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Sermons, 1933-1953

Petersham, First Congregational Parish Church,  
1933-1953

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1941

### Booklet of Sermon Notes, 1941

Earl Clement Davis

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UNION MEMORIAL SERVICE

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May 25 1941.  
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Prelude...

Call to Worship - Doxology  
Invocation - Lord's Prayer.

HYMN 25 High in the heavens

Responsive Reading 79  
Gloria Patri.

Scripture Reading .. Rev Earl C. Davis

ANTHEM ....  
Pastoral Prayer.

Announcements and Offertory  
Solo.

HYMN 361 O Master let me walk with Thee

Sermon ... Rev Earl C. Davis

HYMN 555 Ten thousand times

Benediction

Postlude.  
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June 1, 1941

Exchange With  
Robert Schacht, Providence, R.I.

"Men of Faith in Easy Age."

Readings =

Isaiah 52<sup>13</sup> - 53<sup>9</sup>

Matt. 7<sup>7-14</sup> = ov = Mk. 4<sup>26-29</sup>

M. Arnoldi "We cannot Kindle,"  
←—————→

"When the fruit is ripe:"

The birth of Christianity, as we look back upon it, was one of those great events in human history, perhaps the greatest, when the time had come to sow some of the <sup>choice</sup> seeds that had been garnered from experiences of the past. =

Isaiah = is the word of a new thought dawning on the mind of man. =

Sermon - fetch it - ref. =

The Seed = its main, is not

- (a) in the production = Home. Part.;
- (b) " " distributor = church
- c " " seed sowing = Bible

54  
311

Peterham, Mass.  
June 8, 1941 -

The Long View. =

Service of christening = 11.45.

2-8. History,

27  
337  
438,

Nehemiah. Chapter 2,  
,, 4/10-23

The Servant Passage,  
Poetry + Prophecy.

Nehemiah, not a  
prophet, but a doer,

Single text which  
Doing more than one  
thing at the  
same time!"

Notes for sermon June 8, 1941  
The Long View.

June 11, 1842 at a meeting of the Worcester Association of Ministers, a resolution was passed calling for a meeting in the Autumn for the purpose of awakening mutual sympathy and considering the wants of the Unitarian body.

These autumnal meetings were held each year until 1863, when the demands of the Civil War broke them up.

First one held in Worcester October 18-20, 1842.

Third held in Albany, N.Y. ~~At this Albany meeting~~  
At this Albany meeting Dr. Orville Dewey said,\*

" This and other conventions like it that are held in our body, I am inclined to think, have never been held before in the world. There is nothing like them to be found in the records of ecclesiastical history. We meet as distinct churches, on the pure democratic basis, which we ~~we~~ believe to be the true basis of the Church of Christ. We meet without any formalities -- to institute or correct no canons-- without the slightest system whatever. We come to meditate, to assist each other in experience, by unfolding our own experience, by declaring our own Convictions."

Cooke's Unitarianism in  
America, Page 174.

Petersham,  
June 29. 1941

A Living Church.

Service 5- Litany.

16

407

393

Matthew 20<sup>20-25</sup>.

Luke 12<sup>1-5</sup>

Levant in the House =

---

Religion & Church.

'Lies';

Church

Dead

Saying

Being Born.

Peterham, Mass  
July 6, 1941

Solubility.

"The Kingdoms yet to be!"

7 - 30 - Liton.

Wainoh = 32  $\frac{1-8+13-20}{}$

Faith for Living. Page 233.

25

76

~~76~~

362.

The dramatic of artistic  
of America - taking both  
of Allegiance -  
Soluto to Folge

Petersham, Mass  
July 13, 1941,

= ~~A new world.~~ =  
= Incompleteness =  
2 - 8. 32.  
Readings. 186.  
Deut. = 6<sup>4-9</sup> 408.  
Micah = 6<sup>4-8</sup>  
Mark 12<sup>28-34</sup> & 41-44.  
Trick. =

These passages of scripture represent three efforts of man, to tie together into a connected whole, the world as they see and experience it, and their effort to give that whole world an honest and true character, =

" Michael , do you not hear the divine message which calls you to church to assist the priest in his service at the altar of God ?"

The New Reformation, Page 247.

Michael Pupin.



Peterham, Mass.  
July 20, 1941.

By the slow process of growth. =

3 - 12 =

17 -  
208 =

Readings.

Romans 12.

Luke 17<sup>20-21</sup>

~~254~~  
811

And being asked by the Pharisees,  
when the Kingdom of God  
cometh, he answered them  
and said, "The K. of G. cometh  
not with observation; neither  
shall they say, Lo, here, or there,  
for, lo, the Kingdom of God,  
is within you."

---

Romans 12. =

We have to live within  
the world that is.

St. College. Heavens may be  
my home. Chicago. where I live.  
Thy neighbor as thyself.  
Thou shalt love as thyself.

July 27. 1941  
Petersham, Mass.

