

*If you want peace, you don't talk to your friends. You talk to your enemies.  
~ Desmond Tutu*

*Love alone is capable of uniting living beings in such a way  
as to complete and fulfill them,  
for it alone takes them and joins them by what is deepest in themselves.  
~ Pierre Teilhard de Chardin*

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U.  
ORDER OF SERVICE  
October 22, 2023 A.D.  
The 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE	Organ Sonata No. 2, Op. 75 No. 2 I Grave II Adagio	Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
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CALL TO WORSHIP

- One: Into this hour we bring our hunger for awakening  
Many: **Into this hour, we bring our thirst for connection.**  
One: Into this space, we bring our yearning for justice  
and desire to serve a greater purpose.  
Many: **Into this space we bring our courage to walk on after hard losses.  
We bring our joy and gratitude for ordinary blessings.**  
One: Let this gathering touch our souls  
so we come away reassured and refreshed.  
Many: **May we find ourselves reconnected and renewed  
and inspired to make a difference.**

\* HYMN – “Here We Have Gathered” (*see insert*)

Minister: The Peace of God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

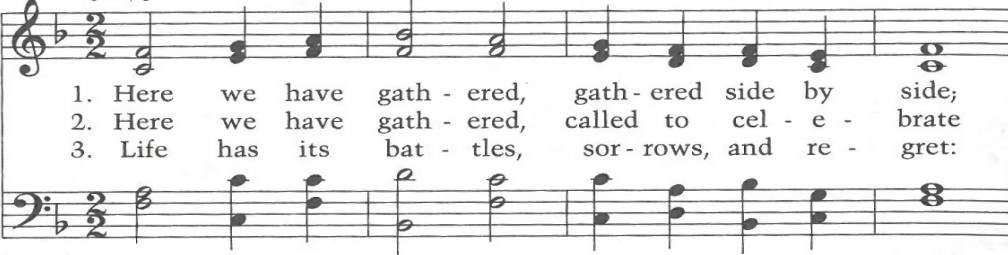
\*EXCHANGE OF PEACE AND WELCOME

CHURCH COVENANT:

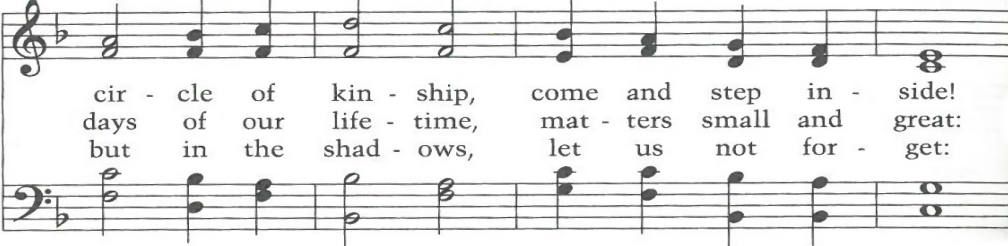
**In the love of truth, and the spirit of Jesus Christ,  
we join for the worship of God and service to humankind.**

# Here We Have Gathered

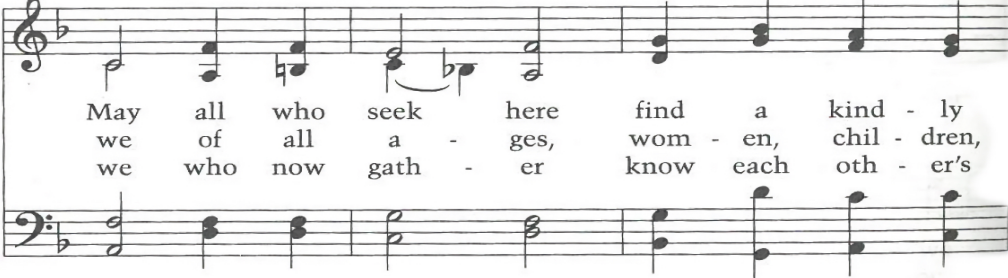
$\text{♩} = 76$



1. Here we have gath - ered, gath - ered side by side,  
2. Here we have gath - ered, called to cel - e - brate  
3. Life has its bat - tles, sor - rows, and re - gret:



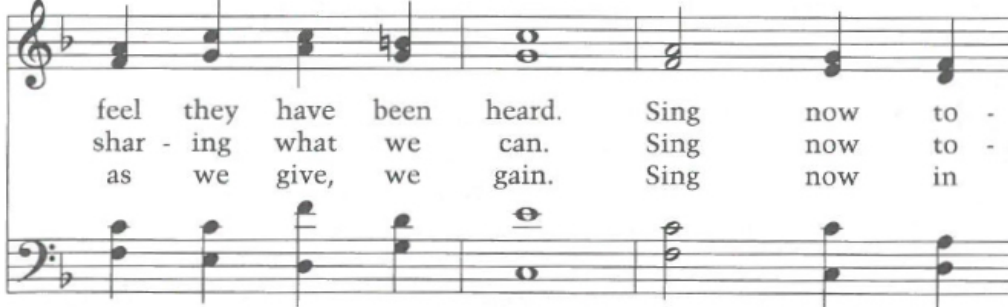
cir - cle of kin - ship, come and step in - side!  
days of our life - time, mat - ters small and great:  
but in the shad - ows, let us not for - get:



May all who seek here find a kind - ly  
we of all a - ges, wom - en, chil - dren,  
we who now gath - er know each oth - er's



word; may all who speak here  
men, in - fants and sa - ges,  
pain; kind - ness can heal us:



feel they have been heard. Sing now to -  
shar - ing what we can. Sing now to -  
as we give, we gain. Sing now in



geth - er this, our hearts' own song.  
geth - er this, our hearts' own song.  
friend - ship this, our hearts' own song.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER FOLLOWED BY LORD'S PRAYER

**Great Mystery both beyond and within our lives, forgive us for all the ways our hearts have been hardened. Forgive us for every time we chose to reflect the ways, attitudes, and values of this world rather than your kingdom. Forgive us for turning away from the brokenness of our world when it becomes too uncomfortable. Forgive us for being timid when you empower us to be bold, for being resigned when you have created us to be resolute, for being complicit when you have charged us to be transformative. Help us to walk in your image and your path of righteousness, courageousness, and loving kindness. This we ask in the name of your son Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying together, Our Father...**

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE

Cindy & Kurt Flory

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Sarah Napoline

MUSIC MEDITATION, and dismissal to Religious Education

READING: Leviticus 25: 13-24     *Providing for the Redemption of the Land*

ANTHEM:                      Laudate Pueri, Op. 39, No. 2"

Felix Mendelssohn

SERMON: "On Beliefs, Community and Fostering Peace"

Rev. Jeff Barz-Snell

MUSIC MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER, followed by a moment of silence

CHORIAL RESPONSE

OFFERTORY

Exsultati Justi

Lodovico da Viadana  
(1560-1627)

\*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 520 – "Restless Weaver"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Organ Sonata No. 2, Op 65 No.2  
III Allegro maestoso e vivace

Felix Mendelssohn

Our Greeter this morning is Sue Newbury.

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 a time of 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

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE INVITE EVERYONE to a time of fellowship and refreshment in the Parish Hall following the service. The Standing Committee will share results from last year's Music Discernment Survey in the Parlor.

KNITTERS & STITCHERS will meet tomorrow, Oct. 23, at noon in the Parlor.

SOCIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE, Tuesday, Oct. 24, at 7:15 pm in the Library or via Zoom:

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83781303906> / Meeting ID: 8378 1303 906**

WEDNESDAY MORNING MEDITATION – Join us virtually on Zoom at 8:30 am each week for a time of reflection and renewal! Beginner or experienced - all are welcome!

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83090765817> / Meeting ID: 8309 0765 817**

OCTOBER BRISTOL LODGE SUPPER – WEDNESDAY, OCT. 25. Prep in the FPCW Kitchen from Noon – 1:30 pm. We still need 15 lbs. of green beans (steamed/roasted) and 75 clementines. Disposable pans are in the Breezeway. Please be in touch with Ellen Touart-Grob or Betsy Gibson for more details and/or to tell us how you plan to help this important effort.

FPCW BOOK GROUP, THURSDAY, OCT. 26, at 9:30 am in the Library and via Zoom. We'll discuss *The Good Life*, by Marc Schulz and Robert J. Waldinger, and FPCW's Common Read for this year. There are two copies in the church library for borrowing.

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89058754028> / Meeting ID: 8905 8754 028**

HARVEST FEST & TRUNK OR TREAT, SUNDAY, OCT. 29 AFTER WORSHIP – Bring your little ghouls, goblins, and superheroes/heroines for an afternoon of fun! Parishioners' cars with festive Halloween decorations will hold surprises for kids to "trick or treat" around the parking lot. Costumes are encouraged for all!

MUSICIANS OF THE OLD POST ROAD PRESENTS *Cascading Baroque Passion: Music of Vivaldi, Jacques de la Guerre and Others Inspired by Water*. Two dates: Sat. Oct. 28 at 4:00 pm at Old South Church in Boston and Sunday, Oct. 29, at 4:00 at First Parish in Sudbury. Concerts will also be streamed. For more info and tickets, go to: <https://www.oldpostroad.org/>

NEXT COMMUNITY YOGA FLOW CLASS – FRIDAY, NOV. 3, AT 10:00 AM IN THE PARISH HALL. This free class with Sarah Napoline is open to anyone; invite a friend!

ARTIST RECEPTION WITH ANNE-CATHERINE HIGHAM, SUNDAY, NOV. 5, from 3:00-5:00 pm in the Rines Gallery. Enjoy the opportunity to enjoy the artwork and learn more about it from the artist.

METROWEST CLIMATE SOLUTIONS PRESENTS: "Proposed Specialized Energy Codes for Weston" on Thursday, Nov. 9, at 7:00 pm, In-Person at First Parish or via Zoom. Panelists will give a brief overview of the proposed new energy codes for new construction and why this should be approved at Town Meeting on Tues, Nov. 28. To register to attend by Zoom go to: **[www.MetroWestClimateSolutions.org](http://www.MetroWestClimateSolutions.org)**

2ND ANNUAL WALLET-FRIENDLY WINE CHALLENGE, FRIDAY, NOV. 17TH. Wine tasting stations and hors d'oeuvres await your presence as you determine the best bottle of wine under \$30, just in time for holiday gatherings. Sign up to be a contestant or an attendee/judge. Visit **[FirstParishWeston.org/event/wallet-friendly-wine-2023](http://FirstParishWeston.org/event/wallet-friendly-wine-2023)** for more info or sign up as a contestant or attendee/judge by contacting Robert Jones – **[rjones@FirstParishWeston.org](mailto:rjones@FirstParishWeston.org)**