



Sunday Worship

First Parish

A liberal religious community, welcoming to all

First gathered 1739

**November 24, 2024**

**Worship in the Meetinghouse Sanctuary and Online**

The sun rose at 6:47am and will set at 4:16pm *in sh'allah*  
bringing us 9 hours, 30 minutes of sunlight,  
13 minutes less than last Sunday.

The moon is waning toward a new moon  
on Sunday December 1.

❧ **Thanksgiving Sunday** ❧

**Sounding of the Chime**

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

**Prelude**

*Affectionately*  
Rudolf Friml  
Kenneth Seitz, piano

## **Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Erica Federspiel Richmond, Parish Minister

## **Celebrating the Fair!**

## **Greeting Your Neighbor**

## **Call to Worship and Chalice Lighting**

Rev. Stevie Carmody, Minister of Religious Education

## **Unison 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 349**

*We Gather Together*

*Children leave for religious education as we sing  
the final verse of Hymn 349*

## **Words from our Lead Minister**

Rev. Marta Morris Flanagan

## Prayer and Silent Meditation

Mary Breen  
Worship Associate

## Musical Response

*Amen, Blessed Be*  
Kenneth Seitz, piano

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

Amen, Blessed Be, Shalom, Salaam

Kenneth H. Seitz

The musical notation is written on two staves in 3/4 time, with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive. The first staff ends with a fermata over the final note, and the second staff ends with a double bar line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

A-men, Bles-sed Be, Sha - lom, Sa - laam..

A - men, Bles-sed Be, Sha - lom, Sa - laam.

## Offering

*Deep River*

H.T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

Sergio Savala, FP Choral Scholar

Ethan McGrath, Collaborative Pianist

*This Sunday half of your offering supports*

*Resource Organizing Project.*

*ROP collaborates with and provides training to*

*justice and liberation organizations*

*in New England.*

*ROP is endorsed by the*

*Reparations Interfaith Coalition*

*and the Episcopal Dioceses.*

*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.*

*Then follow the directions in the texts you receive.*

*If you would like your entire offering to support*

*your pledge, indicate “pledge” on your check.*

## **Sermon**

Rev. Erica Richmond

## **Anthem**

*We Have Tomorrow*

Florence Price (1887-1953)

Sergio Savala, FP Choral Scholar

Ethan McGrath, Collaborative Pianist

Words by Langston Hughes

*We have tomorrow*

*Bright before is*

*Like a flame*

*Yesterday*

*A night-gone thing,*

*A sun-down name.*

*And dawn to-day*

*Broad arch above the road we came.*

## **Song 20**

*Open Table*

*Children return to the sanctuary as we sing Song 20*

## **A Cornbread Sharing**

Rev. Marta Flanagan

Rev. Erica Richmond

Rev. Stevie Carmody

## **Hymn 69**

*Give Thanks*

## **Benediction**

Rev. Marta Flanagan

***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**

*Holiday Dance*  
Kenneth Seitz  
Kenneth Seitz, piano

*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.*

*Following worship you are invited to attend a discussion  
in the sanctuary about this week's announcement that our  
Lead Minister is retiring in 2025.*

## **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 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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*

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.