



Sunday Worship

First Parish

A liberal religious community, welcoming to all

First gathered 1739

**May 11, 2025**

**Alliance Sunday**

**Worship in the Meetinghouse Sanctuary and Online**

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The sun rose at 5:27am and will set at 7:55pm *in sh'allah*  
bringing us 14 hours, 27 minutes of sunlight,  
16 minutes more than last Sunday.

The moon is waxing toward its fullness on Monday.

Today is Mother's Day,

In 1872, Unitarian Julia Ward Howe began advocating the  
creation of a "Mother's Day for Peace" to be held each year.

The following year, eighteen cities marked the day.

Cities continued the observance until the turn of the century,  
when the annual "Mother's Day for Peace" died out.

In 1907, Anna Jarvis, a Methodist, began a campaign  
to establish a permanent Mother's Day.

The following year, the YMCA joined the cause and, in 1914,  
Woodrow Wilson signed a congressional resolution  
establishing Mother's Day in the United States.

In time, the day came to be marked in other nations as well.

Today our LGBTQ+ blue chalice is lit for International Day  
Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia on May 17.

## **Sounding of the Chime**

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

## **Prelude**

*The Green Valleys*  
Peter Miller, guitar

## **Welcome and Announcements**

David Whitford, Worship Associate

## **Recognizing Rev. Tricia Brennan Adjunct Minister**

Anne Quaadgras, Chair of the Parish Committee

Rev. Tricia Brennan has served as our Adjunct Minister since January 14 when our Parish Minister Rev. Erica Richmond went on parental leave with the birth of her first child. Rev. Erica returns next week. This is Tricia Brennan's last Sunday serving at First Parish.

## **Introduction of the Alliance**

Andrea Winslow, President of the First Parish Alliance

Each year the Alliance of First Parish sponsors an Alliance Sunday. The Alliance recognizes those who have given much and selects the preacher for worship.

The Alliance is the women's organization of First Parish, with a mission to support the women of our congregation, and through that support to advance the interests and efforts of our entire First Parish.

Membership in The Alliance is open only to women, but Alliance activities are inclusive across gender and age: men attend meetings as guests and as speakers, and The Alliance is supportive of, and supported by, the youth and children of First Parish.

## **Presentation of the Clara Barton Awards**

Nina Duncan, Vice President of the First Parish Alliance

## **Greeting Your Neighbor**

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

Rev. Tricia Brennan, Adjunct Minister

## **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.

Mission Statement

Adopted by the members of First Parish Arlington MA

March 28, 2010

## **Hymn 188**

*Come, Come, Whoever You Are*

This year's Alliance Sunday preacher is **Rev. Jory Agate**. Rev. Agate served as the Minister of Religious Education at the First Parish in Cambridge, MA for 10 years and 10 years at the Unitarian Universalist Association, as the Youth Programs Director and later has the Ministerial Development Director. Rev. Agate helped develop the Our Whole Lives (OWL) program and for nine years served on the Ministerial Fellowship Committee, the UUA ministerial credentialing body. Rev. Agate also holds an MA in Counseling Psychology and currently lives and works in Cambridge as a psychotherapist in private practice and a trainer for the Internal Family Systems Institute. Rev. Agate and her wife, Jeb Mays, were members of First Parish when their now-grown children were young.

*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 for a single voice on a treble clef staff in 4/4 time. It consists of two lines of music. The first line contains the lyrics: '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 -'. The second line contains the lyrics: '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.' The melody is simple and melodic, with a final whole note chord at the end of the second line.

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.

## Musical Interlude

*Original Reel / Arran Ceilidh*  
Giulia Haible and Ross Kennedy  
Caroline Dressler, violin; Giulia Haible, piano

## Celebrations and Concerns

Christa Kelleher  
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

*Ten Days of Isolation*  
Lena Jonsson and Brittany Haas  
Caroline Dressler, violin; Giulia Haible, piano

## Prayer and Silent Meditation

Rev. Marta Morris Flanagan, Lead Minister

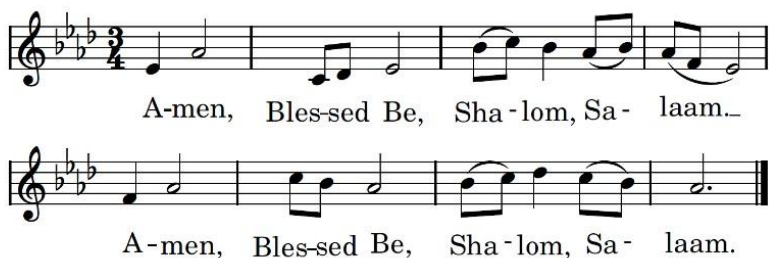
## Musical Response

*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

*Draw the Circle Wide*

by Mark Miller

First Parish Choir with guest singers

*This Sunday half of the offering supports the  
Massachusetts Bail Fund.*

*The Massachusetts Bail Fund (MBF) pays bail  
to secure freedom from pre-trial incarceration  
so that those who cannot afford their bail  
can stay productive, together, and stable  
in their communities and with their families.*

*The remaining half of your offering supports  
the life and work of First Parish.*

*To donate by phone, text “fpuu offering” to 73256.  
If you would like your entire offering to support  
your pledge, indicate “pledge” on your check.*

## Sermon

Rev. Jory Agate, Guest Minister

## 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**

*The Graf Spee/ Traditional Scottish Reel / Three Reels*

Natalie MacMaster

Caroline Dressler, violin; Giulia Haible, 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.*

## **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
Allan Tosti	Kate Tranquada
Susan Moore	

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.