

*The good we secure for ourselves is precarious and uncertain
until it is secured for all of us and incorporated into our common life.*

– Jane Addams (1860-1935. Recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize - 1931)

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U.

ORDER OF SERVICE

May 29, 2022 A.D.

Sixth Sunday after Easter

Memorial Day Sunday

PRELUDE

Variations on “America”
Take My Hand, Precious Lord

Charles Wesley (1757-1834)
Thomas Dorsey (1899-1993)

“(Thomas Dorsey’s) wife Nettie died in childbirth, then 24 hours later, their son. His grief prompted him to write one of his most famous and enduring compositions, “Take My Hand, Precious Lord.” Notably, [this song] was the favorite song of Martin Luther King Jr., who asked Dorsey to play it for him on the eve of his assassination, Mahalia Jackson sang it at his funeral.”

*CALL TO WORSHIP – The Idea of Democracy, Abraham Lincoln, 1854 (adapted)

One: As labor is the common burden of our race,
so the effort of some to shift their share of the burden
onto the shoulders of others is the
great, durable curse of the race.

Many: **As we would not be a slave, so we would not be a master.**

One: This expresses my idea of democracy. What differs from this,
to the extent of the difference, is no democracy.

Many: **Our reliance is in our love for liberty;
our defense is in the spirit which prizes liberty
as the heritage of all people in all lands everywhere.**

One: Why should there not be a patient confidence
in the ultimate justice of the people?
Is there any better or equal hope in the world?

Many: **Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith
let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it.**

*HYMN 532 – “O Beautiful for Spacious Skies” (verses 1-3) (see insert)

Minister: The Peace of God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*THE PEACE

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER (by Jacob Trapp, adapted)

We turn to Thee, O Light and Life of humankind, for in thy light alone may we see the right and find the good.

In this house of light, we remember those whose lives are darkened by the greed and wrong of others. We have not purged the commerce of our times of those harsh ways that hinder the hopes and dreams of many.

In this house of peace we remember wars and rumors of wars. We have made but feeble effort to understand the peoples of the world and to foster peace among the nations.

In this house of joy we remember all sorrowing and troubled folk. Let us here be gathered into a common power of good will which shall issue in lasting peace and larger right.

This we ask in the name of your son Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying together: Our Father . . .

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE

Bob Bridges and Cindy DuBose

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSIC MEDITATION (and dismissal to children's program)

READING: Psalm 130 *A Song of Lamentation*

ANTHEM

“Choose Something Like a Star”
from *Frostiana*

words: Robert Frost
(1874-1963)
music: Randall Thompson
(1899-1984)

SERMON: “On Forming a More Perfect Union”

Rev. Jeff Barz-Snell

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

“God be in My Head”

John Rutter (b. 1945)

PASTORAL PRAYER, followed by a moment of silence

ORGAN RESPONSE

OFFERTORY

“Alleluia”
TJ Rufo-Curran, conducting

Randall Thompson

This piece premiered on July 8, 1940 at the Berkshire Music Center (now the Tanglewood Music Center), summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra in Lenox, MA

*HYMN 533 – “O God, Beneath Thy Guiding Hand” (see insert)

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

“May Love Be Your Guide”

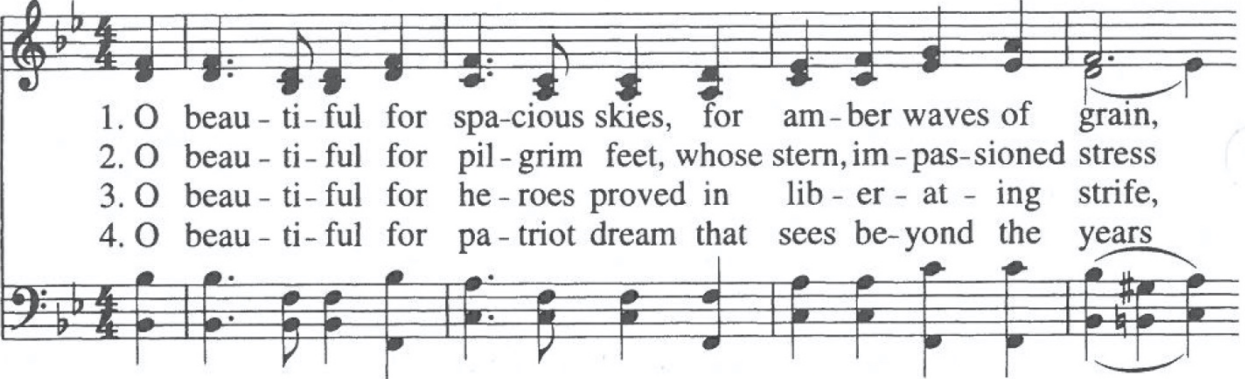
Clif Hardin (2002)

