

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.



The Holiday Octopus

November 23, 2025

*Join our
newsletter*



*Give to the plate
electronically.*



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guest card.*



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Discord server*



Prelude	Allegro in F Major —William Boyce
Hymn	We Are The Ones
Opening Words	Alexa Reed
Lighting of the Chalice	An octopus has three whole hearts and sometimes I lie awake thinking about all that lub-dubbing on the ocean floor and no one to hear it. What kind of god gives a cephalopod three but a human only one? I want more thumps. I want more time. I want to waste my love on everything.
Greeting	We invite you to greet your neighbor. Take time to go over to someone you haven't met.
Music	Chosen Family by Rina Sawayama
Our Covenant	<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>
Time for All Ages	Holiday Preparation
New Member Recognition Ceremony	Rev. Otto Concannon
Ritual	Holiday Obligations
Hymn	Loosen (Sing Out Love)

Message	Needs and Offers - Rev. Otto Concannon
Offering and Thanksgiving	First Parish in Malden Help Fund
Offertory Music	Simple Gifts — Shaker Tune #1010 We Give Thanks
Joys, Concerns, and Milestones	
Pastoral Prayer	Ashley Mulcaire
Sounding of the Bell and Time of Silence	
Hymn	This Boat (Sing Out Love)
Music Director Sabbatical Leave Taking	Rev. Otto Concannon
Closing Hymn	We Will Carry Each Other (Sing Out Love)
Extinguishing the Chalice	<i>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.</i>
Our Story	Ingrid Schwamb
Benediction	Rev. Otto Concannon
Postlude	Land of Rest — arr. Wilbur Held

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.

Join us for **Monday night Magic!** We'll play Magic: the Gathering every first, second & fourth Monday of the month from 6pm to 9pm in the library. If you've never played or don't have your own cards, premade decks will be available.

Today is **Pie Sunday**, the best coffee hour around! This is a First Parish Malden tradition. Come eat pie at coffee hour after service!

Join us for a **Community Thanksgiving Meal** with Malden's Food Not Bombs chapter on Saturday 11/29 at 12:30pm! Come share food, connect with neighbors, and celebrate community spirit in Durgin Hall.

Seeking **grocery donations!** On 11/30, the youth of First Parish will prepare food for people in need and for donating locally. Please email dre@fpmalden.org if you are interested in helping.

Join us on **12/13 from 4-6pm for a many-holiday winter celebration** in true UU tradition! We'll play dreidel, celebrate the solstice & decorate a tree. We'll have treats & food. This is a family friendly event, & all are welcome to join.

Merry Malden is asking for donors to buy holiday gifts for local kiddos. In the past, First Parish has sponsored a family, and we'd love to do it again. Please email perkt4@gmail.com by 12/1 if you'd like to shop or add to the fund.

We'll be watching **one episode of the first season of "Andor"** each Friday and discussing it after. Screening will be held in the chapel and will start at 7:30pm. Kids welcome at parents' discretion.

Save the date for **our first retreat** at Ferry Beach in Maine, April 24-26. See the newsletter for details and to register your interest.

Our **Music Director Soren will be on Sabbatical** from 11/26/25 through May 2026. See the newsletter for details about the Sabbatical, and how the music program will continue to run during this time.

Beautiful Lotus in a Sea of Fire Meditation Group: Join Rev. Ralph's meditation group on Wednesdays from 7-8:30 in the library or on Zoom.

Choir and band meet weekly this fall! All are encouraged and welcome to join, even if you can't attend all rehearsals. Band is Monday evenings from 7-8:30pm; Choir is Thursday evenings from 7-8:30pm

Register your child(ren) for **Religious Education:**
<https://tinyurl.com/FPMaldenREReg25>

Want to **follow along** with the screenshare or captions on your phone? Join the Zoom meeting: Meeting ID: 878 4065 3019; Passcode: 113924