

We are a profoundly interconnected species, as the global economic and ecological crises reveal in vivid and frightening detail. We must embrace the simple fact that we are dependent on and accountable to one another.

~ Parker Palmer

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U.
ORDER OF SERVICE
March 23, 2025 A.D.
Third Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE

Prelude
Improvisation

Nadia Boulanger
(1897-1979)

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We who are thirsty:

Many: **Let us receive living water.**

One: We who are hungry:

Many: **Let us take bread that satisfies.**

One: We who long for connection:

Many: **Let us experience the kindness of this community,
and the warmth of the Spirit.**

One: We who search for love:

Many: **Let us encounter the Mystery of this life,
expressed in music, prayer, community, word, and action.**

One: May this time of gathering fill and refresh us.

Many: **Come let us worship together!**

*HYMN S-9 (*front of hymnal*) – “O Life that Maketh All Things New” - for spring!

Minister: The Peace of God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

THE PEACE

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

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 our abiding companion, even at times when we feel alone. We all too often wish to go our own way, maintain control, and rely on our own strength rather than living our lives amidst your larger grace. Forgive us in our unwillingness to live by a peace that comes only from you, or to not trust you with providing all that we need for the journey. This we ask in the spirit of your son Jesus, who taught us to pray to you, Mother and Father of all, saying together, Our Father....

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE

Rev. Sarah Napoline

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Jeff Barz-Snell

DISMISSAL TO CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

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

LESSON: Psalm 42: 1-8

ANTHEM

"Upon Your Heart"

Eleanor Daley (b. 1955)

SERMON: "On Finding a Calling: Church as Lab"

Rev. Jeff Barz-Snell

CALL TO PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER, followed by organ response

OFFERTORY "Here, O My Lord" Eleanor Daley

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.**

CHORAL RESPONSE

*HYMN 487 - "Abide with Me" (*vs. 1-3*)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Voluntary

William Goodwin (18th century)

The flowers on the altar this morning are given in loving memory of
Elizabeth (Libby) and Irving Wolf by their children.

Our Greeter this morning is Holly Kulow.

O Life that Maketh All Things New

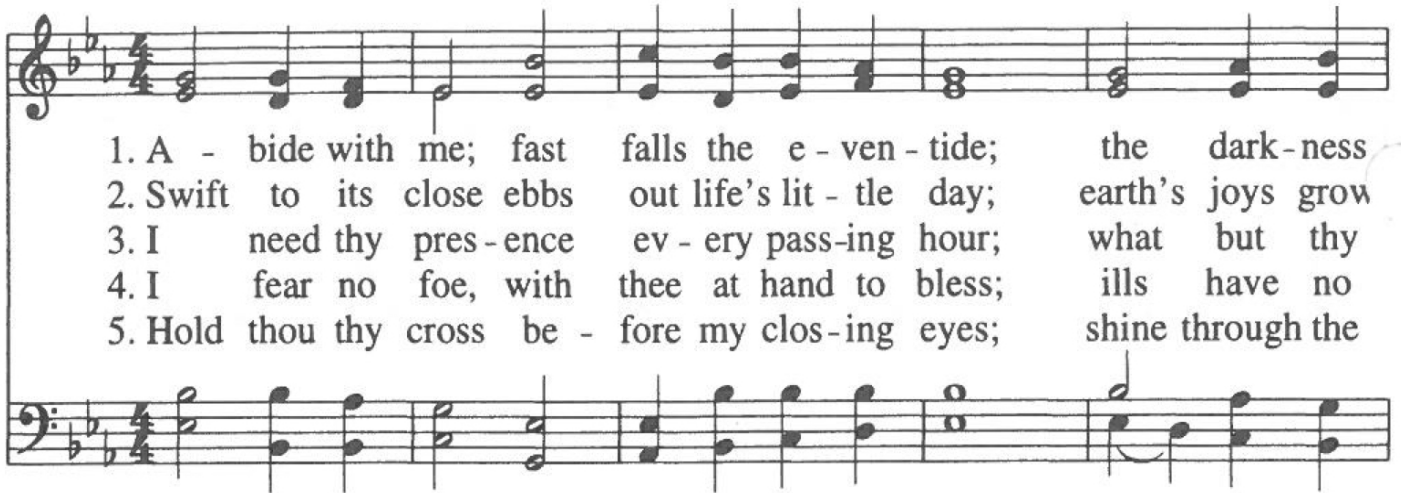
1. O Life that mak - eth all things new, The
 2. From hand to hand the greet - ing flows, From
 3. One in the free - dom of the truth, One
 4. The fre - er step, the ful - ler breath,. The

bloom - ing earth, our thoughts with - in, Our
 eye to eye the sig - nals run, From
 in the joy of paths un - trod, One
 wide hor - i - zon's grand - er view, The

