

It's not a person's mistakes which define them - it's the way they make amends.

– Freya North, *Chances*

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U.

ORDER OF SERVICE

September 24, 2023 A.D.

The 17th Sunday after Pentecost / 9th of Tishrei, 5784 / Yom Kippur (at sunset)
Stewardship Sunday

PRELUDE	from Six Pieces for the Organ, Op. 50 Pater Noster (Our Father) Offertory	Arthur Foote (1853-1937)
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CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come into this place of peace and let its silence heal your spirit;

Many: **Come into this place of memory
and let its history warm your soul;**

One: Come into this place of prophecy and power

Many: **and let its vision change your heart.**

INTRODUCTION TO “ONE OF MY FAVORITE HYMNS”

Jim Metcalf

*OPENING HYMN – “The Spacious Firmament on High” (*see insert*)

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 FOLLOWED BY LORD'S PRAYER

Gracious Mystery both beyond and within our lives, we enter your presence with thanksgiving and hope. You have called us to be your people. You beckon us on the journey of life through valleys, upon mountains, and on the plains. We set our attention and seek your wisdom, encouragement, and grace. Reveal your will and help us find our center as we strive to find ways to mend the Creation and serve you in this life. This we ask in the name of your servant Jesus, who taught us to pray saying: Our Father...

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE

Megan and Annabelle Scott

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Sarah Napoline

MUSIC MEDITATION

SCRIPTURE: I Samuel 3: 1-9 *The Calling of Samuel*

*HYMN – “We Gather Together to Support First Parish” (*see insert*)

SERMON

Anne Morgan, Chair of the Stewardship Committee
Rev. Jeff Barz-Snell

ANTHEM:

“At the River”

Aaron Copland
(1900-1990)

PASTORAL PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE

OFFERTORY

“Ching-A-Ring Chaw”

Aaron Copland

*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.**

*CLOSING HYMN 407 – “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

William Mathias
(1934-1992)

“We Gather Together”

Sung to the music of Hymn 23, *Hymns of Truth and Light*,

by an unknown 16th century Dutch composer,
with alternative lyrics written in 2016 by Linda Kilburn
in support of the annual Stewardship Campaign.

We gather together this day for First Parish
To nurture her health as her future unfolds;
 To strengthen her coffers
 With generous offers
Of talent and treasure and hands to enfold.

Our worship inspires us to make a commitment;
Our music ascends to the rafters above.
 We stand here for justice,
 For teaching and for outreach.
This parish does surround us with caring and love.

Our journeys of faith brought us here to First Parish.
Our spirits uplifted with God at our core.
 As these walls surround us,
 And faith . . . sustains and grounds us,
May we each do our part, so our mission may soar.

"The Spacious Firmament on High"

JOSEPH ADDISON, 1712

FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN, 1798

1. The spa-cious fir - ma - ment on high, With all the blue e -
2. Soon as the eve - ning shades pre -vail The moon takes up the
3. What though in sol - emn si - lence all Move round the dark ter -

the - real sky, And spangled heav'ns, a shin - ing frame, Their great O -
won - drous tale, And night - ly to the list - 'ning earth Re - peats the
res - trial ball? What tho' no re - al voice nor sound A - mid their

rig - i - nal pro - claim. Th' un - wea - ried sun from day to day
sto - ry of her birth; Whilst all the stars that round her burn,
ra - diant orbs be found? In rea - son's ear they all re - joice

Does his Cre - a - tor's pow'r dis - play, And pub - lish - es to
And all the plan - ets in their turn, Con - firm the tid - ings
And ut - ter forth a glo - rious voice, For - ev - er sing - ing

ev 'ry land The work . . of an . . . al - might - y hand.
as they roll, And spread . . the truth . . from pole to pole.
as they shine, 'The hand . . that made . . us is di - vine.' A - MEN

Our Greeter this morning is Beanie Marvel.

First Parish Church has long welcomed people with different perspectives, backgrounds, and orientations. As a Welcoming Congregation in the Unitarian Universalist Association, we happily welcome all people as part of our 21st century community and church. We hope you will introduce yourself to the Ministers and join us for grilled cheese sandwiches and fellowship in the Parish Hall after the service.

