



Sunday Worship

First Parish

A liberal religious community, welcoming to all

First gathered 1739

**February 9, 2025**

**Worship in the Meetinghouse Sanctuary and Online**

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The sun rose at 6:49am and will set at 5:08pm *in sh'allah*  
bringing us 10 hours, 19 minutes of sunlight,  
17 minutes more than last Sunday.  
The moon is waxing to its fullness on Wednesday.

For Jewish people Wednesday is TuB'Shevat,  
a midwinter celebration of the new year of trees,  
sometimes referred to as "Jewish Earth Day."

For Muslims Friday is Laylat al-Bara'ah,  
or Night of Repentance.  
On this night God is said to grant the forgiveness of sins.

Friday is Valentine's Day  
which began as a Christian feast day  
to honor a Christian martyr named Valentine.

For Buddhists of the Northern tradition  
Saturday is Nirvana Day  
commemorating the death of the Buddha.

## **Sounding of the Chime**

*In the sanctuary silence during the prelude is appreciated.  
Please also silence your cell phones and electronic devices.*

## **Prelude**

*Sanctus*  
Franz Joseph Haydn  
First Parish Choir

## **Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Marta Morris Flanagan, Lead Minister

## **Greeting Your Neighbor**

## **Call to Worship and Chalice Lighting**

Bill Licea Kane, Worship Associate

## **Congregational Affirmation**

We choose to be  
a liberal religious community, welcoming to all.  
We encourage each other on our spiritual journeys,  
support one another through the changes in our lives,  
and challenge the excesses and injustices of our time.  
Called to love and upheld by joy, we live our faith.

Adopted by the members of First Parish Arlington MA  
March 28, 2010

## **Hymn 10**

*Immortal Love*

## Time for All Ages

Rev. Stevie Carmody  
Minister of Religious Education

*As children leave for religious education we sing:*

Go now in peace, go now in peace.  
May the spirit of love surround you  
everywhere, everywhere you may go.

Vayan en paz, vayan en paz  
Pueda el amor rodear los siempre  
por doquier, por doquier que vayan.

Go Now in Peace -- Vayan en paz

Trans. Rev. Lilia Cuervo

Natalie Sleeth

The musical score is written on two staves in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first line of the song, and the second staff contains the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Go now in peace, Gonow in peace. May\_ the\_ spi - rit of  
Va - yan en paz, va-yan en paz, Pue - da el a - mor\_ ro-de -

4  
love sur - round you ev-'ry where, ev-'ry-where, you may go.  
ar\_ los si - em - pre por do-quier, por do-quier, que va - yan.

## Celebrations and Concerns

Julie Garry  
Lay Minister

If moved to do so, you may place a stone  
for a joy or sorrow you are holding in your heart.  
If you write a joy or sorrow on the card available  
at the back of the sanctuary,  
the ordained and lay ministers will hold it  
in their thoughts and prayers.  
If you wish to speak of your joy or sorrow,  
please line up after placing your stone.  
When you are motioned forward,  
speak into the microphone and tell us your name.  
Speak briefly and from your own experience.

## Interlude for the Placing of Stones

*Grace*  
Diane Taraz, soloist

## Prayer and Silent Meditation

Bill Licea-Kane, Worship Associate

## Musical Response

*Amen, Blessed Be*  
Kenneth Seitz, piano

Words: *Amen, Blessed Be. Shalom, Salaam.*

Sung twice by the congregation

Amen, Blessed Be, Shalom, Salaam

Kenneth H. Seitz

A-men, Bles-sed Be, Sha-lom, Sa-laam.

A-men, Bles-sed Be, Sha-lom, Sa-laam.