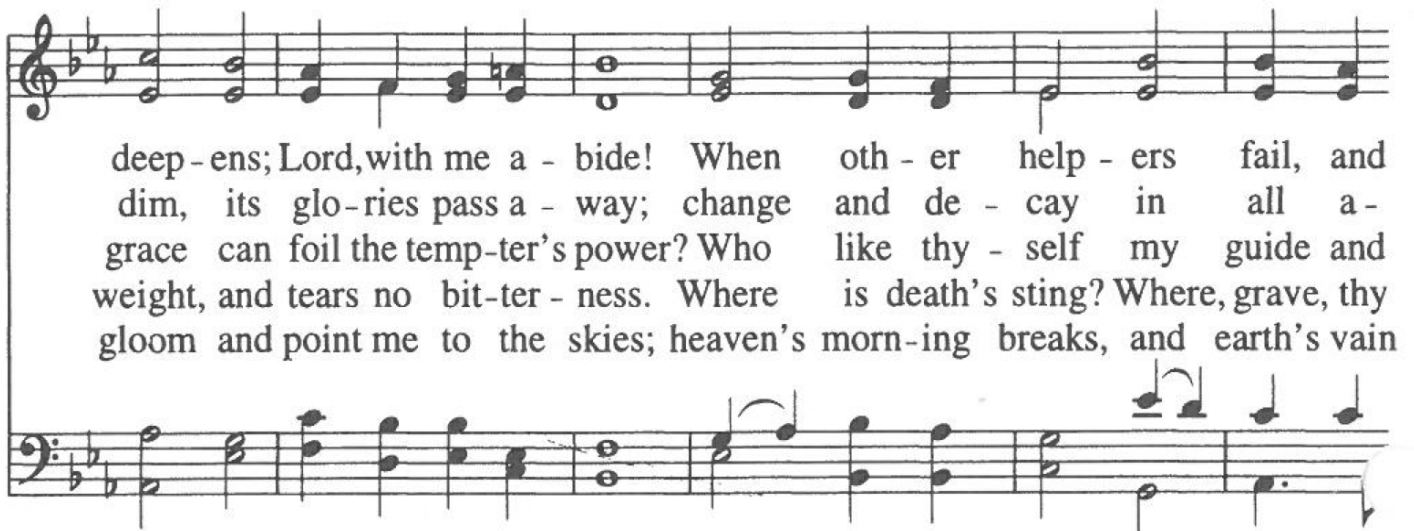
pil - grim feet, wet with thy dew, In
 heart to heart the bright hope glows; The
 in the soul's per - en - nial youth, One
 sense of life that knows no death, The

glad - ness hith - er turn a - gain.
 seek - ers of the light are one.
 in the larg - er thought of God;
 life that mak - eth all things new. A - MEN