POSTLUDE

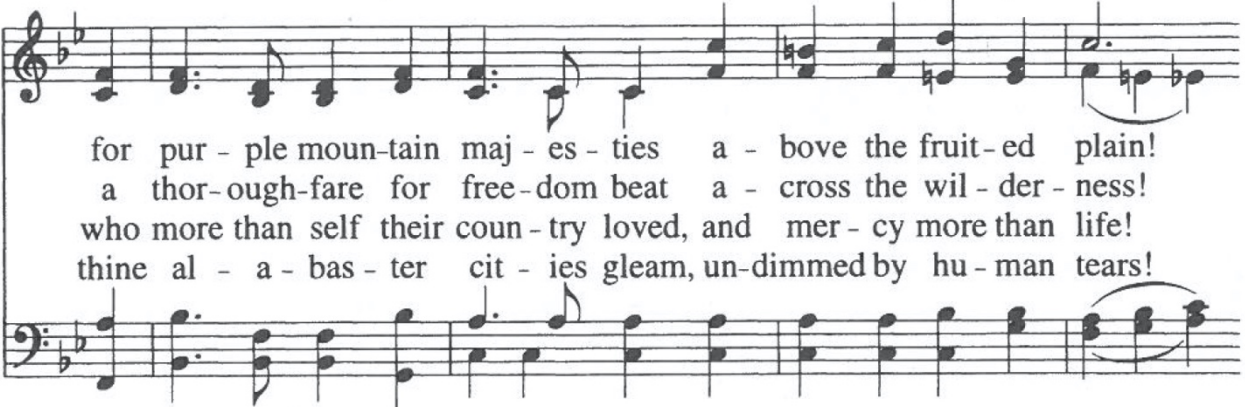
Postlude

Horatio Parker (1863-1919)

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies



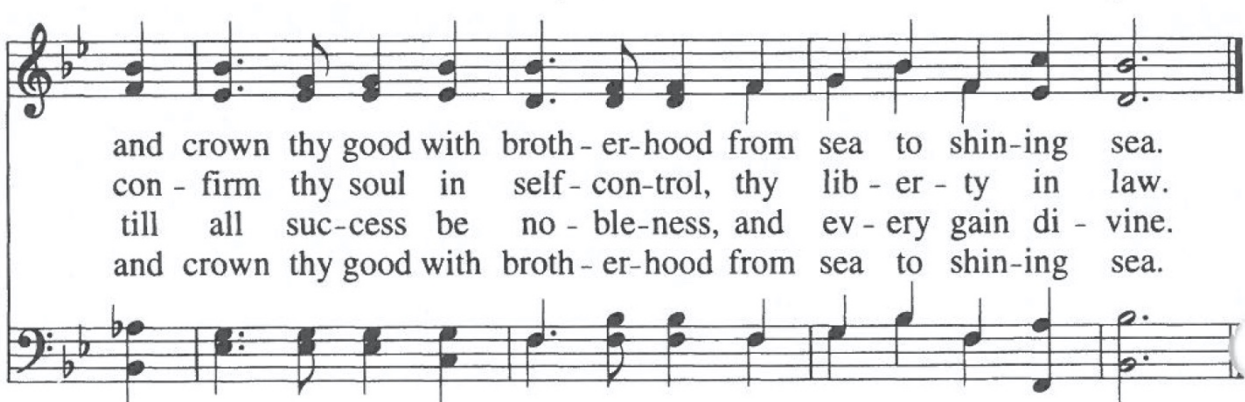
1. O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
2. O beau - ti - ful for pil - grim feet, whose stern, im - pas - sioned stress
3. O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
4. O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years



for pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain!
a thor - ough - fare for free - dom beat a - cross the wil - der - ness!
who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life!
thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears!



A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed all grace on thee,
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed all grace on thee,



and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.
till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, and ev - ery gain di - vine.
and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.