The Slow Process of Discovery. =

4-17 litany: 67  
} 85-83,  
~~88~~  
~~99~~ +

Johns. 4-<sup>19-26-7</sup> <sup>32-39</sup>  
letter of Mrs. J. G. Hedam  
to her son. ='

"Not Revelation but Discovery!" 145  
The early Xrs. would wear out 229 }  
single + of single fingers.

Samaritans. =  
Evening  
260.  
360.

Tolerance and  
fidelity to "The  
Seed." = rest  
corrosion. = Pharisaees  
Low; spirit and  
in truth,  
in life and in  
reality. =

**RABIES WARNING FOR BABY**  
N.Y.C. 7/18/41  
Police of 9 States Seek Family  
to Tell of Infant's Danger

The police of nine Eastern States, including New York and New Jersey, were asked yesterday by the police of Oklahoma City, Okla., to locate Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Hudson, and their two daughters, one an infant, presumed to be traveling by automobile between New York and Washington, to notify Mr. Hudson to get rabies treatment for his infant daughter. Since the Hudsons have left Oklahoma City, the child's pet cat has died from rabies, according to the alarm.

In requesting New York City police to join in the search, the Oklahoma City authorities said the family was riding in a 1941 sedan, bearing Oklahoma registration 2-38-860. Mr. Hudson is asked to telephone C. Tangner at Oklahoma City 5-8954.

July 27, 1941

Preached at  
The Old Chestnut Hill  
Writing House,  
Millville, at 3.30 P.M.

Subject,  
The Slow Process of Discovey.

Reading:  $\therefore$   
John 4. 19-26 = 22-39.

Isles of Stoves  
July 30. 1941

Hound Talk Discussion  
on S. T. E. C., 5-6 P. M.

Chapel = at 10. P. M.  
Readings,  
John.

Petersham, Mass

Aug. 3, 1941

"In thy mill is our fate."

1 - Litany.

Readings,

Psalm 42.

~~Mat. 7:13-14~~

G.P. = Page 505 = Mat. Awaol.

Thou hast made us for  
thyself, O God, and our  
hearts are restless until  
we find rest in thee. In  
thy mill is our fate."

St. Augustine.

In the long journey from  
that curious, and terrible world  
of theological dogma, towards  
a promised land, - one of  
the great mile furts, was  
the discovery that even  
in misgovernment were  
there ways of disinterested  
benevolence. †

49.

99

250

261

Peter Linn. Wans.  
August 10. 1941

2-<sup>8</sup> 100 Probs., =

103 Probs.  
Songs of Kober. XL  
XLIII.

8  
54  
~~107~~  
{37}

-Sept. 11. 1893-  
World Parliament of Religions.

Petersham.  
Aug. 17. 1941

Rev. Sumner Mitchell of  
Brookfield, and  
Sanford, Me., ~~will~~  
freshed. =  
Cold = did not go  
to Berkshire,

Petersham, Mass.  
August 24, 1941.

The Keyes to the Kingdom.

4 - 17 - Litany.

9

208.

James. (19-2) + 3 (13-18).

337

The Keyes of the Kingdom

U. N. Crown. = Page, 319-20.

Best seller. = Why? ^

- (1) Patience
  - (2) Quietness.
  - (3) Courage.
- } = Faith



Notices, Aug. 24,

Church School Picnic. =

Tuesday = Aug. 26. =

Leave the church at 10. o'clock. =

Parkland Heights.

Next Sunday, Dr. Stiffin  
will be the preacher in  
this church. =

Concert to = night in the  
Memorial Library Hall,  
Library Building.

at 9.45

Church School of our  
next Sunday at 9.45

... ..

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... ..

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... ..  
... ..

Petersham, Mass.  
August 31, 1941

F. R. Gouffier preacher.

5- 22 - Litany 24.

~~24~~ 32

~~24~~  
145

~~24~~  
395

St. Agnes, 241.

Sept. 7, 1941

"The Lustiness of Curiosity,  
and where it leads us."

1 -	<u>Litany.</u>	1
Reading, =		238
Jeremiah, 31	31-34 =	972 } <del>238</del>
Job 42 <sup>1-6</sup>		
Matt. 13	31-2	

---

- Jer. = is a record, not of Revolution,  
 (1) but a new discovery, =  
 "the new covenant."  
 (2) It was being made, in a period  
 of great sickness, = and gloom, =  
 (3) = Term fault: = mustard, seed,

Curiosity, = Immediate, =  
 Instinct, = of

But it becomes in its most  
 complete and sublime form  
 the feeling to work.

Sept. 14. 1941

The Menace of Dictatorships,  
And the way out. =

2 - 8 =

Luke 11:19-31,

Romans 12-

28

280

360

They love more + the Prophets,  
History

Petersham.

Sept. 21. 1941

Superstition + Idol Worshipping,

3-12

Readings..

Luke 12 22-34 + 54-39

25

69

248 ~~250~~

2nd Commandment:

What is it?

