



Sunday Worship

First Parish

A liberal religious community, welcoming to all

First gathered 1739

January 5, 2025

Worship in the Meetinghouse Sanctuary and Online

The sun rose at 7:14am and will set at 4:26pm *in sh'allah*
bringing us 9 hours, 12 minutes of sunlight,
6 minutes more than last Sunday.

The moon is waxing to the first quarter
on Monday January 6.

In the Christian calendar, tomorrow is
Epiphany, also known as Three Kings Day.

Sounding of the Chime

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

Prelude

Looking Ahead
Kenneth Seitz
Kenneth Seitz, piano

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Erica Federspiel Richmond, Parish Minister

Greeting Your Neighbor

Call to Worship and Chalice Lighting

Rev. Marta Morris Flanagan, Lead Minister

Hymn 350

The Ceaseless Flow of Endless Time

Time for All Ages

Rev. Stevie Carmody
Minister of Religious Education
and Winter Term volunteer teachers

As children leave for religious education we sing:

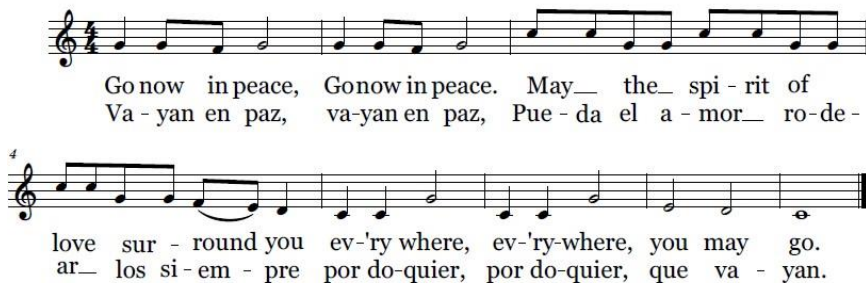
Go now in peace, go now in peace.
May the spirit of love surround you
everywhere, everywhere you may go.

Vayan en paz, vayan en paz
Pueda el amor rodear los siempre
por doquier, por doquier que vayan.

Go Now in Peace -- Vayan en paz

Trans. Rev. Lilia Cuervo

Natalie Sleeth



The musical notation is written on two staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the staff, with some words underlined. The second staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The melody continues with eighth and quarter notes, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics continue below the staff.

Go now in peace, Gonow in peace. May_ the_ spi - rit of
Va - yan en paz, va-yan en paz, Pue - da el a - mor_ ro-de -
love sur - round you ev-'ry where, ev-'ry-where, you may go.
ar_ los si - em - pre por do-quier, por do-quier, que va - yan.

Spoken Memorials

Rev. Marta Morris Flanagan

*On the first Sunday of the month the names of those
in the community who died this year are read aloud.
Those who died this month in the past are printed in
the order of service.*

Celebrations and Concerns

Jeanne Feeley
Lay Minister

If moved to do so, you may place a stone
for a joy or sorrow you are holding in your heart.
If you write a joy or sorrow on the card available
at the back of the sanctuary,
the ordained and lay ministers will hold it
in their thoughts and prayers.

Interlude for the Placing of Stones

Amaryllis

Music traditional Irish, lyrics by Diane Taraz
Diane Taraz, vocalist

Prayer and Silent Meditation

Bill Licea-Kane
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



Offering

From a Distance

Julie Gold

Andrew Leonard and Diane Taraz, vocalists

Kenneth Seitz, piano

*This Sunday half of your offering supports
Women's Lunch Place of Boston, MA.
Women's Lunch Place is a daytime shelter
and advocacy center in Boston
dedicated to helping women experiencing
homelessness, hunger and poverty.
They offer healthy meals, essentials,
and one-on-one assistance*

*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.*

Hymn 259

We Three Kings of Orient Are

Sermon

Rev. Erica Federspiel Richmond

Hymn 57

All Beautiful the March of Days

Benediction

Rev. Marta Morris 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

Making Merry
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.*

Rev. Erica Richmond's Parental Leave

Rev. Erica is due to give birth on January 30th.
Her medical/parental leave begins on the 30th or earlier
if the baby arrives before that.

During her leave, Rev. Tricia Brennan
will be working alongside Lead Minister, Marta Flanagan,
to support our congregation.
Rev. Tricia will be serving part-time.

Rev. Erica will resume full-time ministry 15 weeks
after the baby's arrival, around May 15th.

