

Sunday Worship First Parish A liberal religious community, welcoming to all First gathered 1739

March 23, 2025

Worship in the Meetinghouse Sanctuary and Online

"Should I Not Have Compassion?" Last line of the Book of Jonah

The sun rose at 6:43am and will set at 7:00pm *in sh'allah* bringing us 12 hours, 17 minutes of sunlight, 21 minutes more than last Sunday.

The moon is waning toward a new moon on Saturday.

For Muslims today is the twenty-third day of Ramadan For Western Christians today is the third Sunday of Lent.

Sounding of the Chime

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

Prelude Ballata: Ecco la primavera (Here is Spring)

Francesco Landini (1335-1397)
First Parish Bell Choir
Jennifer Kobayashi – director
John Hodges
Andrew Kobayashi
Adam MacNeill
Sanjay Newton

Welcome and Announcements

Bill Licea-Kane Worship Associate

Yanni Peri-Okonny

Greeting Your Neighbor

Stewardship Update

U**pdate** Amy Speare and Joel Carlton-Gysan Co-chairs of the 2025 Stewardship Campaign

Call to Worship and Chalice Lighting Bill Licea - Kane

Congregational 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.

First Parish Mission Statement Adopted by the members of First Parish Arlington MA March 28, 2010

Hymn 121

We sing this hymn not in a spirit of triumphalism or settler colonialism, but aligning ourselves with the ancient hope of another way of love and justice in our world and our time. Many of the images of this hymn are taken from the Prophet Isaiah in the Hebrew Bible (Chapter 61).

Time for All Ages

The Story of Jonah presented by the Grade 4/5 Religious Education class

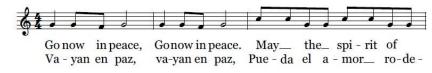
As children leave for religious education we sing:

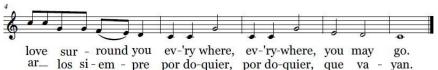
Go now in peace, go now in peace. May the spirit of love surround you everywhere, everywhere you may go.

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





Musical Interlude

Caledonia
Dougie MacLean
Crabapple Jam
Graham Boswell, cello
James Fleming, guitar and vocals
Katherine Fleming, violin
Olvia Kotsopoulos, violin and vocals
David Whitford, violin

Crabapple Jam is a First Parish band that came together beneath the crabapple trees in the courtyard during summer potlucks

Celebrations and Concerns

Julie Garry 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.

If you wish to speak of your joy or sorrow, please line up after placing your stone.

When you are motioned forward, speak into the microphone and tell us your name. Speak briefly and from your own experience.

Interlude for the Placing of Stones

Melanie's Waltz Gordon McLeod Crabapple Jam

Prayer and Silent Meditation

Rev. Tricia Brennan Adjunct Minister

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

Maison de Glace (Réjean Brunet) Out on the Ocean (Traditional) Crabapple Jam

This Sunday half of the offering supports Resilient Sisterhood Project.

The Cambridge-based RSP educates and empowers women of African descent regarding common, yet rarely discussed, diseases of the reproductive system that disproportionately affect them.

RSP's understanding of the word "women" includes transgender women, cisgender women, gender queer, and gender non-conforming people who have a female reproductive system.

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.

Reading

Song 35 Answering the Call

Sermon Rev. Marta Morris Flanagan

Hymn 131 Love Will Guide Us

Benediction

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

Return From Helsinki (Ian Stephenson) Da Lounge Bar (Annlaug Børsheim) Crabapple Jam

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.

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

Honor Roll of those Supporting First Parish

First Parish is in the midst of our annual pledge drive. A pledge is an amount each household commits to contribute to First Parish over the coming fiscal year.

We express gratitude and appreciation to the 202 households who have pledged their financial support to First Parish as of Friday morning.

Anonymous
Mette Aamodt
& Andrew Plumb
Ann Abbott
Katrina Adams
The Alliance
Alexander & Jenise
Aminoff
John & Amy Anderson
Dorothy Anger
Jo Anne Preston
& John Burt
Amy Armstrong
Tali Avery & Mike Bright

Robin & Steve Baker
Pamela Baldwin
Emily & Matt Balkam
Jennifer & Tom Baxter
Jim Benn & Jane Becker
Steve & Melissa Berczuk
Liz Bradley
Eric & Emily Breck
Margaret Bredin
Mary Breen
& Jamie Aronson
Linda Brown

Heather Caldwell Anna Callahan Carolyn Carlson Joel & Betsy Carlton-Gysan Stevie Carmody Katherine & Jonathan Cass John & Carol Chamberlain Monique Chaplin & Mary McCartney Ellen Cohen **Christian Collins** Lauren Cosgrove & Tom McGraw Sue Costello & Jeff Keffer Danyelle Cottrell **Patty Crotty** & David Klingsberg Joanne Cullinane & Russell Keim Mary & Will Cummings

Janice Darling
Meera Dash
& Paul Williams
Josh & Lisa Davis
Jennifer Davis-Kay
Cathie & David Desjardins
Debora Diggins
Marilyn Downs

Cheryl & Rainer Dressler Julia Dudley-Kramer Charlie Duffy Julie Dunn Judy Dyer

Richard Eastwick Lou Eckart & Ken Spargo Anne Ehlert Tom Estabrook & Sibylle Bosslet

