

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Welcome First Church UU
November 20, 2022

PRELUDE

Berceuse
Darry Dolezal, cello
Migratory V
Katelyn Frazer, Soprano

Frank Bridge

A. Guettel

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Christopher Lyman Waldron

HISTORY MINUTE

FIRST CHURCH AND PARISH

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather together in celebration of our history, the anniversary of founding

We come together in our anticipation of giving thanks this holiday season.

We come into awakening to our mutuality.

We come into the realization of oneness.

We come into celebration of our diversity.

We come into thanksgiving for our shared community.

We come into loving one another and our neighbor, as we feel the energy that comes with connection.

May we together create new traditions of thanksgiving and celebration in the Spirit.

Based on a prayer by Rev. Sheree Taylor-Jones

*HYMN

#284 Gather Us In

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God, you who is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. We gather together, celebrating another day that you have kept us. Keep us from leaning into our fear, though the earth should change around us.

Help us to bear witness to all that you have done for us.

Let us reflect on the grace that we have received and the work of the Divine in the world. Be with us as we gather together in community, thankful for our connection, with another and with your Spirit. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

How Can You Be Sure You Are Right?
Rev. Rali Weaver

Singing the Children to their activity

*May your mind be open to new learning
May your lips bring truth into the world
May your heart know love
And your hands do the work of justice, As you go your way in peace*

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Please Lord, we also pray for: Those suffering from the effects of flooding, fires and war; healing and comfort for Olive Barrett, Marcia Bibeault, John Glore, Michael Martens, Bev Poole, Muriel Porter, and Lois Walsh. **“Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.” Amen.**

PRAYER RESPONSE

The Greatest Gift

Mark Hayes

CALL TO OFFERING Shared offering to support Dedham Food Pantry

*DOXOLOGY

HYMN TO JOY

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, all who live in love are thine, teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

*UNISON OFFERING PRAYER

God of Generosity, thank you for the many ways in which you provide for us: Food, family, friendship, housing, health, happiness, and community. We lift these gifts to you out of our needs and abundance, trusting that it will nurture and nourish those in need in our community. May they be a thanksgiving feast! May they become soup and bread, vegetables and casseroles, meat and gravy, fruits and sweets! In our giving help us to live more fully into your call to love our neighbor and to change the world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Janice Girard

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have

driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord. The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Luke 23:33-43

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.']] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Through the words of scripture God spoke to our ancestors and speaks to us anew.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

Draw the Circle Wide

Mark Miller

SERMON

"What Holds Us Separate, Keeps Us Separate"

Rev. Rali M. Weaver

PRAYER

BREAD AND CIDER CELEBRATION

*HYMN

#485 Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Rali M. Weaver

POSTLUDE

Allegro Giocoso, op. 150 no. 7

Saint-Saens

USHERS

Jane Crandall & Doug Crandall

COFFEE HOUR

Prudential

NOVEMBER 27th

Coffee Hour: Ushers

ALTAR FLOWERS

In honor of Joe & Elizabeth McNamee's Wedding Anniversary November 20th.

TOWER LIGHTING

*In loving memory of my husband Bob, as he used to say
"Heaven must be like going back to Boston" by Beverly Kennedy.*

Dedham Choral Society will hold their Winter Concert

Friday, Dec. 2 at Holy Name Church in West Roxbury.

Tickets can be purchased from

Chris & Jack Writer, Tony & Kirie Santos & Lynn Raymond.

The Snowflake Fair Committee is looking for gently used

Christmas items in good condition.

MISSIONS MINISTRY NEEDS YOUR HELP

Missions Ministry is hoping to assist Hashmat, the father of our family from Afghanistan, who is seeking part time employment to supplement his other part time employment. If you know of any positions available, please contact Hashmat's advocate, our own Judy Raymond 617/477/4375. Hashmat has an Afghanistan BA in Business Administration, with a green card obviously, he is a willing worker, speaks several languages, and his English is fluent. He is currently employed part time at Logan Airport at a new cargo airline. He is working on obtaining a driver's license . A week-end position would fit nicely with his current employer.

