



First Parish

A liberal religious community, welcoming to all
First gathered 1739

April 20, 2025

Easter Sunday

Worship in the Meetinghouse Sanctuary and Online

*Today is the thirty first day of spring
The sun rose at 5:56am and will set at 7:31pm in sh'allah
bringing us 13 hours, 35 minutes of sunlight,
19 minutes more than last Sunday.
The moon is waning toward a new moon next Sunday.*

For Christians today is Easter.

For Jewish peoples today is the last day of Passover.

*Wednesday at sundown begins Yom HaShoah
a day memorializing the 6 million Jews
who died during the Holocaust.*

*Saturday is Annual Lesbian Visibility Day.
The First Parish Welcoming Congregation Committee
arranges for the blue chalice to burn on the Sundays
before LGBTQ+ holidays and commemoration.*

Sounding of the Chime

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

Prelude

Salvation is Created
Pavel Chesnokov
The Boston University Brass Quintet

Welcome and Announcements

Bill Licea Kane, Worship Associate

Greeting Your Neighbor

Chalice Lighting

Rev. Stevie Carmody
Minister of Religious Education

*The silver bowl we use as our chalice
dates to 1852 and was used by
The First Congregational Church of West Cambridge,
earlier names of First Parish and Arlington, Massachusetts.*

Parking and driving in Arlington today:

The Town of Arlington has scheduled
a Revolutionary War reenactment at 2:00pm.

Between 12:00 and 1:00pm, cars will be
able to exit the vicinity but not enter.

Beginning at 1:00pm Massachusetts Avenue
will be closed to all traffic, entering and exiting.

Antiphonal Reading Maya Angelou, from “Still, I Rise”

*You may write me down in History
With your bitter, twisted lies,
You may trod me in the very dirt
But still like, dust,*

I’ll rise.

*...You may kill me with your hatefulness,
But still, like air,*

I’ll rise.

...Out of the huts of history’s shame

I rise

Up from a past that’s rooted in pain

I rise

*I’m a black ocean, leaping and wide,
Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.
Leaving behind nights of terror and fear*

I rise

Into a daybreak that’s wondrously clear

I rise

*Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,
I am the dream and the hope of the slave.*

I rise

I rise I rise.

Hymn 268

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Traditional Easter Hymn

Traditional lyrics by Charles Wesley 1707-1788

*Children may leave for their religious education programs
during the hymn.*

Reading

Wendell Berry
from “Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front”
read by Rev. Tricia Brennan, Adjunct Minister
and Rev. Marta Flanagan, Lead Minister

*So, friend, every day do something
that won't compute. Love the Lord.
Love the world. Work for nothing.*

Love someone who does not deserve it.
Denounce the government and embrace
The flag. Hope to live in that free
Republic for which it stands....

Ask the questions that have no answers.

...Plant sequoias.
Say that your main crop is the forest
That you did not plant
That you will not live to harvest....

*Be joyful
though you have considered all the facts....*

Practice resurrection.

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

Come to Zion
Arranged by Kevin Siegfried
First Parish Choir

*This Sunday half of the offering supports
Community InRoads,
which consults with and trains nonprofit leaders
in the Haverhill and Lawrence area.*

*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.*

Sermon

Rev. Marta Morris Flanagan

Hymn 220

Bring Out the Festal Bread
Hasidic Folk Song

The hymn tune GILU HAGALILIM, is folk song of Eastern European origin, most likely from the Hasidic Jewish tradition. It became more well known after settlers arrived in Israel after World War I and brought their traditional music with them. It is sometimes referred to as “the joyful minor” as the song is energetic and jubilant but set in a minor key. GILU HAGALILIM roughly translates as glee reigns in Galilee.

Communion

Introduction

*First Parish has no creedal tests for involvement.
Our communion is an open table. All are welcome.*

*We each bring our own interpretations of the sharing
of bread and wine. Our blessing is a translation of the
Hebrew spoken every Friday Shabbat in Jewish homes.*

*The elements of our communion are matzah and grape
juice. If you wish to partake, line up in the center aisles.
After receiving, place your used cups in the available
basket and return to your seats by the side aisles.*

Invocation for Communion

Spirit of Life, we behold these gifts:
light and drink and bread, the fruits of creation.

Congregation in bold:

Awaken us to the bounty of creation.

Spirit of Love,
we have each been filled with the breath of life
still we know deep longings.

**Strengthen our resolve,
nurture our passions,
feed our deep hungers.**

Spirit of Goodness,
we trip and stumble.

**Call us to examine our faithfulness
to the promises we keep with creation,
to the promises we keep with others,
and to the promises we keep with ourselves.**

In the lifting of a glass
we renew a promise made long ago.

In the tasting of bread
help us to know the wonder of being.

Let us begin anew.

