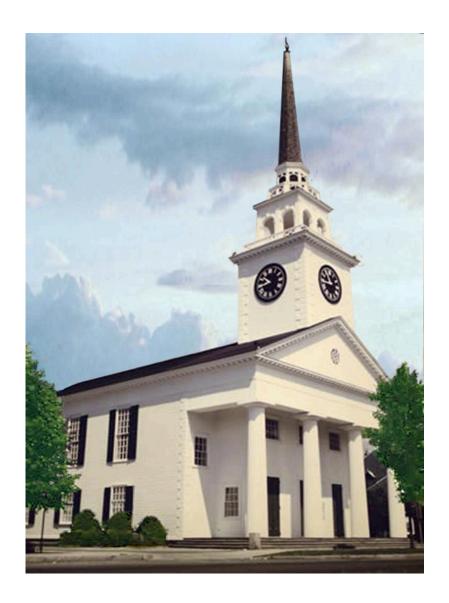
FIRST PARISH CHURCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST 7 Concord Road, P.O. Box 96 Billerica, MA 01821 978-663-2293

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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.



July 20, 2025

# The First Parish Church in Billerica, Unitarian Universalist

On the Common - Billerica, Massachusetts

# ORDER OF SERVICE FIRST PARISH CHURCH BILLERICA

Worship Leader: Brita Learned

#### **OPENING WORDS**

### **CHALICE LIGHTING**

Life is a gift for which we are grateful. We gather in community to celebrate the glories And the mysteries of this great gift.

### **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 we covenant with each other and with God.

**OPENING HYMN:** Words by Rumi Come, Come, Whoever you Are, wander, worshipper, lover of leaving. Ours is no caravan of despair. Come, yet again come.

## **CANDLES OF JOY AND CONCERN**

**VIDEO:** "God-Mother" by Nina Paley

**SERMON:** The Chalice and The Blade

**OFFERTORY:** 

### **EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE:**

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.

#### **CHANT:**

The earth is Our Mother, we must take care of Her,

Hey yana ho yana hey yan yan

Her sacred ground we walk upon, with every step we take,

Hey yana ho yana hey yan yan

The Earth is Our Mother, She will take care of us,

Hey yana ho yana hey yan yan

**BENEDICTION:** 

Starhawk