Prelude
Italian Concerto, BWV 971, First Movement
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Robert Winkley, piano

Opening Words
Daniel Lawlor

Hymn # 64
Oh, Give Us Pleasure in the Flowers Today
COOLINGE

Chalice Lighting and Tolling of the Bell
Daniel Lawlor

Love is the spirit of this church, and Service its law. This is our great covenant, to
dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

Time For All Ages
Daniel Lawlor

Go Now in Peace

Responsive Reading # 579 “The Limits of Tyrants,” by Frederick Douglass

Musical Meditation
"Notre amour"
Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)
Erin Anderson, soprano; Robert Winkley, piano

Reading
"Caged Bird," by Maya Angelou
Daniel Lawlor

Announcements
Rev. Kendrick

Prayer and Meditation
Daniel Lawlor

Affirmation # 123 Spirit of Life

Sermon
“Original Sin”
Rev. Kendrick

Offertory
Italian Concerto, BWV 971, Second Movement (Andante)
J. S. Bach
Robert Winkley, piano
**Text Messaging Donation**
You can use text messaging on your smartphone to send a contribution to the First Church offertory. Text a number representing your dollar amount (5, 10, 20, etc.) to (617) 917-5610. You will receive confirmation by email. Thank you!

**Charge**
Daniel Lawlor

**Hymn # 347**
Gather the Spirit

**Benediction**
Rev. Kendrick

**Postlude**
Italian Concerto, BWV 971, Third Movement (Presto)  J. S. Bach
*Robert Winkley, piano*

*Please note, this order of service may vary from the actual broadcast service.*

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**Hymn Texts, Responsive Reading, Lyrics (4/25/21)**

**Hymn # 64**
Oh, Give Us Pleasure in the Flowers Today  
*COOLINGE*

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers today,  
and give us not to think so far away  
as the uncertain harvest; keep us here  
all simply in the springing of the year.

Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white  
like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;  
and make us happy in the happy bees,  
the swarm dilating round the perfect trees.

And make us happy in the darting bird  
that suddenly above the bees is heard,  
the meteor that thrusts in with needle bill,  
and off a blossom in mid air stands still.

For this is love and nothing else is love,  
the which it is reserved for God above  
to sanctify to what far ends he will,  
but which it only needs that we fulfill.

**Responsive Reading # 579** “The Limits of Tyrants,” by Frederick Douglass

Those who profess to favor freedom and yet deprecate agitation are men who want crops without plowing up the ground;
they want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters.

This struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, and it may be both moral and physical, but it must be a struggle.

*Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will.*

Find out just what any people will quietly submit to and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them, and these will continue till they are resisted with either words or blows, or with both.

*The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress.*

**Affirmation # 123**  
Spirit of Life

Spirit of Life, come unto me.  
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.  
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;  
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.  
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;  
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

**Hymn # 347**  
Gather the Spirit

Gather the spirit, harvest the power.  
Our sep’rate fires will kindle one flame.  
Witness the mystery of this hour.  
Our trials in this light appear all the same.

(Chorus)

Gather in peace, gather in thanks.  
Gather in sympathy now and then.  
Gather in hope, compassion and strength.  
Gather to celebrate once again.

Gather the spirit of heart and mind.  
Seeds for the sowing are laid in store.  
Nurtured in love, and conscience refined,  
with body and spirit united once more.

(Chorus)

Gather the spirit growing in all,  
drawn by the moon and fed by the sun.  
Winter to spring, and summer to fall,  
the chorus of life resounding as one.

(Chorus)