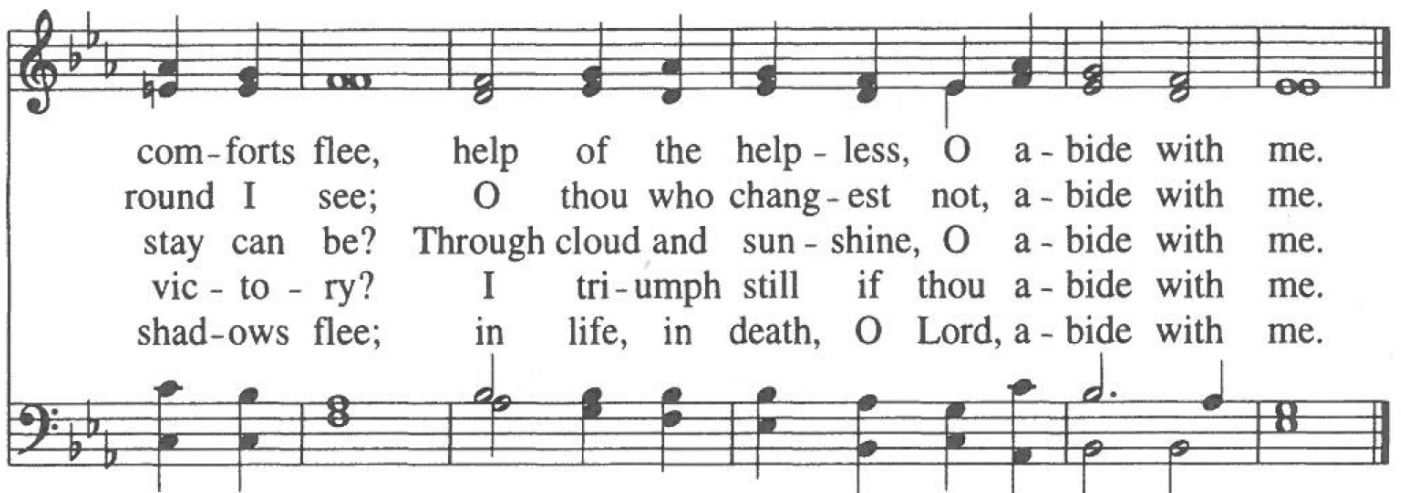
Abide with Me



1. A - bide with me; fast falls the e - ven - tide; the dark - ness
2. Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day; earth's joys grow
3. I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour; what but thy
4. I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless; ills have no
5. Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes; shine through the



deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide! When oth - er help - ers fail, and
dim, its glo - ries pass a - way; change and de - cay in all a -
grace can foil the temp - ter's power? Who like thy - self my guide and
weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness. Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy
gloom and point me to the skies; heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain



com - forts flee, help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
round I see; O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
stay can be? Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.
vic - to - ry? I tri - umph still if thou a - bide with me.
shad - ows flee; in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

WORDS: Henry F. Lyte, 1847, alt.
MUSIC: William H. Monk, 1861

EVENTIDE
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Written by a well-known English Anglican, this hymn was introduced to Americans in Congregationalist Henry Ward Beecher's hymnal *Plymouth Collection* in 1855. British Anglican William Henry Monk wrote the tune specifically for this hymn in 1861.

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.

Join us in the Parish Hall today after worship for a time of fellowship and light refreshment.

STAFF

Minister:	Rev. Jeffrey Barz-Snell
Asst. Minister of Families & Community Outreach:	Rev. Sarah Napoline
Youth and Family Ministries Coordinator:	Robert Jones
Music Director:	TJ Rufo Curran
Organist:	Geoffrey Wieting
Choir Soloists:	Nathaniel Bear, Benjamin Doyle, Rose Hegele, Nathan Savant
Parish Administrator:	Betsy Gibson
Sextons:	Gary Lubin, Joseph Perriello
Fellowship Hour Coordinator:	Paula Leger
Video Production Staff:	Peter Constable

ANNOUNCEMENTS

KNITTERS & STITCHERS – Will meet tomorrow, Mar.24, at Noon in the Parlor

VIRTUAL SOCIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE MEETING, Tuesday, Mar. 25, 7:00-8:30 pm.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84352817738> / Meeting ID: 8435 2817 738

HELP US FEED THE HUNGRY - BRISTOL LODGE SUPPER, Wednesday, Mar. 26. To complete our menu, we still need three people each to make 18 servings of green salad (your choice of type, undressed) and one person to supply 40 cookies or bars for dessert. Please be in touch with Georgia Foote (georgiayfoote@gmail.com) if you can help.

VIRTUAL THURSDAY MORNING MEDITATION meets weekly at 8:30 am on Zoom for approximately 45 minutes. **<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87938995674>**

FPCW BOOK GROUP, Thursday, Mar. 27, 9:30 am in the Parlor or via Zoom. Up for discussion will be *Kingmaker* by Sonia Purnell.

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

CHOIR REHEARSAL, Thursdays, 7:30 PM in the Loft. Newcomers welcome!