Wise Women Also Came by Jan Richardson

Wise women also came.
The fire burned
in their wombs
long before they saw
the flaming star
in the sky.
They walked in shadows,
trusting the path
would open
under the light of the
moon.

Wise women also came,
seeking no directions,
no permission
from any king.
They came
by their own authority,
their own desire,
their own longing.
They came in quiet,
spreading no rumors,
sparking no fears
to lead
to innocents' slaughter,
to their sister Rachel's
inconsolable lamentations.

Wise women also came,
and they brought
useful gifts:
water for labor's washing,
fire for warm illumination,
a blanket for swaddling.

Wise women also came,
at least three of them,
holding Mary in the labor,
crying out with her
in the birth pangs,
breathing ancient
blessings
into her ear.

Wise women also came,
and they went,
as wise women always do,
home a different way.

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

Memorials and Remembrances

January 2025

*On the first Sunday of the month, we remember
loved ones who died that month in years past.*

Harvey Wainstock,
husband of Lois Wainstock Fine, died January 23, 1977

Lewis Howard,
father of Paul Howard, died January 3, 1987

Manny Diaz,
father of Inez Folsom, died January 4, 1993

Marie Diaz,
Mother of Inez Folsom, died January 6, 1994

Alden Speare Jr.,
father of Philip Speare, died January 8, 1994

Terry Morgan,
cousin and godmother of Mary Fusoni,
died January 29, 1995

Mark Folsom,
son of Inez Folsom, died January 28, 1996

Jean Tosti,
mother of Al Tosti, January 19, 1997

William "Bill" Madison Flanagan,
father of Marta Flanagan, died January 4, 1999

Joseph Fico,
father of Maria Fico, died January 24, 2001

Arlene Dannenberg,
sister of Barbara Tosti, died January 28, 2001

Warren Dannenberg,
father of Barbara Tosti, died January 11, 2002

Manning "Red" Chellis,
husband of Kiki Giatis, January 24, 2002

Patricia Zoeller Phillips,
mother of PJ Gardner, died January 7, 2005

Harlow Farmer,
father of Emily Farmer, died January 31, 2007

Stephen Tavilla,
father of Cindy Tavilla, died January 1, 2012

Dorothy May Alseth Heller,
mother of Peter Heller, died January 13, 2012

Han Quaadgras,
father of Anne Quaadgras died January 26, 2012

Susan Lee Piaseczny,
sister of Bob Rowlands, died January 29, 2012

Carol Newcomb Marsh,
mother of Susan Marsh, died January 31, 2012

Adriana Pellicari Rodriguez,
mother of Clarissa Rodriguez, died January 6, 2013

Susanna Katharina Dressler,
mother of Rainer Dressler, died January 13, 2013

Constance Lee Garvey Duncan,
mother of Nina Duncan, died January 21, 2013

William Mapel,
father of Sue Mapel, died January 23, 2013

David Walton,
brother of Tracy Walton, died January 9, 2014

Julia Bridges Wcislo,
mother of Celia Wcislo, died January 16, 2014

Jimmie Cooley,
mother of Lorraine Cooley, died January 8, 2015

Morton Rubin,
father of Andee Rubin, died January 17, 2015

Helen Modica,
mother of Cathy Modica, died January 10, 2016

Nancy Picardi,
beloved friend of Diane Eisner and Jill Fekete,
died January 3, 2017

Rev. Charles W. Grady
Minister Emeritus of First Parish, died January 19, 2017

Dick King,
member of First Parish, died January 29, 2017

Mary Elizabeth Dooley,
mother of Brian Dooley, died January 30, 2018

Joel Newberg,
father of Helene Newberg, died January 31, 2018

Susan Davis,
mother of Jennifer Davis Kay, died January 9, 2019

Joseph Donovan,
father of Sara Whitford, father-in-law of David Whitford,
died January 12, 2020

Beatrice "Bea" Shriver,
mother of John Shriver, died January 13, 2020

Sheila Drew Nowak
mother of Pam Linov, died January 24, 2022

Patti Stark
mother of Rachael Stark, died January 27, 2022

Woody Kay
spouse of Jennifer Davis Kay, and father of Melanie and Will,
died January 28, 2023

Diane Herman Heisterkamp
mother of Lisa Davis, died January 5, 2024

Tristan John Spence
son of Cathie and David DeJardins, died January 11, 2024

Patricia "Mamie" Eaby Renn,
grandmother of Julia Parker, died January 30, 2024

*If you would like a loved remembered in future months,
contact spokenmemorials@firstparish.info*

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*

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.