

*“To practice any art, no matter how well or badly,
is a way to make your soul grow. So do it.”*

– Kurt Vonnegut

“Creativity takes courage.”

– Henri Matisse

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U.

ORDER OF SERVICE

September 28, 2025 A.D.

PRELUDE:

Intermezzo

Aria

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Charles Callahan (1951-2023)

*CALL TO WORSHIP – MATTHEW 5:13-16

One: You are the salt of the earth. But if salt has lost its taste,
how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for
anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

Many: **You are the light of the world.
A city built on a hill cannot be hidden.**

One: Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a basket.
Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to
everyone in the house.

Many: **In the same way, let your light shine before others,
so that they may see your good works
and praise your Father in heaven.**

*OPENING HYMN 12 – “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

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 AND LORD'S PRAYER

Source of Light and Life, we thank you for your Love which never lets us go. We confess our unwillingness sometimes to see your light and follow your path. We know that to make a better tomorrow, to be our best selves, we must be bold enough to dwell in our discomfort, brave enough to be clumsy, and loving enough to forgive ourselves and each other. May we, as a people of faith, be granted the strength to be so bold, so brave, and so loving. In a time marked by division and uncertainty, we pray for our nation. We pray that those in power may be guided not by ego, politics, or money, but by humility and compassion. We pray that the light of your love is born anew within our hearts, that it may illuminate the ways we can let our own light shine. This we ask in the spirit of your servant Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying together: Our Father...

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE

Ellen Touart-Grob & Larry Grob

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Sarah Napoline

DEPARTURE TO CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

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

READING: Romans 12

ANTHEM:

Praise to the Living God!

arr. George Brandon (1924-2001)

SERMON: “The Revolution of Creation”

Rev. Sarah Napoline

MUSIC MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER

MUSIC RESPONSE

OFFERTORY:

L'dor Vador

Meir Finkelstein (b. 1951)

“From generation to generation, we will tell Your greatness.”

*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 – “My Life Flows On” (*see insert*)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE:

Prelude and Fugue in F Major

Johann Ludwig Krebs (1713-1780)

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Our Greeter this morning is Holly Kulow.

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.

We hope you'll join us in the Parish Hall after worship
for some light refreshment and fellowship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW EXHIBIT IN THE MARY JO RINES GALLERY– On view September 21 - November 17, *Drawn to Water* by Diane Charyk Norris. **Meet the artist of the latest art exhibit, Diane Charyk Norris after worship today in the Gallery.**

SOCIAL JUSTICE TAST FORCE – Next meeting in the Library and on Zoom on Tuesday, September 30 at 7 PM; go to: **Zoom.us/join** and enter Meeting ID: **8210 2753 382**

WEEKLY MORNING MEDITATION, THURSDAYS AT 8:30 AM – Join us on Zoom; go to: **Zoom.us/join** and enter Meeting ID: **8840 8862 130**

MUSIC COMMITTEE – Thursday, October 3 at 6:30 PM in the library.

COMMUNITY YOGA FLOW – Friday, October 3 at 10:00 AM in the Parish Hall. This all-levels Vinyasa Flow class covers the basics, with options to modify toward an advanced practice. All are welcome!

CHOIR REHEARSAL – Choir has resumed weekly Thursday evening rehearsals, 7:30 - 9:00pm. If interested, please contact Music Director TJ Rufo-Curran at tjruf@FirstParishWeston.org.

DINNER CONNECTIONS – Sign up in the breezeway by October 19th to connect with other First Parish attendees over dinner once a month in groups of 6-10 people.

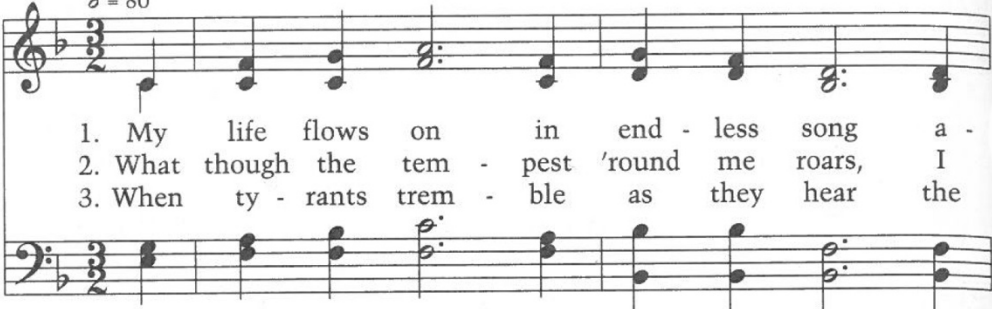
DIAPER DRIVE – The Outreach Committee is teaming with A Place to Turn, September 21-October 19: Drop off new, unopened (or clean open) packs of diapers in any size, especially sizes 4–6 in the marked bins in the breezeway or the vestibule outside the church offices.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS – We invite you to bring your beloved animals (or photos of them) to be blessed to worship on **Sunday, October 5th** for our annual Blessing of the Animals.