"Standing over something  
in amazement + awe"

Comprising as to cause +  
effect. = things which  
happen at about the same  
time.

"Standing over" while the world  
rolls on through time + space.

"For I have not you, but you"

Petersham,  
Sept. 28, 1941

"Not you but you"  
"Not Dogma but Personality"

4 = 17

Responsive. 64 = 10 = 28 47  
Library, 894 = 224

Readings: -20  
Proverbs, 8<sup>20-36</sup> =

{ 235  
272

Math. 7<sup>6-12</sup>

Romans 8<sup>38-9</sup>

Emerson's Transition: p. 342.

Oct. 5 - 1941  
Peterboro, N.H.  
Christianing Service

- a

The Feel of Belonging.

5-22:

Reaching =	282 25
Isaiah = 41-1-10	260. 87
Philippians 3:12-16 =	488 =

Lewis Mumford,  
The Land =  
The Rivers =  
The Home =

To the Land =  
" " Home = family,  
" " the Community =  
" " whose = Religion.

1) Security.

(2) Achievement = work =

The Balance between  
Belonging = and  
domination.



Petersham.

Dec. 12. 1941

Exchange with  
Max Savage.  
Preached in Worcester  
on "Not yours but you"  
See - notes and  
outline for Sept. 28, 41

Peterhouse, Mass.

Oct. 19. 1941

An Eternal Conversation,

"Freedom speaks in us"

3 vol,  $\frac{1}{2}$  history, 14

Readings, Mass. 7 <sup>24-29</sup>

M. R. P.

123-4

27 ~~14~~

207 ~~224~~

3/3

374 = 315

Big down to the solid work,

Herb's Free Land,

The borders of Bethsemane.

From our office to Bethsemane.

Peter Harris. Mass.  
October 26. 1941

"Out of Exile,"

4-

Readings:

Song of Berke. Page. 67-8

16-

Art. 9<sup>1-9</sup>

241-

Victor Hugo's = W. Shakerpear.

351<sup>255</sup>

Page. 294-302

---

Narrative - incidents, etc.

Traveling by night. =

Well-marked highways. =

(3) Witnesses of experience.

Some - one has gone before.

(2) Skill of automobile drivers. =  
in the darkness. =

(1) Daniel Boone in the wilderness,  
Beeslayer. =

---

Paul = Anointed.

Paul = " " "

---

Victor Hugo,

Trust our memories  
and reasonable attitudes,

---

October 1911  
1911

Two weeks from  
to-day =

United Thanksgiving

10  
14  
21  
28

1911  
1911  
1911

... of ...  
... of ...  
... of ...

... of ...  
... of ...

... of ...  
... of ...

... = ...

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... = ...

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... = ...

Petersham, Mass.  
Nov. 2, 1941

Our-selves + our children,

"Education for life"

1-2 = R. P. R. 59-P. 110,

Gal. 5-6-10,

Ruskin. Mother

Wisdom - Habits.

88

31

140

~~318~~

314

The Backward Look,

.. Forward look.

The Process.

Samedi -  
Nov. 5 + 6.

Mrs. Williams + Trees.

(1) - Marked characters to  
10) Whole personality  
↳ Reserve.

(2) = Among the trees.

The Tree. not a thing,  
but had qualities and  
characteristics of their own  
to be respected and if  
further understood,

"And out of the ground made  
the Lord God to grow every  
tree that is pleasant to the  
sight, and good for food."

Not sentimental,  
Prof. Clinic Survey of the  
stand!

A good listener, =  
Picture -

"Be still and know  
that I am God"

Albion  
Thursday at 2.30,  
Rev. James T. Carter.

Historical-Writing,

Union Thanksgiving  
Service, - next Sunday  
North Church,

Trees = become individual  
you =

Myster strain =

His whole personality  
went out to life, - but it  
was her disciplined and  
intelligent



Petersham, Mass.  
Nov. 9, 1941,

We confer our Sins =

Armistice Day.

9<sup>th</sup>

Readings.

Luke 17<sup>11-21</sup> & 18<sup>2-17</sup>

Emerson = B.C. = Page ~~157~~ = 241)

10.

280.

311.

- (1) This story of the healing of the ten-lepers has a point. But the point is not the miracle of healing, but the facts that only the despised Samaritan gave thanks.

(2) = The Kingdom of God is  
within you. -

Nov. 16, 1941,  
A Thanksgiving of God,  
Union Thanksgiving Service  
at North Church,  
E. C. D. Service.

Blessings, - yours & mine.  
Scripture.

Jeremiah. 29<sup>11-14</sup>.  
Galatians 5<sup>25</sup>-6<sup>10</sup>  
May flower Corns

Thanksgiving,  
not merely for harvest  
but for seeds of next year  
Seeds =  
Children =

1891. 11. 1000

... ..  
... ..  
... ..

Coming to  
Christmas.

... ..  
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UNION THANKSGIVING SERVICE.

-----  
November 16. 1941.  
-----

Prelude.

