

Act of Installation

Holly Harris: As the chair of the Parish Committee of First Parish in Cohasset, it is my honor to represent the congregation in the act of installation. Our members have voted unanimously to call Rev. Dan Harper as our minister. We recognize that this act of installation symbolizes a covenant, promises that we make to one another. Dan, will you promise to partner with us in a shared ministry of worshiping together, caring for one another, and working for a better world?

Dan Harper: I gladly promise to share this ministry with all of you.

Holly: And I ask all the members and friends of this congregation, will we promise to partner with Dan in a shared ministry of worshiping together, caring for one another, and working for a better world?

Congregation: We gladly promise to share this ministry with Dan and with each other.

Holly: Then by my authority as an elected officer of this congregation, I now install Dan Harper as the twenty-first called minister of First Parish in Cohasset.

Worship Leaders

Mark Alves sings tenor in the First Parish choir, and serves on the Music and Worship Committee. He is one of the First Parish OWL teachers.

Bev Burgess is a member of the Parish Committee of First Parish in Cohasset, and is the chair of the Music and Worship Committee. She serves regularly as a worship associate.

Mary Beth Courtright is the Music Director of First Parish. She previously served as organist, choir director, and music director for numerous churches and denominations.

Rev. Danielle DiBona is a Palliative Care chaplain at South Shore Hospital, Weymouth, Mass. She was the 2018 recipient of the Award for Distinguished Service to the Cause of Unitarian Universalism for her work in antiracism, anti-oppression, and multiculturalism.

Rev. Ann Fox is minister emerita of Unitarian Universalist Society of Fairhaven, Mass. She is a regular guest preacher at First Parish in Cohasset.

Rev. Dan Harper is the minister of First Parish in Cohasset. He has previously served in Unitarian Universalist congregations in California, Illinois, and Massachusetts.

Holly Harris is the chair of the Parish Committee of First Parish. She also sings with the choir, and serves as a Worship Associate. She was on the Search Committee which brought Dan Harper to First Parish.

Offering

McKayla Hoffman is the Ministerial Intern at United First Parish in Quincy, Mass. She has also served as Office Administrator and Youth Group Advisor at nearby Unitarian Universalist congregations.

Rev. Robert McKetchnie served as the twentieth minister of First Parish in Cohasset from 2016 to 2022. Upon his retirement, the congregation voted him the honor of Minister Emeritus.

Matt Mulder volunteers with the First Parish religious education program, including in the summer Ecojustice Camp. He sings with the choir when his schedule allows.

Mike Nakashima recently ended a term on the Parish Committee, and is a member of the Music and Worship Committee. He plays percussion for services, and sings tenor and bass in the choir.

Dr. Kate Sullivan is the Director of Religious Education at First Parish. With a Ph.D. in developmental psychology, she formerly did research and taught undergraduate courses.

Caroline Struzziero is a member of the Parish Committee of First Parish. She grew up in the Sunday school, and is currently a junior in high school.

Mary Toropov is a member of the Music and Worship committee and a Worship Associate. She is a soprano in the First Parish choir.

The entire offering today will go to the Living Tradition Fund of the Unitarian Universalist Association. The 1988 General Assembly established the Living Tradition Fund and requested that "Ordination and Installation Services held in member societies include an offering" to the fund. Over the years, that request has become a tradition among us.

Income for the fund comes from individual gifts, offerings at Installations, Ordinations and other milestone occasions, and from two services at General Assembly—the Ministers Association worship service during Professional Days, and the Service of the Living Tradition. The Living Tradition Fund provides three types of support for ministry:

1. need-based scholarships for theological students who have completed a full year of theological education;
2. new minister assistance to reduce the burden of high educational debt and repayment;
3. emergency assistance grants to seminarians, ministers, religious professionals, other congregational staff, retired ministers and their loved ones.

The generosity of individuals, congregations and districts helps to strengthen and support our professional ministry by keeping this important resource available.