



Sunday Worship

First Parish

A liberal religious community, welcoming to all

First gathered 1739

February 23, 2025

Stewardship Sunday

Worship in the Meetinghouse Sanctuary and Online

The sun rose at 6:30am and will set at 5:26pm *in sh'allah*
bringing us 10 hours, 56 minutes of sunlight,
19 minutes more than last Sunday.

The moon is waning toward a new moon on Friday.

Ramadan begins Friday night.

During the month of Ramadan

Muslims who are physically able do not eat or drink
from dawn until sunset

in honor of the first revelations to the Prophet Muhammad.

The evening meal is traditionally celebrated with family.

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

Sounding of the Chime

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

Prelude

Bell Fanfare: Perpetual Motion

Raymond H. Haan

First Parish Bell Choir

Jennifer Kobayashi - director

James Fleming

Katherine Fleming

Carolyn Hodges

John Hodges

Andrew Kobayashi

Adam MacNeill

Sanjay Newton

Yanni Peri-Okonny

Welcome and Announcements

Loren Gomez, Worship Associate

Greeting Your Neighbor

Call to Worship and Chalice Lighting

Loren Gomez, 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 149

Lift Every Voice and Sing
Traditionally known as "The Negro National Anthem"

Time for All Ages

Rev. Stevie Carmody
Minister of Religious Education
and Bella Jaffe, Religious Education Assistant

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.

Celebrations and Concerns

Robbie Rinearson
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

Agnus Dei
Franz Josef Haydn
First Parish Choir
Guest conductor Michael Bradley, Boston Arts Academy

Prayer and Silent Meditation

Rev. Tricia Brennan
Adjunct Minister

Musical Response

Amen, Blessed Be
Kenneth Seitz, piano

Words: *Amen, Blessed Be. Shalom, Salaam.*
Sung twice by the congregation

Offering

Music of Life

B.E. Boykin

First Parish Choir

Guest conductor Michael Bradley, Boston Arts Academy

*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
regardless of the 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.*

Song 21

Life Calls Us On

Sermon

Rev. Marta Morris Flanagan

Hymn

We Shall Not Be Moved
African American spiritual and protest song

Voices raised together, we shall not be moved...
We walk this road together, we shall not be moved.
Just like a tree that's planted by the water,
We shall not be moved

We're fighting for our children...

Cis and trans together...

Immigrant and native...

We who serve the public...

Though the tempest rages, we shall not be moved...

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.***

Postlude

“Gearr Riomball” from A Gaelic Offering
Catherine McMichael
C Winds

Robin Baker, Stephanie Franzosa, Emily Kaplan,
Amy Pohl, and Anne Quaadgras, flutes

*Our postlude is the concluding passage of our
common worship.*

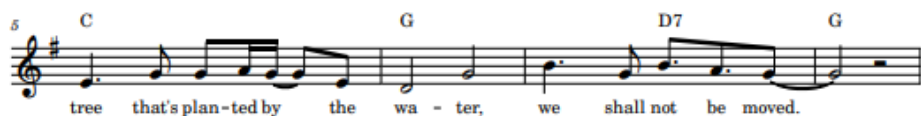
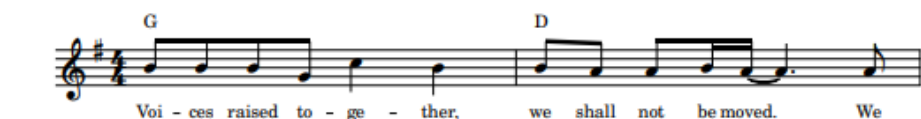
All are asked to remain seated during the postlude.

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

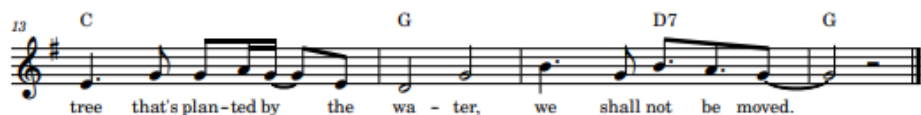
*If it is 11:30 parents are asked to quietly leave to pick up
their children from the religious education program.*

We Shall Not Be Moved

Traditional, arranged by Matthew Sabatella



chorus



First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington

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), 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

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.

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

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.