



## Opening Litany

Leader: Blessed is the One who created all things;

People: The One who calls us together in covenant and community.

Leader: Blessed is the One who gives us gifts and talents;

People: May we use them for the good of God's people, seen and unseen.

Leader: Blessed is the One who stands with us in our times of need;

People: May we stand with others in theirs.

ALL: May we be the people and spiritual community the Holy One sees  
And believes we can be. Amen.

## **A Stewardship Reflection**      *"First Parish – For Such a Time as This"*

Chip Price

**Solo**

*"Be Near Me Still"*

Hiller

Rebecca Shrimpton, soloist

Lord! In my hearts love deep I hide Thee, be near me still!

Thou tow'r of strength, whate'er betide me, be Thou with me!

Oh be my guard in life's bright places, lest pride prevail,

When fear or self-mistrust o'er-ride me, be near me still!

Like dew upon the vine Thy grace is, I'm naught alone,

But when I storm the heights, then guide me to do Thy will;

Be near me still!

O thou my hope, my pow'r unshaken, my soul's true sun,  
Till earth's dark days shall be forsaken, be near me still!

## **Prayer Intentions**

### **Time of Silent and Spoken Prayer, including The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## **Music Meditation**

*"Graceful Ghost Rag"*

Bolcom

## **The New Testament**

**Revelation 21:1-5; 22:1-5**

**(New Revised Standard Version Bible Translation)**

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

<sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their

eyes.

Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away."

<sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true."

<sup>1</sup> Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup> through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

<sup>3</sup> Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; <sup>4</sup> they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

## Message

### Duet

*"As the Deer"*

Nystrom, arr. Larson

Rebecca Shrimpton and Paul Knox

As the deer panteth for the water, so my soul longeth after Thee. You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship Thee. You alone are my strength, my shield; to You alone may my spirit yield.

You are my heart's desire and I long to worship Thee. You're my friend and brother, even though You are a King. I love You more than any other, so much more than anything. I want You more than gold or silver, only You can satisfy. You alone are the real joy-giver and the apple of my eye.

You alone are my strength, my shield; to You alone may my spirit yield. You are my heart's desire and I long to worship Thee.

## **Blessing**

- We encourage all members and friends of First Parish to remain with us immediately after the conclusion of our Worship this morning for our Virtual Friendship Time on Zoom. You can join the meeting by computer, tablet, iPad, or smart phone by clicking this link <https://zoom.us/j/720983063> Password- 244108
- Dial in with your phone and join using just audio at this number 1-301-715-8592 (Meeting ID- 720 983 063, Password- 244108). We welcome you for this time of additional community connection. Do you miss gathering after worship with everyone? Check out our Virtual Friendship Time from October 11.
- "Deacon Fund" Support and Assistance – the "Deacon Fund" remains a vital means of assistance to FPC members in need, especially in this difficult and uncertain time. Contributions can be made "First Parish Church" with "Deacon Fund" in the memo section, and mailed to First

