

No single act of generosity remains in isolation. The ripples are many.

~ Sarah Winman, Still Life

You cannot do kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late.

– Ralph Waldo Emerson

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U.

ORDER OF SERVICE

October 19, 2025 A.D.

Stewardship Sunday

PRELUDE: *Ah God, Look Down from Heaven*

Chorale harmonization

two additional settings

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come into this place of peace,

Many: **and let its calm 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.**

One: Come into this place for community,

Many: **and let its warmth inspire our lives.**

*OPENING HYMN S-1 – “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 FOLLOWED BY THE LORD'S 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: Our Father...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE

Tod Foote, former Church Treasurer

MOMENT OF RECOGNITION OF BETSY GIBSON,

as she steps down as our Parish Administrator after 22 years of service.

SONG

DISMISSAL TO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

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

READING

ANTHEM

Beautiful City from Godspell

Stephen Schwartz (b. 1948)
arr. Mac Huff

REFLECTIONS:

“First Parish Church Matters”
Mrs. Caroline Marple, Chair of the Stewardship Committee
Rev. Jeff Barz-Snell

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY: *A Broadway celebration of our leading lady, Betsy Gibson*

*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 494 – “I Sing a Song of the Saints of God”

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE:

The Chase (from *Autumn Sketches*)

Wilson G. Smith (1855-1929)

Flowers are given in loving gratitude for Betsy Gibson
for 22 years of care and service, from all of us at First Parish.

Our Greeter this morning is Cheri Mahan.

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.

Please join us after our service for a special reception for Betsy Gibson and her
family as we express our gratitude for her many years of service & good work.

STAFF

Minister

Minister of Families & Community Outreach:

Youth & Family Ministry Coordinator:

Music Director:

Organist:

Choir Section Leaders

Parish Administrator:

Bookkeeper:

Sextons:

Fellowship Hour Coordinator:

AV Production Assistant:

Rev. Jeffrey Barz-Snell

Rev. Sarah Napoline

Robert Jones

TJ Rufo-Curran

Geoffrey Wieting

Ben Doyle, Rose Hegele,

Nathan Savant, Lindsey Weissman

Sara DeLong

Betsy Gibson

Will Coronado, Gary Lubin

Paula Leger

Peter Constable

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY! CELEBRATING BETSY'S 22 YEARS AS OUR ADMINISTRATOR – **Please join us for a special fellowship hour** and reception after worship in honor of Betsy Gibson, who is stepping down as Administrator this month and into the position of part-time Bookkeeper.

DINNER CONNECTIONS – Today is the last day to sign up in the breezeway to connect with other First Parish attendees over dinner once a month in groups of 6-10 people.

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING – Tuesday, October 21 at 7:30pm in the Parlor or on Zoom. To join on Zoom; go to: **Zoom.us/join** and enter Meeting ID: **965 9504 7535**

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

BOOK GROUP – Thursday, October 23 at 9:30am in the Parish Library or on Zoom. To join on Zoom; go to: **Zoom.us/join** and enter Meeting ID: **8326 8162 066**

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

BRISTOL LODGE – This month's menu – to be served on Wednesday, October 22nd – is Meatloaf. Contact Ellen Touart-Grob at 781-640-4793 or etouartgrob@gmail.com for more details or to volunteer.

NEXT SUNDAY! HARVEST FEST & TRUNK OR TREAT – Sunday, October 26, at 11:45am after worship. Join us for an afternoon of “trick or treat”ing for our younger community members. Costumes encouraged- All are welcome!

WALLET-FRIENDLY WINE CHALLENGE – Fri. November 7 at 7pm in the Parish Hall. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and raffle prizes for a good cause. Email rjones@FirstParishWeston.org with questions or to **RSVP**.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST –Sunday, November 23 at 9:30am in the Hall: Join us before worship for pancakes, eggs, bacon, and sausages served by our youth group. Email admin@FirstParishWeston.org to volunteer.