Call to Worship - Doxology  
Invocation - Lord's Prayer

Hymn 599 Come ye thankful people

Responsive Reading 51.  
Gloria Patri,

Scripture..... Rev Earl Davis  
Anthem.

Pastoral Prayer

OFFERTORY

Hymn 349 When all thy mercies.

V 1-5-6-7

Sermon .... Rev Earl C. Davis.

Hymn 598 We plough the fields

Benediction.

---

Brouks, Bame, Tuesday  
men at 8 o'clock  
Nesty

Pleasanton, Mass.  
Nov. 23. 1941

Adventure + Discovery.

4 = Litany.

Readings.

Ephesians. 6<sup>5-20</sup> "

Comment. = "Bz of good chev." 63.  
349 = 8106/rd  
312, —

Every person

The Scouting Trail. =

Picture in life.

St. Paul at Ephesus.

Peterham, Mass.  
Nov. 30. 1941

~~In steps of adversity.~~  
Time moves on,  
5-

Reading,  
Isai Ch. 61.  
Luke 4/16-20

54  
151 - 177  
75

Advent.

Petersham,  
Dec. 7, 1941

a Record of Discovery =  
The Bitter

1 - looking

Jefferson Pike

~~#15~~

16

272

289

C<sup>to</sup> the New Proj. 4

Dec. 14, 1941

~~Good~~ Religious Liberty. =

7<sup>th</sup> =

173  
157  
291

Chauncing.  
Sewer on the road.  
Jefferson Bible. Page 10-11.

Separation of Church + State.

A Bill of rights.

Article one.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.



Petersham.  
December 21, 1941

Morning Service .

Prelude. The Madrigale	Simonetti	
Service for Christmas. Page	Page 45	155
Hymn 155.		165
Matt		166
Scripture Matt. 2-1/11		
Duet. Jesu Bambino	Yon	
Jean Hendry & Edith Hudson.		
Litany and Prayer.		
Sp. M. 2		
Offertory		
Notices.		
Special Music 3.		
Hymn 165.		
Sermon.		

Christening  
Hymn 438

Hymn 166.

Benediction.  
~~Hunc Dimittis.~~

Postlude. =

Petersham.

December 21, 1941

Morning Service .

Prelude. The Madrigale Simonetti  
Service for Christmas. Page Page 45 155

Hymn 155. 165

Matt 166

Scripture Matt. 2-1/11

Duet. Jesu Bambino Yon

Jean Hendry & Edith Hudson.

Litany and Prayer.

Sp. M. 2

Offertory

Notices.

Special Music 3.

Hymn 165.

Sermon.

Christening

Hymn 438

Hymn 166.

Benediction.

Nunc Dimittis.

Sermon = "In the days of Herod the King."  
63-B.C = Quare of the massacre of Kingdon.

Pompey = the Roman stepped in and  
took over the Jewish nation.

Herod, an Edomite, begged to be made King.  
Herod Antipos.

Vesper Pageant. Dec. 21, 1941  
4-15 P.M.

Organ.

The Light of Bethlehem. Act  
The Light of God Mozart  
Sentences, Invocation Lord's Prayer  
Hymn 162 It Came Upon The Mid-night  
Clear.

Reading: Luke 2/14-21.

Names of Children born or  
Christened during theyear, sons or  
daughters in the parish.

Hymn 174. The First Noel.

( Announce at this time the hymn  
163 to be sung at close of the Pag.)  
( Minister goes to rear of Church)

All lights out

Pageant.

Lighting the Candles.

Organ.

Christ Child Sickles

The Guiding Star Nickols

( When Candles are lighted and Boys  
are at stations)

Organ Plays Adesta Fideles Through.

Doors are opened, Pageant enters singing  
Adesta Fideles.

Stand in front, finishing hymn, while  
Madonna and angels enter.

Then singers move to stations, and  
all the pageant join in singing one stanza  
of Silent Night.


Singing of Ave Maria.

The pageant then moves to front.

Lights in rear go on.

Pageant and Congregation join in singing  
Joy to the World Hymn # 153.

Benediction from the rear.

Cand, Henry R. Wheeler 

Co, X, 33<sup>rd</sup> Pltn #4  
3<sup>rd</sup> Eng, Sct. Regt,  
Fort Belvoir, Va.

---

Douglas Phillips

Fred Woodell,  
U.S.N. Hospital  
St. Albans.  
New York.

Wood C. 18

Booklet of Sermon Notes

Earl C. Davis

Petersham, MA

1941<sup>1</sup>

May 25, 1941

Union Memorial Service

Prelude.

