

***This month's theme is  
PLURALISM***

***First Parish in Malden,  
Universalist***

**Mission Statement** | Worship is what we do when we gather together, take risks for justice, embrace difference, and give back. Worship is what we do. This is what it looks like.



# ***Solstice***

December 22, 2024

*Sign up for our  
weekly  
newsletter*



*Give to the plate  
electronically.*



*New here?  
Fill out a  
guest card.*



<b>Prelude</b>	Nova, nova, Medieval carol arr. Robert J. Powell
<b>Hymn</b>	#389 Gathered Here
<b>Opening Words</b>	Elise Miller
<b>Lighting of the Chalice</b>	<p><i>This solstice night [or day]</i>  <i>In honor of ancient traditions that celebrate this time of longest night,</i>  <i>we observe that the flaming chalice holds the elements of the four directions:</i>  <i>Earth, air, fire, water.</i>  <i>The lamp oil for earth</i>  <i>The air that feeds the flame</i>  <i>The fire we light</i>  <i>And the chalice itself, the cup, the symbol of water</i>  <i>We light our chalice and reflect on the light we need to guide us through hard times:</i>  <i>the light of our shared faith,</i>  <i>the light of loving community,</i>  <i>the light of love, joy, and hope.</i></p> <p>Chalice Lighting for Winter Solstice By Sharon Wylie</p>
<b>Calling the Corners</b>	
<b>Greeting</b>	We invite you to greet your neighbor. Take time to go over to someone you haven't met.
<b>Music</b>	May I Be Empty by Batya Levine
<b>Land Acknowledgement</b>	FPM is on the native land of the Massachuset, Naumkeag, Pawtucket, and Pennacook people.
<b>Our Covenant</b>	<i>We, the members of the First Parish in Malden, covenant in friendship to create together a community of respect, equality, openness, trust, and compassion. We pledge ourselves to hospitality, understanding, spiritual growth, sharing, and participation.</i>
<b>Time for All Ages</b>	The Oak King vs. The Holly King

**Children's  
Recessional**

Be Open by Debbie Nargi-Brown

**Ritual: Energy Raising**

**Hymn**

Loosen by Aly Halpert

**Message**

Rev. Otto Concannon

**Offering and  
Thanksgiving**

First Parish Emergency Shelter Fund

**Offertory Music**

The Holly and the Ivy, English carol arr.  
Phillip Keveren  
#1010 We Give Thanks

**Joys, Concerns,  
and Milestones**

**Pastoral Prayer**

Rev. Otto Concannon

**Sounding of the Bell  
and Time of Silence**

**Hymn**

#387 The Earth, The Air, The Fire, The Water

**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 meet  
again.*

**Closing the Circle**

**Our Story**

Erik Fearing

**Benediction**

Rev. Otto Concannon

**Postlude**

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen, English carol  
arr. Faber Janna Bruene

*Join us for coffee hour in Durgin Hall after the service.*



**For all announcements, see the newsletter for more details!**

To share an announcement, please email it to  
[admin@fpmalden.org](mailto:admin@fpmalden.org).

To meet with Rev. Otto, go to [www.calendly.com/revottoconnor](http://www.calendly.com/revottoconnor).

**Rev. Otto's office hours** will be 12/23 from 4p-6p at Tous Les Jours. Join Rev. Otto and others for coffee (on us!) and discussion.

**We will meet in the library after the service today** for this month's book discussion about "Authentic Selves: Celebrating Trans and Nonbinary People and Their Families." All are welcome! We hope to see you there.

**Religious Education (RE) Announcements:**

\* Coming up: 12/29 and 1/5 All-Ages Children's Chapel

\* Want to learn to raise children who are thoughtful, informed, and brave about race? Register for our 6 series workshop: [www.fpmalden.org/embracerace](http://www.fpmalden.org/embracerace)

\* Want to volunteer with Religious Education? Know someone who might want to work in our treehouse? We are looking to grow our team! Email [Sara@fpmalden.org](mailto:Sara@fpmalden.org).

**Singers and instrumentalists** are welcome to participate in the Christmas Eve candlelight service @5:30pm on 12/24. We will rehearse before the service between 3:30-5pm - contact Soren ([music@fpmalden.org](mailto:music@fpmalden.org)) for more info.

Want to **share an announcement** in the newsletter? The deadline is Tuesday night by 9pm! Email [admin@fpmalden.org](mailto:admin@fpmalden.org).

Want to **follow along** with the screenshare or captions on your phone? Join the Zoom meeting: Meeting ID: 812 0577 8147; Passcode: 309579

