introduce one of their favorite hymns. Each volunteer has 3-5 minutes to share a favorite hymn and why it is meaningful to them. It could be the music, or the lyrics, or that it was sung at an important moment in their lives. What's your favorite hymn? To sign up, speak with the Minister or call the Church Office (781.893.7798).