Call to Worship—Doxology

Invocation—Lord's Prayer

Hymn 25: High in the heavens

Responsive Reading 79, Gloria Patri

Scripture Reverend Earl Davis

Anthem

Pastoral Prayer

Announcements and Offertory

Solo

Hymn 361 O Master let me walk with Thee

Sermon: Reverend Earl C. Davis

Hymn 555 Ten Thousand Times

Benediction

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<sup>1</sup> For the years 1938 through 1947 Davis collected his sermon notes in more-or-less annual hand-bound booklets. Most of these booklets were well-ordered and inclusive of only sermons from one particular year. The exception was the booklet of sermon notes for 1941, which was out of chronological order, and included sermon notes from multiple other years, 1934 through 1945. In all, only 30 of the 41 sermon notes were from 1941. Here are these 30 sermon notes in chronological order.

Postlude  
June 1, 1941

Exchange with Robert Schacht, Providence R.I.<sup>2</sup>

"Men of Faith in Every Age"

Readings: Isaiah 52:12-53:9; Matthew 7:7-14 or Matthew 4:26-29;  
M. Arnold's "We Cannot Kindle"<sup>3</sup>

Hymns: 54, 311

"When the fruit is ripe."

The birth of Christianity, as we look back upon it, was one of those great events in human history, perhaps the greatest, when the time had come to sow some of the choice seeds that had been gained from experiences of the past.

Isaiah is the record of a new thought dawning on the mind of man.

Jesus picks it up.

The Seed: Its merit is not:

- a. In the producer: G???
- b. In the distributor: church
- c. In the seed catalog: Bible

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<sup>2</sup> Dr. Robert Schacht was the minister of the First Unitarian Church of Providence from 1921 until 1968.

<sup>3</sup> Matthew Arnold (1822-1888) English poet and cultural critic. His poem, "Morality," has the first line, "We cannot kindle when we will."

June 8, 1941

"The Long View"

2-8 Litany

Reading: Nehemiah 2; 4:15-23

Hymn Numbers: 27, 337, 438

The Servant Passage

Poetry and Prophecy

Nehemiah, not a prophet, but a doer.

Single track-minded

Doing more than one thing at the same time

---

Notes for sermon "The Long View"

June 11, 1842, at a meeting of the Worcester Association of Ministers, a resolution was passed calling for a meeting in the Autumn for the purpose of awakening mutual sympathy and considering the wants of the Unitarian body.

These autumnal meetings were held each year until 1863, when the demands of the Civil War broke them up.

First one held in Worcester, October 18-20, 1842.

Third held in Albany, N.Y. At this Albany meeting Dr. Orville Dewey said,

This and other conventions like it that are held in our body, I am inclined to think, have never been held before in the world. There is nothing like them to be found in the records of ecclesiastical history. We meet as distinct churches, on the pure democratic basis, which we believe to be the true basis of the Church of Christ. We meet without any formalities—to institute or correct no canons—without the slightest system whatever. We come to meditate, to assist each other in experience, by

unfolding our own experience, by declaring our own convictions. Cooke's *Unitarianism in America*, page 174.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> George Willis Cooke (1848-1923) American Unitarian minister and writer, best known for his book, *Unitarianism in America: A History of its Origin and Development*, Boston: American Unitarian Association, 1902.



June 29, 1941

"A Living Church"

Service 5--Litany

Readings: Matthew 20:20-28; Luke 12:1-5

Hymn Numbers: 16, 407, 393

Servant in the home

Religion and church

"Lives"

Church

Dead

Dying

Being born

July 6, 1941

Soability

"The Kingdom Yet to Be"

2-30 Litany

Readings: Isaiah 32:1-8, 13-20; Faith for Living, page 233

Hymn Numbers: 25, 76, 362

The dramatic spectacle of America taking Oath of Allegiance,  
Salute to Flag

July 13, 1941

"Incompleteness"

2-8

Readings: Deuteronomy 6:4-9; Micah 6:6-8; Mark 12:28-34, 41-44

Hymn Numbers: 32, 136, 408

Truth

These passages of scripture represent these efforts of men to tie together into a connected whole the world as they see and experience it, and their effort to give that whole world an honest and true character.

"Michael, do you not hear the divine message which calls you to church to assist the priest in his serve at the altar of God?"

*The New Reformation*, Page 247, Michael Pupin<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Mihajlo Pupin, aka Michael Pupin (1854-1935) Serbian American physicist and prolific inventor. His book, *The New Reformation: From Physical to Spiritual Realities*, New York: Scribner's Sons, was published in 1927. This quote can also be found in Albert Edward Wiggam, "Science Is Leading Us Closer to God: An Interview with Michael Pupin, the distinguished scientist," *American Magazine*, Volume 144, September 1927, p. 24

July 20, 1941

"By the Slow Forces of Growth"

3-12

Hymn Numbers: 17, 208, 311

Readings: Luke 17:20-21; Romans 12

"And being asked by the Pharisees, when the Kingdom of God cometh, he answered them and said, 'The Kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, 'Lo here! Or lo there!' for lo, the Kingdom of God is within you."<sup>6</sup>

Romans 12

We have to live within the world that is.

Dr. Collyer: Heaven may be my home. Chicago, where I live.

Thy neighbor as thyself.

Thénardier in *Les Misérables*<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Luke 17:20-21.

