

He who sings, prays twice.
– St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON
Weston, Massachusetts
Gathered in 1698
www.firstparishweston.org
ORDER OF SERVICE
Hymn-Sing Sunday
January 24, 2010

QUIET PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Partita on "St. Anne"* Paul Manz
1. Introduction (b. 1919)
2. Theme
3. Adagio
4. Canon
5. Pastorale

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 57 – "I sing the mighty power of God"

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Jane Kenyon) *(remain standing)*

Minister: There are things in life that we must endure which are all but unendurable, and yet I feel that there is a great goodness.

People: **Why, when there could have been nothing, is there something?**

Minister: This is a great mystery.

People: **How, when there could have been nothing, does it happen that there is love, kindness, beauty?**

Minister: The Peace of God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: Let us pray. *(please be seated)*

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER *(unison)*

O Lord our God, who sets your creation singing wherever it is touched by your grace: we give you thanks for the songs and sounds which give voice to the deepest movings of the human heart. Through the artistry of those who compose and those who perform you have shaped the language, which opens to us your spirit and overcomes the loneliness of individual sorrow. We give our thanks for this and all your blessings, known and unknown, remembered and forgotten. In the spirit of Jesus Christ, together we pray OUR FATHER . . .

LESSON: Isaiah 35:1-10 *Come to Zion with singing*

RESPONSIVE READING – (Psalm 42)

Minister: As the deer longs for the waterbrooks,
so longs my soul for you, O God.
My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living God;
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?

People: **My tears have been my food day and night,
while all day long they say to me,
'Where now is your God?'**

Minister: I pour out my soul when I think on these things:
how I went with the multitude
and led them into the house of God,
with the voice of praise and thanksgiving,
among those who keep holyday.

People: **Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul?
And why are you so disquieted within me?
Put your trust in God;
for I will yet give thanks to him,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.**

Minister: The Lord grants his loving kindness in the daytime,
in the night season his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.

People: **Put your trust in God,
for I will yet give thanks to him,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.**

*HYMN 407 – "Come, thou Fount of every blessing"

EPISTLE: Ephesians 5:17-22 *Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs*

ANTHEM "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" *Hymn Tune: Lobe den Herrn
Arr. Robert Shaw*

SERMON: "A Hymn-Sing: Singing our Favorites" Tom Wintle

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER "Amazing Grace" *Hymn Tune: New Britain
Arr. Robert Shaw*

PASTORAL PRAYER

SILENT MEDITATION and CHORAL RESPONSE TO PRAYER

(In these moments, we seek to listen to the still, small voice of God that speaks within us. We also hold in our thoughts and in our hearts all those who are in trouble and in distress, whose names we speak softly now.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT OF CONCERN: All Parish Project Plans Chet Cekala

OFFERTORY "For all the Saints" *Hymn Tune: Sine Nomine
Arr. Robert Shaw*

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

**From all that dwell below the skies,
Let the Creator's praise arise.
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
Through every land, by every tongue!**

**Eternal are thy mercies Lord:
Eternal truth attends thy word;
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore,
Till suns shall rise and set no more.**

*HYMN 445 – "Be thou my vision"

*THE PEACE

*BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE *Partita on "St. Anne"* Paul Manz
6. *Fantasia (with help from the Dies Irae)*
7. *Fugue-Finale*

*Please rise as able. Hearing aids are available from any usher.