

**First Church in Boston
ORDER OF SERVICE**

**First Church Boston
66 Marlborough Street
Boston, MA
Sunday, July 4, 2021
Recorded July 1, 2021**

*Broadcast 11:00 am to noon on WERS, 88.9FM, Vivian Borek, announcer
Streamed on Facebook @firstchurchboston, Craig Hildreth, audio and video engineer
Masha Stepanova, video editor
Dr. Robert August, Director of Music; Robert Winkley, service musician; William Thorpe, bass*

Prelude Two Anniversaries (for Shirley Gabis Rhoads Perle; for Stephen
Sondheim)" Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)

Opening Words Rev. Aisha Ansano

Hymn # 301 Touch the Earth (vv 1,2,3,5) TOUCH THE EARTH

Chalice Lighting and Tolling of the Bell

Love is the spirit of this church, and Service its law. This is our great covenant,
to dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

Time for all Ages - "The Story of the Phoenix," adapted by Amy Friedman
and Meredith Johnson Rev. Ansano

Responsive Reading "We Are Called to Pay Attention" by Amanda Udis-Kessler
Rev. Ansano

Musical Meditation "They Cannot Stop Death" Paul Bowles (1910-1999)
words by Joe Massey

Reading Leviticus 14:10-20 Rev. Sam Teitel

Announcements Rev. Ansano

Hymn # 304 A Fierce Unrest SALVATION

Prayer and Meditation Rev. Ansano

Affirmation # 123 Spirit of Life

Sermon "On Banishing" Rev. Teitel

Offertory "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning" *from Oklahoma!*
Richard Rodgers (1902-1979) and Oscar Hammerstein (1895-1960)

Text Messaging Donation

You can use text messaging on your smartphone to send a contribution to the First Church offertory. Text a number representing your dollar amount (5, 10, 20, etc.) to (617) 917-5610. You will receive confirmation by email. Thank you!

Hymn # 281	O God, Our Help (vv 1,3,5)	ST. ANNE
Benediction		Rev. Teitel
Postlude	“Anniversary (for Lukas Foss)”	Leonard Bernstein

Please note, this order of service may vary from the actual broadcast service.

Hymn Texts, Lyrics (7/4/21)

Hymn # 301	Touch the Earth (vv 1,2,3,5)	TOUCH THE EARTH
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Touch the earth, reach the sky!
Walk on shores while spirits fly
over the ocean, over the land,
our faith a quest to understand.

Touch the earth, reach the sky!
Children ask the reasons why.
In our lives the answers show,
and by our love they learn and grow.

Touch the earth, reach the sky!
All are born and all shall die;
life's the time left in between,
to follow a star, to build a dream.

Touch the earth, reach the sky!
Soar with courage ever high;
spirits joining as we fly,
to touch the earth, to reach the sky.

Hymn # 304	A Fierce Unrest	SALVATION
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A fierce unrest seethes at the core of all existing things:
it was the eager wish to soar that gave the gods their wings.
There throbs through all the worlds that are this heartbeat hot and strong,
and shaken systems, star by star, awake and glow in song.

But for the urge of this unrest these joyous spheres are mute;

but for the rebel in our breast had we remained as brutes.
When baffled lips demanded speech, speech trembled into birth;
one day the lyric word shall reach from earth to laughing earth.

From deed to dream, from dream to deed, from daring hope to hope,
the restless wish, the instant need, still drove us up the slope.
Sing we no governed firmament, cold, ordered, regular; we sing the stinging discontent that
leaps from star to star.

Musical Meditation "They Cannot Stop Death"

Paul Bowles (1910-1999)
words by Joe Massey

They cannot stop Death
When he comes to take their breath.
They cannot say: Death, you flee,
or lock him up. He is bothering me.

No man or woman or girl or boy
can get back at him, for he is Death
And have the win. You may be a king or queen
but when Death comes you will be seen.

You cannot lie to him because he bring the news
you wear new dress. New hat, new shoes.
Pay you dues.

Now you won't be heard or seen
While here you was mighty mean.

Affirmation # 123 Spirit of Life

Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

Offertory

"Oh, What a Beautiful Morning" *from Oklahoma!*
Richard Rodgers (1902-1979) and Oscar Hammerstein (1895-1960)

There's a bright golden haze on the meadow,
There's a bright golden haze on the meadow,
The corn is as high as an elephant's eye,
An' it looks like its climbin' clear up to the sky.

Oh, what a beautiful morning,

Oh, what a beautiful day,
I've got a wonderful feeling,
Everything's going my way.

All the cattle are standing like statues,
All the cattle are standing like statues,
They don't turn their heads as they see me ride by.
But a little brown mav'rick is winking her eye.

Oh, what a beautiful morning,
Oh, what a beautiful day,
I've got a wonderful feeling,
Everything's going my way.

All the sounds of the earth are like music,
All the sounds of the earth are like music,
The breeze is so busy it don't miss a tree,
And an ol' weepin' willer is laughin' at me.

Oh, what a beautiful morning,
Oh, what a beautiful day,
I've got a wonderful feeling,
Everything's going my way.
Oh what a beautiful day!

Hymn # 281

O God, Our Help (vv 1,3,5)

ST. ANNE

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,
from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, soon bears us all away:
we fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.