<sup>7</sup> *Les Misérables*, a 1862 novel by Victor Hugo (1802-1885).  
Monsieur Thénardier is a former inn keeper who will do anything for money.

July 27, 1941

"The Slow Process of Discovery"

4-17 Litany

Readings: John 4:19-26, 32-39; Letter of Mrs. J.G. Adams to her son<sup>8</sup>

Hymns: 67, 85-83, 145; Evening 280, 360

Not Revelation but Discovery

The early Christian world was not simple and of single purpose.

Samaritans

Tolerance and fidelity to "Thy God;" Not coercion. Pharisees. Love. Spirit and in truth. In life and in reality.

Clipping from 7/18/41 *New York Times*, "Rabies Warning for Baby"

"Police of 9 States Seek family to tell of infant's danger.

The police of nine Eastern States including New York and New Jersey, were asked yesterday by the police of Oklahoma City, Okla., to locate Mr. and Mrs. H.H. Hudson, and their two daughters, one an infant, presumed to be traveling by automobile between New York and Washington, to notify Mr. Hudson to get rabies treatment for his infant daughter. Since the Hudsons have left Oklahoma City, the child's pet cat has died from rabies, according to the alarm.

In requesting New York City police to join in the search, the Oklahoma City authorities said the family was riding in a 1941 sedan, bearing Oklahoma registration 2-38-860. Mr. Hudson is asked to telephone C. Tangner at Oklahoma City 5-8954."

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<sup>8</sup> It is difficult to determine what this refers to. Mrs. J.G. Adams may be the wife of John Greenleaf Adams (1810-1897) a Universalist minister and author.

July 27, 1941

"The Slow Process of Discovery"

Preached at the old Chestnut Hill Meeting House, Millville, MA  
at 3:30PM

Readings: John 4:19-26, 32-39

July 30, 1941

Isles of Shoals

Round Table Discussion on S.N.E.C., 5-6PM

Chapel at 10PM

Readings, John

August 3, 1941

"In Thy Will is Our Peace"

1 Litany

Readings: Psalm 42

Hymn Numbers: 49, 99, 261

G.C., Page 505, Matt. Arnold<sup>9</sup>

"Thou hast made us for thyself, O God, and our hearts are restless until we find rest in thee. In thy will is our peace."  
St. Augustine<sup>10</sup>

In the long journey from that curious and terrible world of theological dogma, towards a promised land. One of the great mile posts was the discovery that even in unregenerate men there may be disinterested benevolence.

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<sup>9</sup> "G.C." refers to the book, *Great Companions: Readings on the Meaning and Conduct of Life from Ancient and Modern Sources*, edited by R.F. Leavens, Boston: The Beacon Press, 1927. On pages 505-7 there is a poem by Matthew Arnold (1822-1888) English poet and cultural critic, "Leaders and Friends of Mankind."

<sup>10</sup> Augustine of Hippo (354-430) Berber theologian and philosopher. This quote is from his *Confessions* written between 397 and 400.



August 10, 1941

2-8 100 Psalm

Readings: Psalm 103; Songs of K??? XL, XLIII

Hymn Numbers: 8, 54, 371

September 11, 1893: World Parliament of Religion

August 17, 1941

Reverend Sumner Mitchell of Brookfield and Sanford, Maine,  
preached.<sup>11</sup>

Cold: Did not go to Berkshire.

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<sup>11</sup> Reverend Sumner Mitchel (1874-1949) was the minister of the Sanford, Maine Unitarian church when he came to Petersham to preach.

August 24, 1941

"The Keys to the Kingdom"

4-17 Litany

Readings: James 1:19-27; 3:13-18; A. J. Cronin, *The Keys to the Kingdom*, pages 319-20.<sup>12</sup>

Hymn Numbers: 9, 208, 337

Best seller. Why?

- |              |  |       |
|--------------|--|-------|
| 1. Patience  |  |       |
| 2. Quietness |  | Faith |
| 3. Courage   |  |       |

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Notices:

Church School Union Picnic, Tuesday August 26:

Leave the church at 10. ???

Packard Heights

New Sunday Dr. Griffin will be the preacher in this church.

Concert tonight in the Memorial Hall, Library Building.

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[On the back side of this sheet:]

Church School Open Next Sunday at 9:45

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<sup>12</sup> Archibald Joseph Cronin (1896-1981) Scottish physician and novelist. Influenced the creation of the National Health Service in Britain. His 1941 book, *The Keys to the Kingdom*, New York: Little Brown, tells the story of Father Francis Chisholm a Scottish Priest who works to establish a mission in China.

August 31, 1941

F. R. Griffin preacher

5-22 Litany 24

Hymn Numbers: 32, 145, 399, St. Agnes 241

September 7, 1941

"The Instinct of Curiosity and Where it Leads Us"

1-Litany

Readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Job 42:1-6; Matthew 13:31-32

Hymns: 1, 138, 272

Jeremiah is record, not of Revelation

1. But a new discovery, "The New Covenant"
2. It was being made in a period of great distress and gloom.
3. Jeremiah parable: Mustard Seed

Curiosity: Immediate: Instinct of

But it becomes in the most complete and sublime form the prelude  
to wonder

September 14, 1941

"The Menace of Dictatorships, And the Way Out"

2-8.

