Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power. — Abraham Lincoln

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U.

Weston, Massachusetts Gathered in 1698 ORDER OF SERVICE August 16, 2020

PRELUDE: "Rejoice Greatly, O My Soul" Georg Boehm (1661-1733)

HYMN: "The King of Love my Shepherd Is (St. Columba)"

CALL TO WORSHIP: Jeff Barz-Snell

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

MUSIC INTERLUDE

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE Jeff Barz-Snell

WORDS OF CONFESSION (by Van Ogden Vogt, adapted)

Before the wonders of life, we acknowledge our occasional failures to see and to revere;

Before the sanctities of life, we are ashamed of our disrespects and indignities;

Before the gifts of life, we own that we have made the choice of lesser goods, and here today seek the gifts of the spirit;

Before the mystery and inspiration of life, we would be enlarged to new devotion.

We pray that we will strive to make a difference and be made whole. Amen.

VIRTUAL EXCHANGE OF PEACE

READING: John 4:1-29

SERMON: "The Mixed Chalice" Rev. Dr. James Matarazzo

MUSIC MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER, FOLLOWED BY THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY

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.

INVITATION

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Praised Be Thou" Johann Heinrich Buttstedt (1666-1727)

Join us on Zoom.com after the service for a time of fellowship: https://uuma.zoom.us/j/97477672998 Meeting ID 9747 7672 998

Minister: Rev. Jeffrey Barz-Snell
Organist: Geoffrey Wieting
Senior Choir Director: William C. Sano
Parish Administrator: Betsy Gibson
Sexton: Alan Flynn
AV Interns: Jacob Barz-Snell, Max Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A WARM WELCOME TO REV. DR. JAMES MATARAZZO – James Matarazzo is Interim Minister of the First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury, MA and Instructor in Theology at Boston College. Prior to his return to the United States in Fall 2018, Jim was Lecturer in Theology at Ripon College Cuddesdon, Oxford, England, the largest seminary in the Church of England. He was also a member of the Faculty of Theology and Religion at the University of Oxford. He completed his DPhil (PhD) in Theology at Oxford in 2017. A native of Boston, Jim was ordained a minister in the United Church of Christ in 2005. He holds additional clergy standing in the Lutheran Church in Great Britain, the Church of England, and the Church of Scotland. He lived in the UK for over 11 years until his return to the States An avid traveler, Jim has visited or worked in over 90 countries and territories. We thank him for his ministry with us today.

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY MORNING MEDITATION AT 8:30 AM – Join us on Zoom; see the weekly e-Post newsletter or contact Church Office for sign-in information.

SUMMERTIME DRUMMING CIRCLE – Join local percussion teacher and resident Dan Foote in our upper parking lot on Wednesday, Aug. 19 at 7 pm for 45 minutes of very socially-distant drumming. Masks required; folding chair recommended. Dan will bring an assortment of instruments but bring your own drum if you like. We'll follow CDC guidelines of no more than 50 people and instruments will be sanitized. Wipes/sanitizer and rest rooms will be available.

Ways to Participate Virtually in Upcoming Worship Services – We are looking for several people willing to participate remotely in upcoming services using video. This includes video-recorded readings and chalice lightings. Jeff Barz-Snell is working on putting together short videos to use during upcoming services and creating video "montages" of different speakers saying a reading, or even singing. If you are interested, feel free to reach out to Jeff or Betsy Gibson in the Church Office, or simply be on the lookout for upcoming opportunities. Once you have your assigned reading or chalice lighting, simply record yourself (or have someone else record you) saying your piece out loud. Feel free to do this with another person in your household if you would like. The venue / setting is up to you! We encourage outdoor locations since the lighting is often better.

August Bristol Lodge Supper – Wednesday, Aug. 26. If you would be able to donate a spiral-cut ham, a triple recipe of white bean caprese salad, blanched green beans or dessert, or help with preparations, contact Mary Menino (mary.menino@gmail.com or text 781-718-9464). If you would like copies of the white bean salad and/or blueberry snack cake recipes e-mailed to you, please contact Betsy Gibson (betsygibson@firstparishweston.org) in the Church Office.

COMING UP FOR FPCW BOOK GROUP – On Thursday, Sept. 17, we'll meet on Zoom to discuss the timely *How to Be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi. Then on Thursday, Oct. 22, we will deviate from our usual more current works and delve into Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities* to see what parallels we might draw between 18th century England and France and today. Both gatherings will begin at 9:30 am. Newcomers are always welcome; if you'd like to be on the mailing list for Zoom log-in info, please contact Betsy Gibson the Church Office.