

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



March 1, 2026

Worship in the Meetinghouse Sanctuary and Online

This is the second week of a holy season of fasting, reflection, and preparation for both the Islamic and Christian faiths with the continuation of Ramadan and Lent.

Sounding of the Chime

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

Prelude

Pastorale

Eugene Bozza

C Winds: Robin Baker, Stephanie Franzosa,
Tina Kambil, Amy Pohl, Anne Quaadgras, flutes

Welcome and Announcements

Mary Babic
Worship Associate

Greeting Your Neighbor

Call to Worship and Chalice Lighting

Rev. Dr. Jonipher Kwong
Interim Lead Minister

Hymn 188

Come, Come, Whoever You Are

Time for All Ages

Cathy Slesnick
First Parish Religious Education Committee member

*As children leave for religious education we sing together
“As You Go” (words on the blue cards in hymnals)*

Spoken Memorials

Rev. Erica Federspiel Richmond
Parish Minister

*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
on the back of the Teaser insert in this Order of Service.*

Celebrations and Concerns

Robbie Rinearson
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

Stones Music
Kenneth Seitz, piano

Prayer and Silent Meditation

Mary Babic

Musical Response

Amen, Blessed Be, Shalom, Salaam
Kenneth Seitz, piano

Sung twice by the congregation

Offering

Stardust
B.E. Boykin
First Parish Choir

*The offering reminds us of the ways
in which we live our values in the world.
To further affirm our shared commitments,
we read our mission statement together
(the words can be found on the blue cards in the hymnals).*

*This Sunday half of the offering
supports Boston Women's Fund (BWF).
BWF uplifts, advocates for, and invests in
women, girls, and gender-expansive individuals who are
leading grassroots organizations and systems change.
They strive toward racial, economic,
social, and gender justice.*

*The remaining half of your offering
supports the life and work of this Parish.
To donate using your smartphone, text "fpuu offering" to 73256.
If you would like your entire offering to support your pledge,
indicate "pledge" on your check or envelope.*

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Jonipher Kwong

Hymn 318

We Would Be One

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Barbara Whittaker-Johns
adapted from the words of Rev. Arnold Westwood

*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.
(words on the blue cards in hymnals)*

Postlude

Every Time I Feel the Spirit
African American spiritual, arranged by Bill Ingram
First Parish Bell Choir
Jennifer Kobayashi – director,
Carolyn Hodges, John Hodges,
Andrew Kobayashi, Adam MacNeill,
Sanjay Newton, Yanni Peri-Okonny

*All are asked to remain seated during the postlude,
the concluding passage of our common worship.*

*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.*

First Parish Unitarian Universalist of Arlington

www.firstparish.info

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 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. To learn more about our community, visit our website
at firstparish.info.

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

Rev. Dr. Jonipher Kūpono Kwong, *Interim Lead Minister*

Rev. Erica Federspiel Richmond, *Parish Minister*

Rev. Stevie Carmody, *Minister of Religious Education (on leave)*

Rev. Emily Conger, *Adjunct Director of Religious Education*

Dr. Daniel Parsley, *Music Director*

Kenneth Seitz, *Director of Music, Emeritus*

Kay Milano, *Youth Program Coordinator*

Bella Jaffe, *Religious Education Assistant*

Ebiere Omoregie, *Office Manager*

Allison Sillers, *Office & Communications Associate*

Rev. Marta Morris Flanagan, *Minister Emerita*

A Unitarian Universalist Welcoming Congregation, First Parish
warmly and intentionally welcomes gay, lesbian, bisexual, queer
and transgender people.