Blessing of Fruit of the Vine and Bread of the Earth

Sharing of the Elements

Musical Interludes

Ave Verum
W.A. Mozart
First Parish Choir

Will Thou Forgive?
Todd Marchand
The Boston University Brass Quintet

Hymn 61

Lo the Earth Awakes Again
Traditional Easter Hymn
less traditional lyrics by Samuel Longfellow (1819-1892)

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

I Vow to Thee
Todd Marchand
The Boston University Brass Quintet

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

Easter Tulips are given

In memory of **Joseph Lyle Baldwin**,
father and grandfather of Pamela, Genevieve, and Louisa,
by Pamela Baldwin



In loving memory of **Joanne Carlin Bradley**
and **Lorna Carlin Shinn**,
by Liz Bradley

To honor my wonderful parents,
Helen and Anthony Castrucci
and mother-in-law **Mary Quick**,
by Logan Castrucci

In honor of the **Parish Committee Chair**,
by David Dreyfus

For **Marta**, by Charlie Dufffy

In memory of **Constance Duncan & Albertina Garvey**,
by Nina Duncan

In memory of **the Dyers in heaven**,
by Judy Dyer

In memory of **the Ryan family in heaven**,
by Judy Dyer

For **Maggie Carey**, for some cheer, by Jill Fekete

In memory of her parents, **Erwin and Erica Grimmeisen**,
by Peggy Gardiner

In memory of his parents, **Bill and Florance Gardiner**,
by Bill Gardiner

In honor of my brother, **Phil Gomez**, by Loren Gomez

In Memory of **George Comptis**, beloved Uncle of Jo Guthrie,
by Jo Guthrie

In Memory of **Cary Bonner**, Great Aunt of Jo Guthrie
(who almost made it to 101!),
by Jo Guthrie

In Memory of **Dave Policar**,
much loved friend of Jo Guthrie (miss you still),
by Jo Guthrie

In honor of **Alice Hunter**, much loved godling of Jo Guthrie,
in congratulations for so many milestones this year,
by Jo Guthrie

In honor of **Elizabeth & Jason**,
theatrical co-conspirators of Jo Guthrie,
who are tempting fate one more time,
by Jo Guthrie

For **all those who teach, mentor, advise, and guide
the youth of our beloved community**,
by Christa Kelleher

In honor of **Rev Marta Flanagan**, by Tish Miller

In Honor of the **Yerrinton Sisters**,
twins birthday and their piano here in church,
by Jean Nagle

In memory of **Jean B. Pillemer**,
by Stephen Pillemer

To honor my father **Grady Quick**
who guides me from the stars,
by Sarah Quick

In memory of **Dana Rasmussen**,
by Helen Rasmussen

In honor of **Nancy McKersie**,
by Bob McKersie

In honor of my parents, **Chris and Sharon Rieder**,
by Lindsey Rieder

In memory of **Alice Di Cesare**, loving mother and močiūtė,
by Frank Snyder Di Cesare

For **Sara Galantowicz & Katherine Fleming**
from the Stewardship Committee.

Thank you for all of your help coordinating
the congregational lunch and pancake breakfast!



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's Mission

First Parish is committed to inward spiritual growth, side by side companionship of one another, and turning outward in our work in the world.

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

This weekend
marks the 250th anniversary of the start of
the American Revolution.

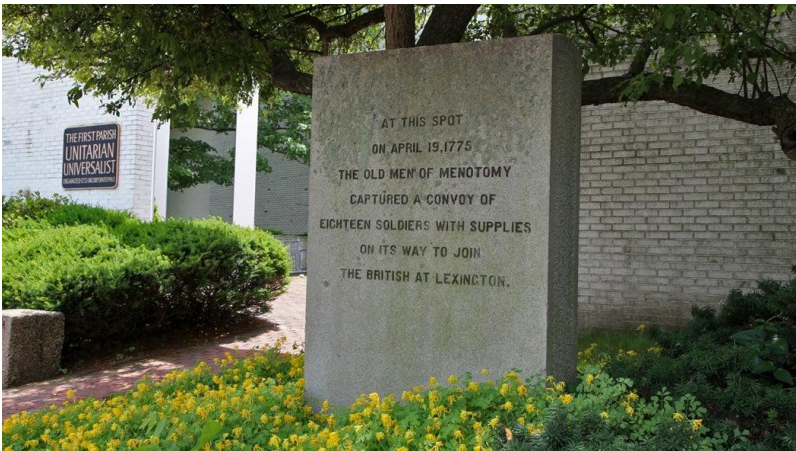
In 1775 in Menotomy, or what is present day Arlington,
British troops came under fire as they were retreating from
Lexington and Concord.

At least 21 colonial combatants and 40 British soldiers
were killed in and around the Jason Russell House,
a block from the First Parish Meetinghouse.

Among those killed were at least 3 First Parish members:

Jason Russell
Jason Winship
Jabez Wyman.

Then minister Rev. Samuel Cooke
was an outspoken patriot and served as chaplain
to the local company of Menotomy minutemen.



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.