Jess Fallon & James Brooks Ellen Faran Amy Fardella & Cliff Hakim Jessica Farman & Brian Dooley Jeanne Feeley **Anthony Fernandez** & Christa Kelleher Lois & Dick Fine **Gayle Flaherty** Marta Flanagan Janis Fleishman & Valerie Rhoades James & Katherine **Fleming** Marc Fredette Lyn Fulton-John

Sara & John Galantowicz
Bill & Peggy Gardiner
P.J. Gardner
Kiki Giatis
Loren Gomez
Anne Goodwin
& David Langford

Amy Hadley
Peter Heller
Chris Henriksen
& Carol Lewis
Annie Hewitt
Marlene & India Hobel
John & Carolyn Hodges
Anne Homza
Ruben Hopwood &
Melanie Cohn-Hopwood
Peter Howell
Elizabeth Hunter
& Jason Merrill
Jonathan Hyde
& Betsy Allen

Marilyn Jackson Sharon & Marc Jacobson Andrea & Bruce Jeffrey Jim Jolley & Julie Jalelian Lida Junghans

Julia Kenerson & Eric
Jerman
Michaela Kirby & Ricky
Carter
Aaron Kitzmiller & Sarah
Short
John & Ellen Kloss
Joanne Klys
Jennifer & Andrew
Kobayashi
Ed Koenig
Olivia Kotsopoulos &
Graham Boswell
Steve Kropper
Arleen Kulin

Kate Lenox
Andrew & Sharen Leonard
Betsy Leondar-Wright
James Leslie & Bodi Luse
Scott Lever & Jill Fekete
Lynne Levine
Rachel Lewellen
Philip & Debby Lewis
Bill & Erica Licea-Kane
Alan & Pam Linov

Allison Mahoney Susan Marsh & Scott Jones Helene Martel Lissa & Mac McBurney **Bob McKersie** Steve McMullin Katherine & Sharie McNeill Marie Meteer & David McDonald Tish Miller & Jack Matson Brian Miller & Bev Morse Peter Miller Cheri & Avalon Minton Steph Miserlis Susan Moore Jean Nagle Nick Nagykery & Amy Prussack Sanjay & Lauren Newton Monique Noelle Francis O'Donovan & Cathy Slesnick Larry Osgood & Suzanne Reasenberg

Wendy Page Gail Page & Bob Rowlands Nicole & Daniel Patience Julius & Martha Pereli Stephen Pillemer & Helen Rasmussen Joanne Pohl Stanley Pollack & Mary Fusoni Sheherazade & David Potere Lillian Povey **Mara Prentiss** Jim Ptacek & Bonnie Zimmer Joanna Pushee & Leon Dixon

Anne Quaadgras & David Dreyfus

Emily Randall Eric Reuss & Anne Cross Erica Richmond Michael Rie Lindsey Rieder Roberta Rinearson & Bob Fowkes Megan Rising & Erica LeBow Luchy Roa & Tim Keefe Jeff Roberts Ellen Robertson Ellen & Fred Robie Lynn Rosenbaum Jean Rosenberg & Peter Southwick Tara Rosenberger Shankar Andee Rubin **Greg Ruccio**

Carvn Sandrew & Alan Schweitzer Annette Sawyer Dianne Schaefer Robin Schoenthaler Tina & Neil Schultz Eric Segal & Anne Wright Kenneth & Carol Seitz Megan Shand Sue Sheffler Diane & John Shriver Bill & Pennie Siblev Tina & Jerry Silberman Jitendra Singh Stacey & Paul Sloboda Sid Slobodkin Randy Smith & Lori Kenschaft Russell Smith & Val DePalma Tom & Rosemarie Smurzynski Kay Snowden & James Lisieski Amy & Phil Speare Rachael Stark Mary & Caroline Steuart Carolyn Stevens

Cindy Stinson John Stutz & Zoe Stewart Heidi Swarts

Dawn Terkla
Dick & Patience Terry
Barbara & Al Tosti
Kate Tranquada
Sarah Trilling
& Lou Fiscarelli
Natalie Tyler

Bob Varnum & Rae Allain Susan Vickers Maryglenn Vincens Jane Voytek

Brianna & Michael Walsh Celia Wcislo Carolyn White David & Sara Whitford Joann & Allan Winkler Lenore & Howard Winkler Andrea & Richard Winslow Carol Wintle

Judy Young

Nearly two-thirds of our annual budget comes from pledges. To make your pledge for next year (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026), go to <u>www.firstparish.info/give</u> by March 31.

Our sincere apologies for any omissions or errors. If your pledge is not on the list, you have any changes, or you would like to remain anonymous, please email stewardship@firstparish.info.

<u>First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington</u> 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 Joanna Pushee, Clerk Jeff Keffer Steve Allan Tosti John Anderson, Vice-Chair Carolyn Hodges, Treasurer McMullin Susan Moore Kate Tranquada

Staff serve the members, leaders and mission of First Parish.

Rev. Marta Morris Flanagan, Lead Minister
Rev. Erica Federspiel Richmond, Parish Minister (on leave)
Rev. Tricia Brennan, Adjunct 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.