



Sunday Worship

First Parish

A liberal religious community, welcoming to all

First gathered 1739

**April 27, 2025**

**Shinn Service**

**Worship in the Meetinghouse Sanctuary and Online**

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*The sun rose at 5:45am and will set at 7:39pm in sh'allah  
bringing us 13 hours, 54 minutes of sunlight,  
19 minutes more than last Sunday.*

*The moon is waxing toward the first quarter next Sunday.*

*For Celtic Pagans Thursday is Beltane or May Day  
celebrating the Earth's fecundity  
and anticipating the power of the sun the Earth in summer.*

*The Annual Shinn Service at First Parish  
honors Barbara Shinn (1912-1976)  
and her commitment to justice.  
Barbara served as chair of what was then known as  
the Social Responsibility Committee.  
In addition, she had a passion for  
teaching children with disabilities.*

*She displayed personal courage in the face of a  
debilitating illness, arthritis of the spine.*

## **Sounding of the Chime**

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

### **Prelude**

*Variations on a Shaker Tune*  
Raymond H. Haan  
First Parish Bell Choir  
Jennifer Kobayashi – director  
James Fleming  
Katherine Fleming  
Carolyn Hodges  
John Hodges  
Andrew Kobayashi  
Yanni Peri-Okonny

### **Welcome and Announcements**

Mary Breen  
Worship Associate

### **Greeting Your Neighbor**

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

Mary Breen and Ellen Leigh, Social Justice Committee

### **Hymn 163**

*For the Earth Forever Turning*

*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 score is written on two staves in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the song, with lyrics underneath. The second staff begins with a measure rest marked with a '4', indicating it starts on the fourth measure of the first line. It continues the melody for the second line of the song, also with lyrics underneath. The notes are primarily quarter and eighth notes, with some rests.

Go now in peace, Go now 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.

## Celebrations and Concerns

Carolyn Carlson  
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

*Will the Circle Be Unbroken?*  
Traditional gospel song, arr. J. David Moore  
First Parish Choir

## Prayer and Silent Meditation

Rev. Marta Flanagan  
Lead 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

*Working on It*  
Kenneth Seitz  
Kenneth Seitz, piano

*This Sunday half of the offering supports  
Community InRoads.  
Community InRoads consults with and trains  
nonprofit leaders and boards of directors at no cost  
in the Haverhill and Lawrence area,  
so that they in turn can better serve those in need.*

*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.*

## Introduction of Amy Smith

Cathy Modica

*This years' Shinn Service preacher is Amy Smith.  
Amy Smith is the Founding Director of MIT D-Lab,  
an innovative university-based program in  
international development and  
a senior lecturer in Mechanical Engineering  
at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).  
She is also the founder of the  
International Development Design Summit,  
co-founder of the MIT IDEAS Global Challenge,  
co-founder of Rethink Relief conference, and  
originator of the Creative Capacity Building Methodology.  
Amy's most recent work has been in Africa with  
displaced people, often in refugee camps.  
She works collaboratively with them as they  
identify problems and collectively create solutions.  
She grew up as a Unitarian Universalist  
in the Follen Church in Lexington, MA.*

## Reading

Amy Smith

## Hymn 171

*Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika*

**Sermon**

Amy Smith

**“The Something I Can Do”**

**Hymn 159**

*This is My Song*

**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**

*How Firm a Foundation  
Arranged by Sandra Eithun  
First Parish Bell Choir*

*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.*

***The Social Justice Committee invites all to  
“Reverberations,”  
an occasional gathering at First Parish  
for discussion following a sermon.  
Marta Flanagan hosts Reverberations with  
Amy Smith  
in the sanctuary at 11:45 am.***

## **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

## **First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington**

**[www.firstparish.info](http://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 (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.