



CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Great Spirit of our hearts and lives; we gather once again to remember a fallen friend and nourish ourselves from the fountain of reflections. Open our hearts to the anguish of our pain, to the tired taste of swallowed tears, and to our unrealized vision. In this place we bring our scattered lives together, searching for meaning and truth. Be with us as we strive for new insights and understanding; stay with us as we wander through our memories, seeking pathways to the future. Move with us as we consider anew our world, not just as it is but as it could be. Inspire us as we find new resolve to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with you. And be with us as we remember the dream which still lives within us. This we ask in the name of your son Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying together: Our Father...**

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR ALL AGES

DISMISSAL TO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

LESSON: Amos 5: 15-17, 18-24  
Excerpt from the writings of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr

ANTHEM "Lord, I Want to be a Christian" arr. Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

SERMON: "On What Unites When the World Divides: Jeff Barz-Snell  
Musings on the Eve of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day"

CALL TO PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: "Make Them Hear You" Lynn Ahrens (b. 1948)  
from *Ragtime* Stephen Flaherty (b. 1960)

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

**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: "There Is More Love Somewhere" (*see insert*)

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE                      Sweet, Sweet Spirit                      Doris Akers (1923-1995)

The flowers on the altar this morning are given in loving memory of Sally Gilman by her family. Her memorial service was held here yesterday.

Our Greeter this morning is Trish Mordas.

First Parish Church has long welcomed people with different perspectives, backgrounds, and orientations. As a Welcoming Congregation, we happily invite all people into our 21st century community and church. If you are visiting, we hope you will check in at our welcome table and introduce yourself to the ministers.

We invite everyone to the Parish Hall after the service for a time of connection and light refreshment.

STAFF

Minister:  
Asst. Minister of Families & Community Outreach:  
Youth and Family Ministries Coordinator:  
Music Director:  
Organist:  
Choir Soloists:

Parish Administrator:  
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  
Paula Leger  
Peter Constable

# Every Time I Feel the Spirit

*Refrain*

Ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov - ing in my

heart I will pray. Yes, ev - ery time I feel the

Spir - it mov - ing in my heart I will pray. *Fine*

1. Up - on the moun - tain, when my Lord spoke, Out of God's  
2. O Jor - dan riv - er is chil - ly and cold, it chills the  
3. O I have heart - ache and I have woe, and I have

mouth came fire and smoke. Looked all a - round me,  
bod - y, not the soul. There's on - ly one train  
trou - ble here be - low. But while God leads me,

*to Refrain*

it looked so fine, I asked my Lord if all were mine.  
up - on this track; it runs to heav - en, then right back. O ev - ery  
I'll nev - er fear, for I am shel - tered by God's care.

# There Is More Love Somewhere

$\text{♩} = 63$   
F B $\flat$  F

1. There is more love some - where. There is  
 2. There is more hope some - where. There is  
 3. There is more peace some - where. There is  
 4. There is more joy some - where. There is

B $\flat$  F C F B $\flat$

more love some - where. I'm gon-na keep on 'til I  
 more hope some - where. I'm gon-na keep on 'til I  
 more peace some - where. I'm gon-na keep on 'til I  
 more joy some - where. I'm gon-na keep on 'til I

F Dm F B $\flat$  C7 F

find it. There is more love some - where.  
 find it. There is more hope some - where.  
 find it. There is more peace some - where.  
 find it. There is more joy some - where.

Words & music: African American hymn

BIKO  
6.6.9.6.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW EXHIBIT IN MARY JO RINES GALLERY – Photographer Leann Shamash will join us after worship today for an artist talk. Be sure to swing by the Gallery to meet her and learn more about her art.

CHURCH OFFICE will be closed tomorrow.

KNITTERS & STITCHERS – Will not meet tomorrow, Jan. 20, due to holiday.