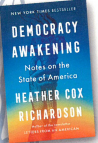
DEFENDING DEMOCRACY BOOK AND DISCUSSION GROUP – Friday, Mar. 28, 4 pm in the Parlor. Join us for the third session in this series - it doesn't matter if you haven't attended previous gatherings. Advance reading of pages 83-126 of *Democracy Awakening* will be helpful.

SPRING PANCAKE BREAKFAST, Sunday, Mar. 30. 9:30 am in the Parish Hall. Come celebrate the return of spring with a delicious hot breakfast in our warm and inviting Parish Hall. In addition to our eponymous pancakes (blueberry, plain and ?), we'll have eggs, bacon, and sausages to enjoy with orange juice, fair-trade coffee, and tea, all served up by our Youth Group Coordinator Robert Jones and his merry band of pancake chefs. Interested in helping out? Contact the Church Office (admin@FirstParishWeston.org) or Robert Jones (RJones@FirstParishWeston.org) or more information.

FINDING HOME: STORIES FROM RECENT IMMIGRANTS, Sunday, Mar. 30 – Join us in the Parlor to view a short film chronicling the journeys of immigrant families as they rebuild their lives in New England. Joining us will be IINE President and CEO Jeffrey Thielman and a staff member who recently immigrated from Afghanistan. Then we will learn more regarding IINE’s work with refugees and immigrants during this challenging time and ways we can step up and stand in solidarity with our newest neighbors. A light lunch will be provided.

INUNDATION DISTRICT FILM SCREENING, Tuesday, Apr. 1, 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall. The film examines Boston’s continued construction in the climate-vulnerable Seaport “Innovation District.” The Seaport has been the site of billions of dollars of taxpayer-funded projects intended to draw major companies to the city. *Inundation District* questions who pays when these projects face their climate change-prescribed fate. Co-sponsored by MetroWest Climate Solutions, we will welcome David Abel, the film’s director, for a Q & A session following the screening.

THOREAU’S GOD: WHEN NATURE BECOMES CHURCH, Thursday, Apr. 10, 7:00 pm – Join us when we welcome local author Richard Higgins for a discussion about his new book that explores Thoreau’s spirituality, his perception of God in nature, and his sense of the sacred in the ordinary.



DEFENDING DEMOCRACY
a new Book & Discussion Group

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.

the last Friday OF THE MONTH
4:00 PM
starting January 31st

FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
349 BOSTON POST ROAD
WESTON, MASS.
www.FirstParishWeston.org

To join the discussion, email Jeff Barz-Snell and Sarah Napoline at Minister@FirstParishWeston.org, or call the Church Office at 781-893-7798.

the award-winning documentary about Boston's choice to ignore climate change and spend billions developing a new waterfront district

INUNDATION DISTRICT

Film Screening followed by Q & A with director David Abel

April 1, 2025 at 7:00 PM

FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON
349 Boston Post Road · Weston, Mass
www.FirstParishWeston.org

co-hosted by **MetroWest Climate Solutions**
www.MetroWestClimateSolutions.org



International Institute of New England

“Finding Home: Stories from Recent Immigrants”
Film Screening and Conversation
with the International Institute of New England
Sunday, Mar. 30, after worship

The Social Justice Task Force and Outreach Committee are thrilled to welcome representatives from the International Institute of New England (IINE) to First Parish on **Sunday, March 30 from 11:45-1pm** for a viewing of a short documentary, “Finding Home: Stories from Recent Immigrants”. This film chronicles the journeys of immigrant families as they rebuild their lives in New England. Joining us will be Jeffrey Thielman, IINE President and CEO, and a staff member who recently immigrated from Afghanistan. Following the film, we will learn about IINE’s work with refugees and immigrants during this challenging time and ways we can step up and stand in solidarity with our newest neighbors. A light lunch will be provided.

Join us to learn more about this life-changing work and the power of community in fostering reliance and belonging!

Presenting

THOREAU’S GOD: WHEN NATURE BECOMES CHURCH

Thursday April 10, 2025 | **7:00 PM**

Discussion with author **Richard Higgins**

First Parish Church in Weston | 349 Boston Post Road
Weston, Mass

Details at www.FirstParishWeston.org