Thank you. Hashmat says " no job is beneath me at this point in my life."

ADULT ED. STUDY

We are currently in a six week series in the book "Standing Naked Before God: The Art of Public Confession". This book touches on community, truth telling, and using public confession and testimony in worship. It's an interesting reflection on how we might engage in confession and lifting one another up with grace. Everyone is welcome to come join whether you've read the book or not! This will run weekly after worship in the Fireside Room through November 20th. If you have the book, read through chapter 7, as well as some of the confessions that are in the book.

From BREAD and CUP to FAITH and GIVING

Our Stewardship Theme for the upcoming Stewardship season is "From Bread and Cup to Faith and Giving." The theme connects God's generosity and our stewardship.

More information will be made available in the coming weeks and months as we move into the Stewardship season. Stewardship Sunday is November 13.

Thank you to everyone who have kept their pledge up to date. Since we are at this year's 3/4 point (Jan-Sept), pledges should be at least 75% fulfilled. If there are any questions or changes to your pledge, please contact Lori at lori@allinchurch.org or call her at 781-326-5050 on Thursdays, 9am-12N.

The Greens Committee would appreciate your help with the following list of Greens we will need for Allin Church to make our arrangements-TY

- 1.) Yellow evergreens.
- 2.) Yellow false cypress
- 3.) Andromeda - Gail + Sam & Leslie & #39;s yard
- 4.) Winter Berries - Gail
- 5.) Holly Berries
- 6.) White Pine
- 7.) Evergreens
- 8.) Green & amp; White plant with variegated leaves
- 9.) Blue Juniper - Joanna & #39;s yard + Dottie Folsom & #39;s yard
- 10.) Rhododendron - small leaves, Joanna Gormley
- 11.) Boxwood – Marion (a little)
- 12.) Arborvitae - Dottie Folsom's yard

- 13.) Yew trees – produce pine cones, not flowers + some have red berries
14.) Magnolia Leaves (\$5.00 or \$5.99 @ Trader Joe 's in Needham)

SNOWFLAKE BASKET RAFFLES

To make this year’s basket raffles a success here’s how you can help:

- * Donate items needed for the various themes

Please call or email me at 617-543-3962/ann.cronin3@gmail.com for a list of the themes and suggested items

- * Donate cash or checks for us to use to buy items for the baskets

Please put “Basket Raffles” on your check payable to the church

- * Donate gift cards to restaurants or stores, i.e. Starbucks, Dunkin Donuts etc.

- * Donate lottery scratch tickets

- * Donate a complete basket (please let me know the theme to avoid duplication)

- * If you work for or know of a business that would be willing to donate a gift certificate or an item please ask on our behalf or let me know the business name and I will send a donation request letter. Thank you for your support!

Women’s Union Annual Christmas Party

Our annual Christmas Party will be held Wednesday, Dec. 7, at 6 p.m. in the Stage Room. We will have a potluck buffet dinner, carols, games/entertainment, raffle baskets and a yankee swap. Please RSVP to Carol Sorsenson or Joanne Dickey if you are able to attend and let them know what dinner item you are able to bring: salads, soups, dessert.

Yankee swap gifts should be modest, preferably less than \$20.

We will be using air purifiers in the room and will space the tables in such a way that our participants will have several feet between each other.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our annual bash!

SECOND FRIDAY with FAMILIES

Join us for a family gatherings on the second Friday of each month at 6pm. We’ll share a meal together, a child friendly worship service with arts and activities, and have some time for social gathering and play. Our next gathering will be Friday, Dec. 10th.

Everyone is welcome! We are in need of some volunteers as well. If you can help with these gatherings please reach out to pastor Chris.

Allin Congregational Church

Gathered November 8, 1638

Minister of Music Emeritus: C. Martin Steinmetz

Rev. Christopher Lyman Waldron, Interim Minister

Andrew J. Welch, Director of Music

Jane Hayes, Church Administrator

Lori Purdy, Office Assistant

Sam Griesmer, Treasurer

John Fontaine, Sexton

Bob Drake, Director of Technology

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Office Hours: Monday through Friday 9:00AM – 12:00PM