

*A thankful heart is not only the greatest virtue,
but the parent of all other virtues.*
~ Marcus Tullius Cicero

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U.
ORDER OF SERVICE
November 23, 2025 A.D.
Thanksgiving Sunday & The 24th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE:

Chorale & 3 settings of Now thank we all our God

Georg Friedrich Kauffmann (1679-1735)

Johann Christoph Oley (1738-1789)

Max Reger (1873-1916)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Reading of the 2025 *Thanksgiving Day Proclamation*
By Her Excellency, Governor Maura T. Healey

*OPENING HYMN 23 – “We Gather Together”

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

Almighty God we give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all people. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life. Give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we may show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in integrity and kindness all our days. This we ask in the spirit of your son, Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying together, Our Father...

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE

Kate and John Houston

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG FOR ALL AGES: "Give Thanks"

Chalice Choir

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.**

PULPIT EDITORIAL

Erica Young, Executive Director
The Waltham Boys & Girls Club

ANTHEM:

At the River

Aaron Copland (1900-1990)

READING: Deuteronomy 8: 7-18

MUSIC MEDITATION

SERMON

Rev. Jeff Barz-Snell

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

OFFERTORY:

*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 529 – “Let All Things Now Living”

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE:

Festival Prelude on Hymn 528 “*We Plow the Fields and Scatter*”

David Ibinaiye (b. 1980s)

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 in the Parish Hall after worship for some light refreshment and fellowship.

STAFF

Minister

Rev. Jeffrey Barz-Snell

Minister of Families & Community Outreach:

Rev. Sarah Napoline

Youth & Family Ministry Coordinator:

Robert Jones

Music Director:

TJ Rufo-Curran

Organist:

Geoffrey Wieting

Choir Section Leaders

Ben Doyle, Rose Hegele,

Nathan Savant, Lindsey Weissman

Parish Administrator:

Sara DeLong

Bookkeeper:

Betsy Gibson

Sextons:

Will Coronado, Gary Lubin

Fellowship Hour Coordinator:

Paula Leger

AV Production Assistant:

Peter Constable

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GROCERY CARD DRIVE – This month we are collecting **\$25 Market Basket gift cards** for the International Institute of New England (IINE), the Renewal House Shelter, and Bristol Lodge. You may bring cards to the office or hand them to the ministers on Sunday, along with your full name, address and a copy of the purchase receipt.

RENEWAL HOUSE SHELTER SUPPLY DRIVE– November 1-30 the Outreach Committee is collecting NEW twin-sized comforters and sheet sets, & personal hygiene products for **Renewal House Shelter**.

OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK– Regular 9:30am-4:30pm office hours will be Monday-Wednesday this week. The Office is closed Thanksgiving Day and Fri, Nov 28.

COUNCIL ON AGING FOOD PANTRY DRIVE– November 1-30: Visit the **blue shelf** in the Breezeway for a list of requested supplies or to drop off a donation.

YOUTH GROUP SHOE DRIVE – Now-January 25 the youth group is collecting new and **clean/gently used shoes** (all sizes, from toddlers to adults) to give to Ugandan students. Bring your contribution to the bin by the FP Library.

ALL MUSIC SUNDAY: CALLING ALL SINGERS! – Perform this **All Music Sunday**, Dec 7. Rehearsals are Thursdays from 8:30-9:00 and Saturday 12/6 from 10:00-12:00 noon. Please see TJ Rufo-Curran with questions.

NEW! IN THE MARY JO RINES GALLERY – On display through Feb 2, *Personal Space* by Rena Cohen Shear. Meet Rena and learn more about her work on **Sunday, November 30 during fellowship hour** and during a reception in the Gallery on Sunday, December 7, from 2-4pm.

SOCIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE – Tuesday, November 25 at 7:00pm in the Library or on Zoom. To join on Zoom go to: **Zoom.us/join** and enter Meeting ID: **821 0275 3382**

FAMILY DINNER CONNECTIONS – Interested in the First Parish Dinner Connections groups, but concerned about **kid-friendly** menus and running up against bedtime? Then Family Dinner Connections is for you! contact Kate Houston (knaszradi@gmail.com) and Jess Catlin (tajhilliard@gmail.com) to learn more.

RSVP CHRISTMAS PARTY & CAROL SING –**Friday, December 5** at 6:30pm come celebrate the season with us! Come for the Christmas cookies and stay for the carols. RSVP at FirstParishWeston.org/event/christmas-party-2025