WORDS: Katharine Lee Bates, 1893, alt.
MUSIC: Samuel Augustus Ward, 1882

MATERNA
CMD

Bates, who headed the English department at Wellesley, wrote this hymn on viewing the sunrise from the summit of Pikes Peak. The 'alabaster cities' is the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago.

O God, Beneath Thy Guiding Hand

1. O God, be - neath thy guid - ing hand
2. Thou heard'st, well - pleased, the song, the prayer;
3. Laws, free - dom, truth, and faith in God
4. And here thy name, O God of love,

those ex - iled pil - grims crossed the sea,
thy bless - ing came, and still its power
car - ried those ex - iles o'er the waves,
their chil - dren's chil - dren shall a - dore,

and when they trod the win - try strand,
shall on - ward through all a - ges bear
and where their pil - grim feet have trod,
till these e - ter - nal hills re - move,

with prayer and psalm they wor - shiped thee.
the mem - ory of that ho - ly hour.
the God they trust - ed guards their graves.
and spring a - dorns the earth no more.

WORDS: Leonard Bacon, 1838, alt.

MUSIC: Attr. John Hatton, c. 1793

DUKE STREET
LM

Bacon, born at Fort Detroit, Old Northwest Territory, son of missionaries to the Indians, was the epitome of the Congregational social reformer – a tireless worker for ending slavery, but also a reconciler and a diplomatic statesman with inclusive views.

Our Greeter today is Sue Newbury
and ushers are Anne Morgan and Peter Knight.

First Parish Church has long welcomed people with different perspectives, backgrounds, and orientations. As a newly approved Welcoming Congregation, we happily welcome all people as part of our 21st century community and church. We hope you will fill out the Welcome card in the pew rack and put it in the collection plate, then join us for some refreshment and fellowship in the Parish Hall after worship.

STAFF

Minister	Rev. Jeffrey Barz-Snell
Minister of Families & Community Outreach:	Rev. Sarah Napoline
Youth & Family Ministry Coordinator:	Robert Jones
Choir Director:	William C. Sano
Organist:	Geoffrey Wieting
Choir Section Leaders:	Ben Doyle, Rose Hegele, Connor Lee, TJ Rufo-Curran
Parish Administrator:	Betsy Gibson
Sexton:	Alan Flynn
Fellowship Hour Coordinator	Paula Leger
Video Production Team:	Jonah Barz-Snell, Max Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

KNITTERS & STITCHERS WILL NOT MEET TOMORROW, MAY 30 but we invite you to join in on June 6 at noon in the Parlor.

FPCW SOCIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE – TUESDAY, MAY 31, AT 7:00 PM. We'll meet virtually via Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86132382491>; Meeting ID: 8613 2382 491

WEEKLY VIRTUAL WEDNESDAY MEDITATION AT 8:30 AM – Newcomers and beginners welcome!
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82932848257>; Member ID: 8293 2848 257

NO CHOIR REHEARSAL ON THURSDAY, JUNE 2 – enjoy the summer off but please remember to turn in any music you may have at home or in your car by Sunday, June 5!

ROBERT DANFORTH MEMORIAL SERVICE, SATURDAY, JUNE 4, AT 2:00 PM in the Sanctuary. A reception in the Parish Hall will follow the service.

NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 5 – Church Picnic, Bill Sano Retirement Party, and Lawn Games & Lemonade, all after worship. Sign up in the Breezeway or contact Betsy in the Church Office. Needed most: your favorite picnic sides; chips and desserts are pretty well covered.

NEW BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP TO MEET – Join Jeff Barz-Snell and others on Tuesday, June 7, at 4:00 pm in the Library. This new group is open to anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one and would find it helpful to share their experience with others. It does not have to be a recent loss - grief takes time to process and no two people go through it in the exact same way or on the same timeline. We invite you to share this information with others who might find it helpful.

SERVICES COMING UP IN JUNE:

- June 5 – Outdoor Worship Service (weather permitting)
- June 11 – Memorial Service for Bill Oliver, 11:00 am, in the Sanctuary
- June 12 – Flower Communion Sunday – Bring a flower to church!
- June 19 – Question Box Sunday - Do you have any item or subject that you would like to see addressed from the pulpit? Well, here's your chance. The Question Box is ready and waiting. Feel free to email Jeff Barz-Snell or place your question in the box sitting on the table in the Breezeway. Jeff will offer a sermon based on questions submitted by members and friends of First Parish. He was inspired to do this by Tom Wintle's similar longstanding practice. No question is too big or too small...
- June 26 – GA Sunday