

The fall of a leaf is a whisper to the living.
~ English Proverb

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U.

ORDER OF SERVICE

October 26, 2025 A.D.

The 20th Sunday after Pentecost / The Sunday before All Hallows Eve

PRELUDE:

Prelude on “*Abide with Me*”

All People Must Die, BWV 643

C. S. Lang (1891-1971)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

*CALL TO WORSHIP: *Rev. Marta Flanagan, adapted*

One: We gather this day in search of what is meaningful
and holy in this life

All: **All of us have moments of weakness and times of strength.
All sing songs of sorrow and love.**

One: May our worship bring us strength along our path this day.

All: **In the presence of what is Sacred,
may we come to be reminded of our true selves
and find fresh inspiration to love and do good.**

*OPENING HYMN 67 – “God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens”

Minister: The Peace of God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

EXCHANGE OF THE 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

O God who is found and lost and sought anew in every generation: may we understand more plainly what it means to seek Your presence in our age. We heard that You would come in splendor, cleaving the skies, but we know this is but a vision. O Lord, may we adjust our seeing, for we ourselves know better. We have heard that You speak wherever truth is spoken; we have seen You in life's loveliness; we have felt Your presence in all brave and generous deeds and in acts of genuine kindness. Help us to discover You amidst what is both sublime and real in our own lives. This we ask in the name of your son Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying together...

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR ALL AGES

ANTHEM:

Double Trouble

from *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*

John Williams (b. 1932)

arr. by Teena Chin

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: Psalm 8

MUSIC MEDITATION

SERMON: "On Myths, Vampires and the Quest for Immortality"

Rev. Jeff Barz-Snell

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

MUSIC RESPONSE

OFFERTORY:

For God So Loved the World

Hugo Distler (1908-1942)

*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 – “May Nothing Evil Cross This Door” *(See insert)*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE:

Toccata in D minor

Gordon Balch Nevin (1892-1943)

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. We hope you'll join us for Trunk or Treat
after worship for cider, donuts, and Fall fun!

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! HARVEST FEST & TRUNK OR TREAT – After worship, at 11:45am. Join us for an afternoon of “trick or treat”ing for our younger community members with pumpkin carving, cider and donuts. All are welcome!

KNITTERS AND STITCHERS – Meets on Mondays in the Parlor at noon.

SOCIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE – Tuesday, October 28 at 7:00pm in the Library or to join online go to **Zoom.us/join** and enter Meeting ID: **821 0275 3382**

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

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

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.

DIAPER DRIVE SUCCESS! – Thank you for your generous contributions to the Outreach Committee's diaper drive for A Place to Turn. Our community donated nearly 2,000 diapers!

MAKE YOUR YEARLY PLEDGE TO SUPPORT FIRST PARISH – Stewardship donations cover 52% of all expenses and enable the church to maintain its financial stability. Without Stewardship, much of the programming the congregation needs and treasures would not be possible. **Please commit as you are able** to financially supporting First Parish during the coming year. Return the pledge card mailed to you, scan the QR code, or visit **FirstParishWeston.org/Give**



May Nothing Evil Cross This Door

1

$\text{♩} = 44$

1. May noth - ing e - vil cross this door,
 2. By faith made strong, the raft - ers will
 3. Peace shall walk soft - ly through these rooms,
 4. With laugh - ter drown the rau - cous shout,

and may ill for - tune nev - er
 with - stand the bat - tering of the
 touch - ing our lips with ho - ly
 and, though these shel - tering walls are

pry a - bout these win - dows; may the
 storm. This hearth, though all the world grow
 wine, till ev - 'ry cas - ual cor - ner
 thin, may they be strong to keep hate

roar and rain go by.
 chill, will keep you warm.
 blooms in - to a shrine.
 out and hold love in.

Words: Louis Untermeyer, 1885-1977, © 1923, renewed 1951 by
 Louis Untermeyer, used by perm. of Harcourt Brace Jovanovich
 Music: Robert N. Quaile, b. 1867

OLDBRIDGE
 8.8.8.4.