

Unitarian Worship

Wednesday, June 25 & Thursday, June 26, 2014, 7:30 p.m.
First Church in Boston

The Reverend Stephen Kendrick, *senior minister*
The Choir of First Church in Boston
Dr. Paul Cienniwa, *director of music*
Heinrich Christensen, *organist*
Matt Sharrock, *marimbist*

Gathering Music **Embertides** (2013)

Winter—Spring—Summer—Autumn

Hilary Tann
(b. 1947)

First performance, commissioned by the AGO 2014 National Convention in Boston

Welcome

Chalice Lighting **Love is the Spirit of this Church**, Op. 85, No. 3

Karl Henning
(b. 1960)

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

—James Vila Blake

Hymn **No. 329: Life Has Loveliness to Sell**

BLISS

Responsive Reading No. 652

The Great End in Religious Instruction

Choral Meditation **in mutuall love....**

Leo Collins
(c. 1980)

The text for *in mutuall love....* is taken from the 1630 covenant of the First Church in Boston. Much of the music is based on the familiar hymn tune “The Old Hundredth.” Leo Collins, music director at First Church from 1967 through 1997, writes, “The Covenant text is the Colonists’ pledge build a New Jerusalem in the New World, but for me, the key phrases are *Promise, and bind ourselves, to walke in all our ways...in mutuall love, and respect each to other.*”

Unison Reading No. 493

Fire of the Spirit

Prayer

Hymn **No. 352: Find a Stillness**

SIGISMUND

Sermon **The First Person You Greet in Heaven**

The Rev. Stephen Kendrick

Choral Meditation **Prayers of Hildegard**

There is the Music of Heaven
It Is the Heart That Sees
O Holy Spirit

Edward Thompson
(b. 1950)

First performance, commissioned by the AGO 2014 National Convention in Boston

There is the music of heaven in all things And we have forgotten until we sing.

“Caritas abundat in Omnia.” (Love abides in all things.) It is the heart that sees the primordial eternity in all creatures. How wonderful is the wisdom in the heart of Divinity!

O Holy Spirit, giving life to all, Moving all creation, root of all things,
Washing them clean, Wiping out their mistakes, Healing their wounds, You
are our true life, luminous, wonderful, Awakening the heart from ancient
sleep.

Charge

Hymn

No. 193: Our Faith Is But a Single Gem

DISTRESS

Benediction

Postlude

Postlude from **Liturgical Suite for Organ**, Op. 69

Larry Thomas Bell
(b. 1952)

Liturgical Suite for Organ, Op. 69, was completed in June 2004, and was commissioned by and dedicated to two organists: Carson Cooman and Richard Bunbury. The work is in seven movements and is designed to be both a recital piece and a functional part of a church service.