## Offering

*What Is the Wind?*  
Traditional Scottish song  
Diane Taraz, soloist

*This Sunday half of your offering supports the  
Arlington Youth Counseling Center (AYCC).  
AYCC is the leading provider of  
outpatient and school-based child and adolescent  
mental health services in Arlington.  
AYCC is committed to delivering outstanding,  
equitable and accessible mental health services to  
ensure all youth and families have access to  
culturally sensitive and high-quality care,  
regardless of their ability to pay.*

*The remaining half of your offering supports the  
life and work of this Parish.  
To donate using your smartphone, you may text  
“fpuu offering” to 73256.  
Then follow the directions in the texts you receive.  
If you would like your entire offering to support  
your pledge, indicate “pledge” on your check.*

## Responsive Reading

written by Rev. John Morgan  
lead by Rev. Marta Flanagan

The congregation responds with the words in italics

In the end it won't matter how much we have,

*but how generously we have given.*

It won't matter how much we know,

*but rather how well we live.*

And it won't matter how much we believe,

*but how deeply we love.*

**Hymn 131**

*Love Will Guide Us*

**Sermon**

Rev. Marta Morris Flanagan

**Song 21**

*Life Calls Us On*

**Benediction**

***May faith in the Spirit of Life,  
Hope for the community of Earth,  
and Love of the sacred in one another  
Be ours now and in all the days to come.***

*Saying these words responsively is a custom at  
First Parish. You are invited to take the hand of  
one beside you or place your hand on their shoulder.*

**Postlude**

*Somebody Loves Me*  
George Gershwin  
Kenneth Seitz, piano

*Our postlude is the concluding passage of our  
common worship.  
All are asked to remain seated during the postlude.*

*After worship those in the sanctuary are invited to move  
into the vestry for light refreshments and conversation.*

*If it is 11:30 parents are asked to quietly leave to pick up  
their children from the religious education program.*

## **You Sing My Hymn, I Sing Yours**

Welcome to worship at First Parish- whatever your story, wherever you are on your journey.

In worship we seek both affirmation and challenge, for these are necessary ingredients for spiritual growth and deepening.

We come with different theological and religious orientations, but we do not seek sameness or some common denominator. We engage in worship with open hearts and minds. Our sung and spoken words reflect a range of religious perspectives.

In worship, some elements will touch us deeply, and some will not. Whatever our personal preferences about the elements in any worship service, we say, *You sing my hymn, I sing yours*. In worship we give and receive.

The First Parish Worship Associates  
November 2015

## **First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington**

**[www.firstparish.info](http://www.firstparish.info)**

First Parish is a liberal religious community working toward another way to be and act in our time. As a Unitarian Universalist congregation ([www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org)), we are not bound to any statement of belief or creed but to an aspiration to act in love. We believe personal experience, conscience and reason are final authorities in religion.

A religious education program for children meets during Sunday worship. Children are given the tools with which to answer their religious questions of the world.

To learn more, visit the information table after worship. You can sign up for the weekly E-Bulletin there or by emailing [churchoffice@firstparish.info](mailto:churchoffice@firstparish.info)

First Parish is self governing and supported by members and friends who contribute their time, talent and treasure. The elected Parish Committee (“ParCom”) is the governing board. ParCom can be reached at [Parishexec@firstparish.info](mailto:Parishexec@firstparish.info).

Anne Quaadgras, Chair	John Anderson, Vice-Chair
Joanna Pushee, Clerk	Carolyn Hodges, Treasurer
Jeff Keffer	Steve McMullin
Allan Tosti	Kate Tranquada
Susan Moore	

Staff serve the members, leaders and mission of First Parish.

Rev. Marta Morris Flanagan, *Lead Minister*

Rev. Erica Federspiel Richmond, *Parish Minister (on leave)*

Rev. Tricia Brennan, *Adjunct Minister*

Rev. Stevie Carmody, *Minister of Religious Education*

Daniel Parsley, *Music Director*

Kenneth Seitz, *Director of Music, Emeritus*

Rose Sawyer Marsh, *Youth Program Coordinator*

Bella Jaffe, *Religious Education Assistant*

Ebiere Omoregie, *Office Manager*

Allison Sillers, *Office & Communications Associate*

Jaqueline De Jesus, *Sexton*

Rev. Wendy Page, *Affiliate Minister*

A Unitarian Universalist Welcoming Congregation, First Parish warmly and intentionally welcomes gay, lesbian, bisexual, queer and transgender people.