Readings: Luke 16:19-31; Romans 12

Hymns: 28, 280, 360

The love more + the Prophets

History

September 21, 1941

"Superstition and Idol Worshipping"

3-12

Readings: Luke 12:22-34, 34-39

Hymns: 25, 69, 248

2<sup>nd</sup> Commandment<sup>13</sup>

What is it?

"Standing over something in amazement and awe"

Confusing as to cause and effect: Things which happen at about the same time.

"Standing over" while the world rolls on through time and space.

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<sup>13</sup> See Exodus 20:4. In Romans 1:18-32 John writes of the tendency toward idolatry, contrary to the second commandment which prohibits the fashioning of idols.

September 28, 1941

"Not Yours but You: Not Dogma but Personality"

4-17 Litany 28

Hymns: 47, 384=224, 272

Readings: Proverbs 8:20-36; Matthew 7:6-12; Romans 8:38-39;  
Emerson's Transition, p. 342<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882) founder of American transcendentalism. I am not sure what volume this refers to.



October 5, 1941

Christening Service

"The Feel of Belonging"

5-22.

Readings: Isaiah 41:1-10; Philippians 3:12-16

Hymns: 28, 260, 438

Lewis Mumford.<sup>15</sup>

The Land.

The Person.

The Home.

To the Land;

To the home: Family;

To the community:

To the whole: Religion

1. Security.

2. Achievement: Works

The Balance between Belonging and domination

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<sup>15</sup> Lewis Mumford (1895-1990) American historian, sociologist, and philosopher of technology. Mumford authored many books. Here Davis is likely drawing on his 1934 *Technics and Civilization* and his 1938 *The Culture of Cities*.

October 12, 1941

Exchange with Max Savage.<sup>16</sup>

Preached in Worcester on

"Not Yours but You"

See Notes and outline for Sept 28, '41.

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<sup>16</sup> Max Savage (1876-???) was the minister of the First Unitarian Church of Worcester from 1919 until 1946.

October 19, 1941

"An Eternal Cornerstone: Freedom Speaks in Us"

3<sup>rd</sup> 12 Litany 14

Readings: Matthew 7:24-29; M.R.O. 123-4

Hymns: 27, 207 3/3, 314:315

Dig down to the solid rock

Hero = Free soul

The Garden of Gethsemane

From an office to Gethsemane

October 26, 1941<sup>17</sup>

"Out of Exile"

4-

Readings: Soul of Bible, page 67-8; Acts 9:1-9: Victor Hugo's  
*William Shakespeare*,<sup>18</sup> page 294-95

Hymns: 16, 241, 351

Dramatic incidents of Life

Traveling by night. Over well-marked highways

3. Witness of experience. Someone has gone before
2. Skill of ambulance driver: in the darkness
1. Daniel Boone<sup>19</sup> in the wilderness, Deerslayer<sup>20</sup>

Saul: Anointed

Paul: Anointed

Victor Hugo

Trust our sensible and reasonable attitude

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<sup>17</sup> On the back of this sheet is the note: "Two weeks from today is Union Thanksgiving."

<sup>18</sup> Victor Hugo (1802-1885) French romantic writer. His 1864 book, *William Shakespeare* concerns the writers that Hugo considered the greatest geniuses of all time.

<sup>19</sup> Daniel Boone (1734-1820) American pioneer and frontiersman.

<sup>20</sup> *The Deerslayer* is an 1841 book by James Fenimore Cooper (1789-1851) American novelist.

November 2, 1941

"Ourselves and Our Children: Education for Life"

1-2 R.R. 59-p.110

Readings: Galatians 5:6-10; Ruskin<sup>21</sup> Gothic

Hymns: 88, 34, 140, 314

Discipline: Habits

The backward look

The forward look

The process

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<sup>21</sup> John Ruskin (1819-1900) English writer, philosopher, art critic.

November 5-6, 1941<sup>22</sup>

Senexet<sup>23</sup>

Mrs. Williams and Trees

1. Marked characteristics
  - a. Whole personality
  - b. Reserve
2. Among the trees

The Tree: Not a thing, but had qualities and characteristics of their own to be respected and, if possible, understood.

"And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food."<sup>24</sup>

Not sentimental.

Prof. Cline, Survey of the stand.

A good listener.

Picture.

"Be still and know that I am God."<sup>25</sup>

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Trees become individualized

Mystic strain

Her whole personality went out to life, but it was her disciplined and intelligent...

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<sup>22</sup> On the back side of the first Senexet sheet: "Alliance, Thursday 5, 2:30; Rev. James T. Carter; Historical Meeting; Union Thanksgiving Service: Next Sunday, North Church."