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING, Tuesday, Jan. 21, at 7:30 pm in the Parlor or via Zoom:

BRISTOL LODGE SUPPER, Wednesday, Jan. 22. Kitchen prep, Noon - 2:00 pm

WEEKLY THURSDAY MORNING MEDITATION meets on at 8:30 am on Zoom for approximately 45 minutes

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87938995674>**

FPCW BOOK GROUP, Thursday, Jan. 23, 9:30 am in the Parlor and via Zoom. We'll discuss *All the Beauty in the World*, a memoir by Peter Bringley.

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83268162066>**

CHOIR REHEARSAL, THURSDAYS, 7:30 PM in the Loft.

STEWARDSHIP THANK YOU DINNER/TRIVIA NIGHT, FRIDAY, JAN. 24, 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. All those who made a commitment to support the church financially in 2025 by Dec. 31 are automatically invited. If you have questions, please call the Church Office.

ANNUAL BUDGET HEARING, SUNDAY, JAN. 26, following worship.

COMMUNITY YOGA FLOW CLASS, FRIDAY, JAN. 31, at 10:00 am in the Parish Hall. This free class is open to anyone; bring a mat, blocks (if you have), water bottle and an open mind! Questions? Contact Sarah Napoline ([sarahnapoline@FirstParishWeston.org](mailto:sarahnapoline@FirstParishWeston.org)).

327TH ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, SUNDAY, FEB. 2, after worship. Come experience the “wise congregational way” in action. Here we have no bishops, popes, presbyteries, or regional councils. As the oldest continuing democratic institution in town, we will celebrate our community, elect officers, welcome new members, and approve a budget for 2025.

SUNDAY, FEB. 9 – During worship, we will welcome staff from Waltham’s WATCH CDC for a Pulpit Moment. Then, during Fellowship Hour, we’ll have Chocolate Sunday, our annual celebration of all things chocolate. Bring some of your favorite treats to share and, if you’d like to contribute something special to be raffled off, please contact Robert Jones ([rjones@firstparishweston.org](mailto:rjones@firstparishweston.org)). Proceeds will benefit Family Promise of MetroWest, a Natick-based non-profit that assists homeless families in the area.

*THE GOOD LIFE* PRESENTATION/PROGRAM, Sunday, Feb. 16, in the Parlor after worship.

COMMUNITY DAY CENTER IN WALTHAM NEEDS MEN’S DENIM AND SWEATPANTS – The Community Day Center of Waltham (CDCW), MetroWest’s only drop-in day center for the homeless, needs men’s denim and sweatpants. CDCW is a safe place where unhoused adults can pick up mail, share a warm meal, and get hygiene items and clothing. Recently, the center created a welcoming, well-stocked shop onsite where visitors can browse free clothing. Men’s denim and sweatpants are flying off the shelves, and they could use our help keeping these popular items in stock. Please bring a new or gently used pair (or two) of men’s jeans and/or sweatpants to church by February 16. Donation bins will be located in the breezeway and vestibule outside the church office.

FRIDAY, FEB. 28, 6:00 PM – Family-Friendly Pizza & Game Night at First Parish! Close out February with family, friends, and fun! We’ll supply the pizza and soft drinks; feel free to BYO wine and beer – to drink responsibly, of course! If coming, we ask that you let us know what game(s) you will bring - there soon will be a link on the FPCW website calendar or you can call the Church Office.

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.

NEW GROUP FORMING FOR 2025:  
Defending Democracy Book & Discussion Group  
Meeting on the last Friday of the month,  
starting on Jan. 31 at 4 pm.

Join us for a new *community-wide* discussion group informed by the latest book by historian and author, Heather Cox Richardson, *Democracy Awakening: Notes on the State of America*. As our country begins a new chapter, the need to learn about our history, make connections, share ideas, and defend the institutions of our democracy become crucially important. We have 2 copies of the book in the Church Library available for borrowing.

To sign up, email Jeff Barz-Snell ([jeffbarzsnell@firstparishweston.org](mailto:jeffbarzsnell@firstparishweston.org))  
or Sarah Napoline ([sarahnapoline@firstparishweston.org](mailto:sarahnapoline@firstparishweston.org))  
or call the Church Office (781.893.7798).