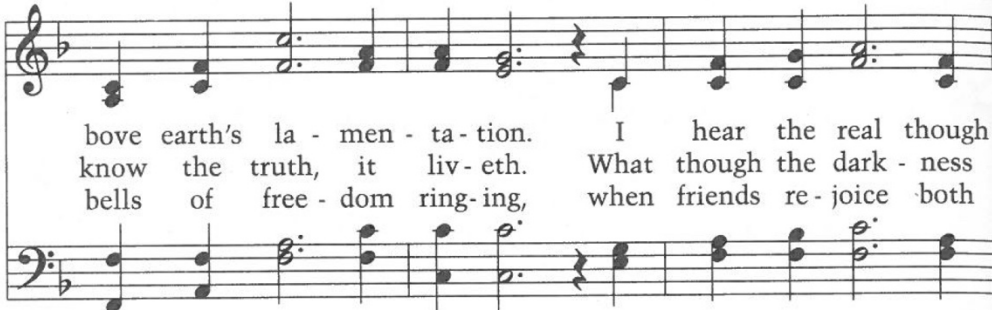
CELEBRATING BETSY'S 22 YEARS AS OUR ADMINISTRATOR – Please join us for a special fellowship hour and reception on Sunday, Oct. 19 in honor of Betsy Gibson, who will be stepping down as administrator in October and into the position of part-time bookkeeper.

My Life Flows On in Endless Song

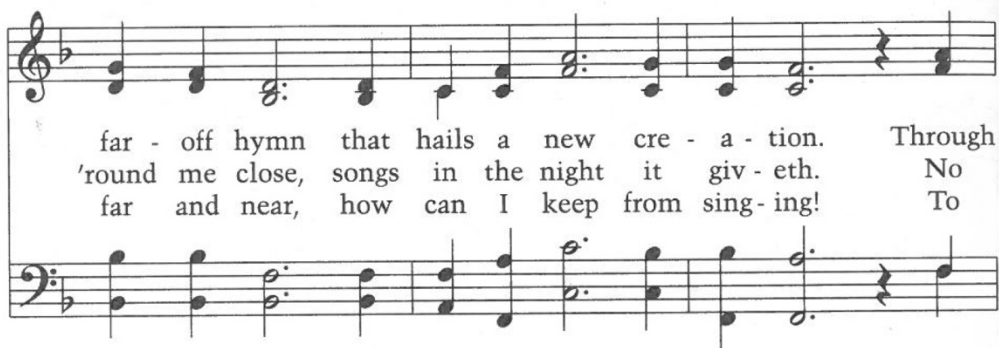
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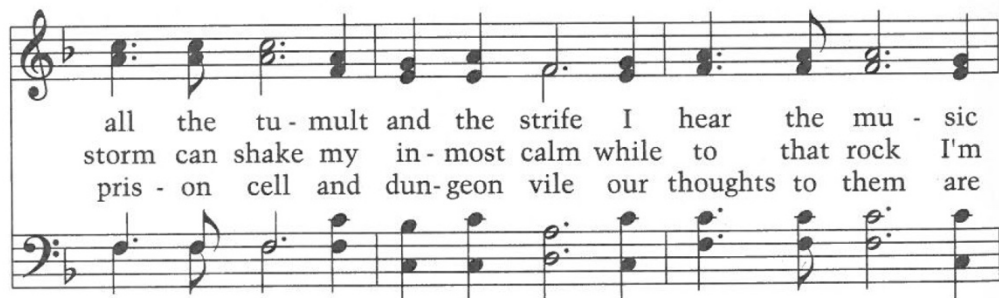
1. My life flows on in end-less song a -
2. What though the tem-pest 'round me roars, I
3. When ty-rants trem-ble as they hear the



bove earth's la-men-ta-tion. I hear the real though
know the truth, it liv-eth. What though the dark-ness
bells of free-dom ring-ing, when friends re-joice both



far-off hymn that hails a new cre-a-tion. Through
'round me close, songs in the night it giv-eth. No
far and near, how can I keep from sing-ing! To



all the tu-mult and the strife I hear the mu-sic
storm can shake my in-most calm while to that rock I'm
pris-on cell and dun-geon vile our thoughts to them are

ring - ing. It sounds an ech - o
cling - ing. Since love pre - vails in
wing - ing; when friends by shame are

in my soul. How can I keep from sing - ing!
heav'n and earth, how can I keep from sing - ing!
un - de - filed, how can I keep from sing - ing!