

ORDER OF SERVICE
FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN BILLERICA

December 22, 2024

Worship Leader: Stephanie Trudel
Worship Assistant: Joyce Wilson
Pianist: Liz Cardenas

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

OPENING WORDS:

Reading from "Lifting Our Voices"

CHALICE LIGHTING:

Reading from "Lifting Our Voices"

OPENING HYMN*: STJ #1055

"How Sweet The Darkness"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Love is the doctrine of this church. The quest of truth is its sacrament, and service is its prayer. To dwell together in peace, to seek knowledge in freedom, to serve humanity in fellowship, to the end that all souls shall grow into harmony with the Divine: thus do we covenant with each other and with God.

TIME FOR ALL AGES: We are the Shepherds

SINGING OUT THE CHILDREN:

*Go now in peace, go now in peace,
May the Spirit of Love surround you,
Everywhere, everywhere you may go.*

CANDLES OF JOY AND CONCERNS

RESPONSIVE READING:

Reading from "Lifting Our Voices"

PIANO INTERLUDE: "The Luckiest" by Ben Folds

MEDITATION AND PRAYER:

Reading from "Lifting Our Voices"

HYMN: STJ #1002 "Comfort Me"

SERMON: Darkness in the Season of Light

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY*

From all that dwell below the skies
Let songs of love and faith arise
Let peace, goodwill on earth be sung
Through every land, by every tongue. Amen

EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE* E.S.Jones

We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth
the warmth of community, or the fire of
commitment. These we carry in our hearts, until
we are together again.

CLOSING HYMN* SLT #131

"Love Will Guide Us"

(it is our tradition to sing the last hymn facing the world
we are about to enter)

BENEDICTION* SLT #706

POSTLUDE*

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

Please join us for refreshments and conversation
downstairs immediately after the service.

**FIRST PARISH CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST**

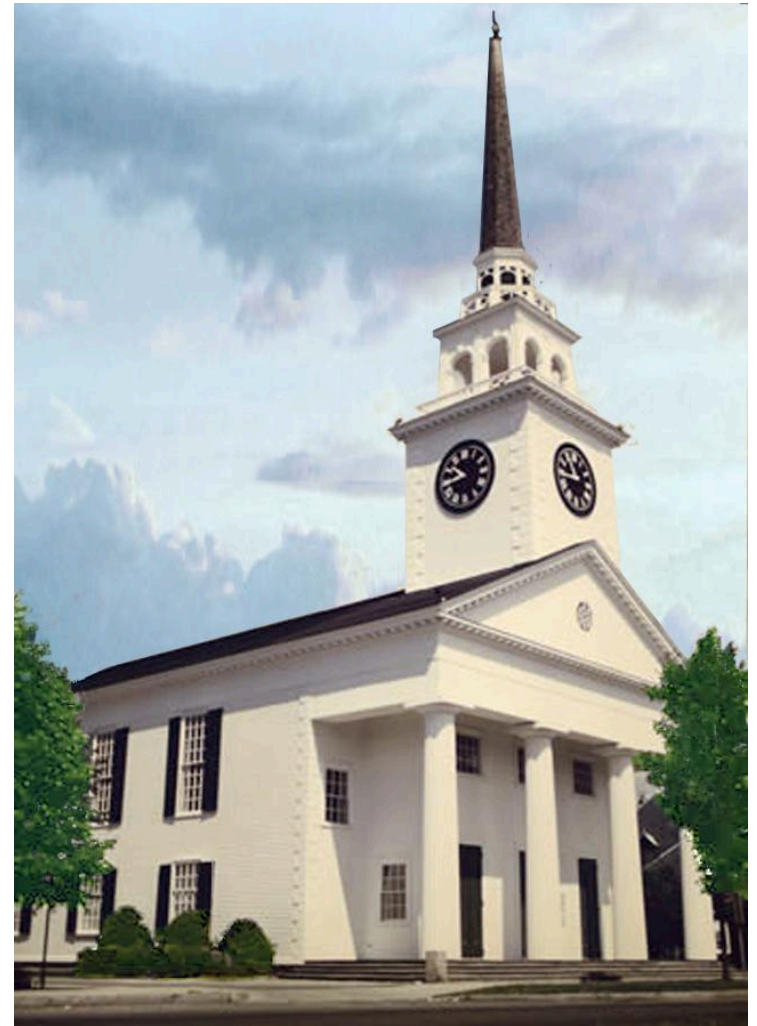
7 Concord Road, P. O. Box 96, Billerica, MA 01821

978-663-2293 – admin@uubillerica.org

Web Site: www.uubillerica.org



As Unitarian Universalists, we covenant, congregation-to-congregation and through our Association, to support and assist one another in our ministries. We draw from our heritages of freedom, reason, hope, and courage, building on the foundation of love. Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values. We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love. Inseparable from one another, these shared values are: Interdependence, Equity, Transformation, Pluralism, Generosity, and Justice.



December 22, 2024

*The First Parish Church in Billerica,
Unitarian Universalist*

On the Common

Billerica, Massachusetts