

## ORDER OF SERVICE

**First Church Boston**  
**66 Marlborough Street**  
**Boston, MA**  
**Sunday, November 29 2020, from the Sanctuary**

*Broadcast live, 11:00 am to noon, on WERS, 88.9FM, Vivian Borek, announcer*  
*Streamed live on Facebook @firstchurchboston, Craig Hildreth, audio and video engineer*  
*Dr. Robert August, Director of Music; Christine and Rebecca Teeters, soloists;*  
*Robert Winkley, piano*

**Prelude** Gregorian Prelude Leslie Betteridge (1903-1988)

**Opening Words** Daniel Lawlor

**Hymn** Come, Thou Almighty Will ITALIAN HYMN  
# 47 in *Hymns of the Spirit*, 1937

**Chalice Lighting and Tolling of the Bell** Rev. Stephen Kendrick

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** Community Voices ritual Rev. Kendrick, Daniel Lawlor and Vivian Borek

**Reading** "Things Commonly Believed Among Us," by Rev. William Channing Gannett  
Rev. Kendrick

**Honoring the Teeters Sisters** Rev. Kendrick

**Musical Meditation** Flower Duet, from *Lakmé* Léo Delibes (1836-1891)

**Reading** "Songs for the People" (1895), by Frances Ellen Watkins Harper

**Announcements** Rev. Kendrick

**Prayer and Meditation** Rev. Kendrick

**Affirmation # 133** One World (Verse 1)

**Second Meditation** "What Is Our Yes?" Daniel Lawlor

**Offertory** "For Good," from *Wicked* Stephen Schwartz (b. 1948)

### 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 an emailed receipt. Thank you!

**Charge** Rev. Kendrick

<b>Hymn # 329</b>	Life Has Loveliness to Sell	BLISS
<b>Benediction</b>		Daniel Lawlor
<b>Postlude</b>	Postlude on <i>Italian Hymn</i>	Albert L. Travis (b. 1940)

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### Hymn Texts, Lyrics (11/29/20)

**Hymn # 47**                      Come, Thou Almighty Will                      ITALIAN HYMN  
in *Hymns of the Spirit*, 1937

1. Come, thou Almighty Will!  
Our fainting bosoms fill  
    With thy great power:  
Strength of our intents,  
Our tempted hour's defence,  
Calm of faith's confidence,  
Come, in this hour!

2. Come, thou most tender Love!  
Within our spirits move,  
    Their sweetest guest:  
Exalt each low desire,  
Transforming passion's fire,  
To deeds of love inspire,  
Quickener and Rest!

3. Come, Light serene and still!  
Our darkened spirits fill  
    With thy clear day:  
Guide of the feeble sight,  
Star of grief's darkest night,  
Reveal the path of right,  
Show us thy way!

**Musical Meditation**    Flower Duet, from *Lakmé*                      Léo Delibes (1836-1891)

Under the thick dome where the white jasmine with the roses entwined together on the riverbank covered with flowers, laughing in the morning, let us descend together! Gently floating on its charming risings, on the river's current on the shining waves, one hand reaches, reaches for the bank, where the spring sleeps, and the bird sings.

**Affirmation # 133 One World** (Verse 1)

One world this, for all its sorrow;  
one world shaping one tomorrow;  
one humanity, though riven, we,  
to whom a world is given.  
From one world there is no turning;  
for one world the prophet's yearning.  
One, the world of poets, sages;  
one world, goal of all the ages.

**Offertory**

"For Good," from *Wicked*

Stephen Schwartz (b. 1948)

I've heard it said that people come into our lives for a reason, bringing something we must learn; and we are led to those who help us most to grow if we let them and we help them in return. Well, I don't know if I believe that's true but I know I'm who I am today because I knew you. Like a comet pulled from orbit as it passes the sun, like a stream that meets a boulder halfway through the wood. Who can say if I've been changed for the better but because I knew you I have been changed for good.  
It well may be that we will never meet again in this lifetime. So, let me say before we part so much of me is made of what I learned from you. You'll be with me like a handprint on my heart. And now whatever way our stories end I know you have rewritten mine by being my friend. Like a ship blown from its mooring by a wind off the sea. Like a seed dropped by a sky bird in a distant wood. Who can say if I've been changed for the better but because I knew you I have been changed for good.  
And just to clear the air I ask forgiveness for the things I've done, you blame me for. But then I guess we know there's blame to share and none of it seems to matter anymore. Because I knew you I have been changed for good.

**Hymn # 329**

Life Has Loveliness to Sell

BLISS

Life has loveliness to sell, all beautiful and splendid things,  
blue waves whitened on a cliff, soaring fire that sways and sings,  
and children's faces looking up, holding wonder like a cup.

Life has loveliness to sell, as music, like a curve of gold,  
scent of pine trees in the rain, eyes that love you, arms that hold,  
and for your spirit's still delight, holy thoughts that star the night.

Spend all you have for loveliness, to buy and never count the cost:  
for one singing hour of peace count a year of strife well lost,  
and for a breath of ecstasy give all you have been, or could be.