United First Parish Church

Order of Service

Prelude "This Is My Song" (Finlandia) By Jean Sibelius

Welcome and Opening Words Rev. Rebecca Froom

Chalice Lighting Ann Gillette Parsley

*Covenant Noel Palatas

As a free fellowship of this historic church,
We unite to lift our hearts and open our minds to a larger reality;
To accept, support, and encourage one another;
To seek the wisdom in all religions;
To cherish and sustain the web of life;
And to strive for justice, compassion, and peace.

*Greet Your Neighbors Noel Palatas

*Hymn "Joy in the Morning" By Adam Podd

Message for All Ages Rev. Rebecca Froom

*Children's Recessional "As You Go" By John Ruben Piirainen

As you go, may joy surround you,
As you go, go in peace.
Know our love is with you always,
as you go, as you go.

(Children are invited to leave for their Spirit Circle programs)

Joys and Sorrows Rev. Rebecca Froom

You are welcome to fill out a Joys and Sorrows Card before the service, or share a spoken joy or sorrow during service.

Meditaion and Prayer Rev. Rebecca Froom

*Hymn "Song of Praise" Tune: Old Hundredth

From all that dwell below the skies
Let songs of hope and faith arise;
Let peace, good will on earth be sung
Through every land, by every tongue

Reading Ann Gillette Parsley

*Please Stand as you are able.

"Church of the Presidents"

Sunday, November 8, 2026

Choral Anthem "We Rise" By Batya Levine

We rise, humbly-hearted. Rise, won't be divided. Rise, with spirit to guide us. Rise.
In hope, in prayer, we find ourselves here. In hope, in prayer, we are here.
And we rise, all of the children. Rise, elders with wisdom. Rise, ancestors surround us. Rise.
Rise, up from the wreckage. Rise, with tears and with courage. Rise, fighting for life. We rise.

Sermon Ann Gillette Parsley

*Hymn #148 "Let Freedom Span Both East and West"

Share the Plate Offering Invitation Heather Byrnes

This Sunday's offering will be shared with "UU Mass Action," an organization working to mobilize UUs in Massachusetts for the work of justice through legislative advocacy and community partnerships.
Donations can be placed in the offering plates or can be made online at ufpc.org If your donation is for your pledge, please note that in the memo line, or on an envelope.

Offertory "By the Waking of Our Hearts" By Ricky Manalo

Announcements Rev. Rebecca Froom

Benediction Ann Gillette Parsley

*Sung Benediction By Patricia Yates and Harold Brown

Carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.

Postlude "We Will Rise Again" By David Haas

We invite you to join us for social hour following the service.

<u>Service Participants</u>

Music Director: Sean Glennon
Worship Associate: Noel Palatas
UFPC Choir: Clyde Cortright, Kim Dangora, Karl DeBisschop, David Downs, Lee Forest, Beverly Garcia, Darrick Jackson, Becky Rizzoli, Emily Scafe, Nathan Scafe, G. Fred Shepard, Josiah Shevlin, John Sincak, Nicole Smith, Pat Sullivan, Loretta Wiatr, Ann Marie Willer

Childcare is provided.

Greeters: Paul Valencius
Ushers: Bill Westland, Marilyn Valencius
Livestream Team: Fiona Sankey, Ryan Ruel
Social Hour: Marie-Louise Jackson-Miller, Leslie Simpson
Flowers: Pat Artis, Claire Fitzmaurice, Kate Hurley, Alicia Woolbert

ABOUT UNITED FIRST PARISH CHURCH (UFPC)

We are a Unitarian Universalist congregation where thoughtful and caring people from many faith backgrounds gather for spiritual growth and learning, to build community, and to live our values of love and compassion in the wider world. Here you will find companions for the journey. Bring your questions, your hopes, and your ideals.

Sunday worship is at 10:30 am in-person and over zoom, followed by an in-person social hour for continued conversation. Children participate in worship and in our Spirit Circle religious education program where they learn about mindfulness, the arts, and caring for the earth.

United First Parish Church has roots in two congregations who merged in 1958: First Parish Church founded in 1639 and Wollaston Unitarian Society founded in 1888. This magnificent building was designed by Alexander Parris; it is the fourth meeting house of the Church and was completed in 1828. John Adams and John Quincy Adams, the second and sixth Presidents of the United States, were life-long members of the Church and are entombed along with their wives First Ladies Abigail Adams and Louisa Catherine Adams in the Church's crypt. The church operates a History and Visitors Program from mid-April to mid-November, giving tours of the Presidential Crypt and our historic sanctuary.

Elected Leaders: Marie-Louise Jackson-Miller (President), Jim Petosa (Vice-President), Erwin Schaareman (Treasurer), Ryan Ruel (Clerk), Peter Kovach (Stewardship), Beverly Garcia, Heather Byrnes (Social Justice Action), Patricia Desmond (Communications), Ann Marie and Lee (Congregational Life), Dan Volpe (Religious Education), G. Frederick Shepard (Worship), Donna Ekstrand (Committee on Ministry), Susan Curran (Nominating Committee).

Staff: Rev. Rebecca Froom (Lead Minister), Rev. Dr. Sheldon Bennett (Minister Emeritus), Ann Parsley (Ministerial Intern), Nan Moore (Affiliate Lay Community Minister), Elizabeth Foster (Director of Religious Education and Family Ministry), David Bousquin (Office and Property Manager), Sean Glennon (Director of Music, Linda Singer (Communications Coordinator).

United First Parish Church

Unitarian Universalist



Crowd listening to Starr King speak in San Francisco, 1862. Photo by Carleton Watkins.

"Champion of Democracy"

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