

Hope is being able to see there is light despite all of the darkness.

~ Desmond Tutu

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U.

ORDER OF SERVICE

November 30, 2025 A.D.

1st Sunday in Advent

PRELUDE:

Now Come, Savior of the Gentiles

Chorale & two settings: BWV 599, BWV 659

Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685-1750)

*CALL TO WORSHIP: *by the Rev. David C. Pohl*

One: We gather to affirm the unfailing renewal of life.

Many: **Rising from the earth, and reaching for the sun,
all living creatures shall fulfill themselves.**

One: We gather to affirm
the steady growth of human companionship.

Many: **Rising from ancient cradles and reaching for the stars,
people the world over shall seek the ways of understanding.**

One: We gather to affirm a continuing hope.

Many: **Draw us close to your hearth and warm our souls.**

One: That out of every tragedy the spirits of individuals shall rise to
build a better world.

*OPENING HYMN 527 – “For the Fruit of All Creation”

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

(inspired by the Rev. Dr. Howard Thurman)

Gracious God, in the quietness of this sanctuary, and in the subtle presence of what is Holy, our hearts whisper: Keep fresh before us the moments of our high resolve, that in good times or in tempests, we may not forget that to which our lives are committed. Keep fresh before us the moments of our hopes and ideals. Remind us of who we are and who we can be. This we ask in the spirit of your son Jesus who taught us to pray, saying together: Our Father . . .

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR ALL AGES

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: Isaiah 2: 1-4

ANTHEM:

Shout the Glad Tidings

Ned Rorem (1923-2022)

SERMON: "In the Days to Come - Visions of Hope"

Rev. Jeff Barz-Snell

MUSIC MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

OFFERTORY:
Adventi Enek

Zoltan Kodaly (1882-1967)

*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 121 – “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE:
Lord Christ, the Only Son of God

BWV 601 J. S. Bach

Our Greeter this morning is Alice Moylan.

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
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! IN THE MARY JO RINES GALLERY –Meet current gallery artist, Rena, and learn more about her work **during fellowship hour**. There is a special reception in the Gallery on Sunday, December 7, from 2-4pm as well.

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! –Can you help with set up or cleanup for the Christmas Party Dec 5? Interested in **ushering on Christmas Eve**? Please contact the office at admin@firstparishweston.org

DECORATORS UNITE! – Thurs, Dec 4 at 1:00pm come hang wreaths, trim the tree, or **decorate** the Parlor, email Lynn Taff LRT.1@comcast.net to RSVP

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.

FAMILY DINNER CONNECTIONS – Family Dinner Connections features **kid-friendly** menus and bedtime friendly hours. Contact Kate Houston (knaszradi@gmail.com) and Jess Catlin (tajhilliard@gmail.com) to learn more.

CHOIR REHEARSAL – **Choir** rehearses Thursdays 7:30 - 9:00pm. Please contact Music Director TJ Rufo-Curran at tjruf@FirstParishWeston.org and come sing with us!

MITTEN TREE – Nov 30 – Dec 19 We'll have **wishes from families** at the Waltham Boys and Girls Club, along with gift card wishes from The Second Step.

RETIRED MEN'S LUNCH, Tuesday, Dec 2, at Noon in the Library or via Zoom. Coffee and cookies provided. Join us on Zoom; go to: **Zoom.us/join** and enter Meeting ID: **8944 2282 318**

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

COMMUNITY YOGA FLOW – Friday, Dec 5 at 10:00 AM in the Chapel. This all-levels Vinyasa Flow class covers the basics, with options to modify toward an advanced practice. All are welcome!