STAFF

Minister:	Rev. Jeffrey Barz-Snell
Asst. Minister of Families & Community Outreach:	Rev. Sarah Napoline
Youth and Family Ministries Coordinator:	Robert Jones
Interim Choir Director:	TJ Rufo Curran
Organist:	Geoffrey Wieting
Choir Section Leaders:	Nathaniel Bear
	Benjamin Doyle
	Rose Hegele
	Nathan Savant
Parish Administrator:	Betsy Gibson
Sexton:	Alan Flynn
Fellowship Coordinator:	Paula Leger
Video Production Staff:	Hussein Al-Masarani

ANNOUCEMENTS

NEW AT FPCW: GRILLED CHEESE FELLOWSHIP HOUR – Today After Worship!

SOCIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE, Tuesday, Sept. 26, 7:15 pm in the Library or via Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83781303906>/Meeting ID 8378 1303 906

BRISTOL LODGE SUPPER, Wednesday, Sept. 27, Noon-1:30 pm in the Kitchen – We still need one recipe of chicken filling, cheddar cheese, and potato salad. Please contact Ellen Touart-Grob (etouartgrob@gmail.com) or Betsy Gibson in the Church Office if you can fill in one of the missing pieces to this meal.

FPCW BOOK GROUP, Thursday, Sept. 28, 9:30 in the Library or via Zoom.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89058754028>/Meeting ID 8905 8754 028

METROWEST CLIMATE SOLUTIONS PRESENTATION, Thursday, Sept. 28, 7:00-9:00 pm in the Parlor or via Zoom: **<https://tinyurl.com/MetroWestWebinar9-28-23>**

LAWN GAMES & LEMONADE, Saturday, Sept. 30, Noon-3:00 pm – This is a fun, festival-style community event for with games, music, and refreshments, including fresh-squeezed lemonade and popcorn.

BLESSING OF ANIMALS, OCT. 1 – We invite you to bring your beloved animals to our Blessing of the Animals service. All friendly, housebroken, and well-behaved animals are welcome! We also encourage people to bring photos of beloved companions who have died and wait across the “Rainbow Bridge.” We have done this service both indoors AND outdoors (weather permitting); check the website to dress appropriately. Worship format will be a little different, so stay tuned for any *fur-ther* details!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ONE-TIME TASKS:

- October 1 – If service is held outdoors, Jeff needs a couple of people to help bring equipment in after worship.
- For October 8 – The worship service will include communion and we are looking for someone to make the bread – simple recipe provided.

If you could lend a hand for either of these, please e-mail Jeff (jeffbarzsnell@firstparishweston.org)

SLIDE SHOW PRESENTATION: VISIT TO PARTNER CHURCH – Sun, Oct 1, 11:50 AM in the Parlor during Fellowship Hour. Nine First Parishioners and friends took part in a trip last May to our Partner Church in Torda, Romania. Some of the oldest Unitarian churches in the world are in that region of Western Romania. With the leadership of Larry Coburn, Dirk Coburn, and others, we have enjoyed a “sister church” relationship with the Unitarian Church in Torda since 1991. Join Jeff Barz-Snell and other members from the trip for a brief slideshow and talk about our visit and hear more about how this friendship with a church in another part of the world enriches and inspires our work here. [**https://tinyurl.com/TordaTripSlideShow**](https://tinyurl.com/TordaTripSlideShow)

SAVE THE DATE FOR PANCAKE BREAKFAST, OCT. 15 – Enjoy a nice hot breakfast with all the fixings in the Parish Hall before worship. We do need some volunteers! Contact the Church Office or Robert Jones (RJones@FirstParishWeston.org) for more info.

H.S. YOUTH GROUP – Meetings will start on October 22, 9:15 to 10:20 AM on the second and fourth Sundays of the month unless otherwise noted.

Need more info? Visit [**www.FirstParishWeston.org**](http://www.FirstParishWeston.org) or contact the Church Office to receive our weekly electronic newsletter.