<sup>23</sup> Senexet was a retreat used by Unitarians mid-twentieth century, 276 Senexet Rd., Woodstock, CT. A brief description of an earlier, 1934, Senexet retreat can be found at <https://wordpress.clarku.edu/dbaird/a-pilgrimage-to-senexet-1934/>.

<sup>24</sup> Genesis 2:9.

<sup>25</sup> Psalm 46:10.

November 9, 1941

"We Confess Our Sins"

9<sup>th</sup>

Armistice Day

Readings: Luke 17:11-21, 18:9-17; Emerson, G.C. page 241<sup>26</sup>

Hymns: 10, 280, 311

1. This story of the healing of the ten lepers has a point. But the point is not the miracle of healing, but the fact that only the despised Samaritan gave thanks.
2. The Kingdom of God: within you.

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<sup>26</sup> "G.C." refers to the book, *Great Companions: Readings on the Meaning and Conduct of Life from Ancient and Modern Sources*, edited by R.F. Leavens, Boston: The Beacon Press, 1927. On pages 241-2 there is an excerpt of the essay, "Self Reliance" by Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882) founder of American Transcendentalism.

November 16, 1941<sup>27</sup>

A Thanksgiving of Faith

Union Thanksgiving Service at North Church

E.C.D. Sermon

"Binders: Yours and Mine"

Scripture: Jeremiah 29:11-14; Galatians 5:25-6:10; Mayflower Compact

Thanksgiving, not merely for harvests, but for buds of next year's seeds.

Children

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Union Thanksgiving Service, Morning Service

Prelude.

Call to Worship—Doxology

Invocation—Lord's Prayer

Hymn 599: Come ye thankful people

Responsive Reading 51, Gloria Patri

Scripture Reverend Earl Davis

Anthem

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

Hymn 349 When all thy mercies, V 1-5-6-7

Sermon: Reverend Earl C. Davis

Hymn 598 We plough the fields

Benediction

Brooks, Bane, Tuesday, ??? at 8 O'clock Vestry

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<sup>27</sup> On the back of this sheet, "Coming to Christmas."



November 23, 1941

"Adventure and Discovery"

4 Litany

Readings: Ephesians 6:5-20; Emerson, "Be of good cheer"<sup>28</sup>

Hymns: 63, 349-???, 312

Every person

The Santa Fe Trail:

    Picture in Life

St. Paul at Ephesus

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<sup>28</sup> Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882) American transcendentalist. His poem, "Be of good cheer, brave spirit; steadfastly" can be found in his *Poems: New and Revised Edition*, Boston: Houghton, Mifflin and Co., 1890, pp. 332-3.

November 30, 1941

"Time Moves On"

Service 5

Readings: Isaiah 61; Luke 4:16-20

Hymns: 54, 151, 75

Advent

December 7, 1941<sup>29</sup>

"A Record of Discovery: The Bible"

1 -- Litany

Readings: Jefferson Bible<sup>30</sup>

Hymns: 16, 272, 289

C.

"The New Roof."

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<sup>29</sup> These sermon notes for December 7, 1941 somehow got bound with the sermon notes for 1942-1943. I did not remove them, and they appear there clearly out of place. I have added a copy of them with the 1941 sermon notes here and in the scan.

<sup>30</sup> Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) Second President of the United States. On his own, Jefferson extracted and reorganized elements of the Gospels to create what has come to be known as the *Jefferson Bible*. It is available: Thomas Jefferson, *The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth*, Boston: The Beacon Press, 1951. The work was done over several years, but first compiled by Jefferson during the winter of 1804-05. The first English publication was not until 1902.

December 14, 1941

"Religious Liberty"

7<sup>th</sup>

Readings: Channing;<sup>31</sup> Sermon on the Mount;<sup>32</sup> Jefferson's Bible,  
pp.10-11<sup>33</sup>

Hymns: 173, 154, 294

Separation of Church and State

A Bill of rights

Article One: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."<sup>34</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> William Ellery Channing (1780-1842) Important 19<sup>th</sup> century Unitarian preacher.

<sup>32</sup> See Matthew 5-7.

<sup>33</sup> Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) Second President of the United States. On his own, Jefferson extracted and reorganized elements of the Gospels to create what has come to be known as the *Jefferson Bible*. It is available: Thomas Jefferson, *The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth*, Boston: The Beacon Press, 1951. The work was done over several years, but first compiled by Jefferson during the winter of 1804-05. The first English publication was not until 1902. Unfortunately, I do not have the edition Davis was working from and cannot identify the passages from "pp. 10-11."

<sup>34</sup> First Amendment to the Constitution.

December 21, 1941

Morning Service

Prelude. The Madrigal, Simonetti

Service for Christmas. Page 45

Hymn 155

Scripture Matthew 2:1-11

Duet: Jesu Bambino, Jean Hendry & Edith Hudson

Litany and Prayer, Sp. M. 2

Offertory

Notices

Special Music 3

Hymn 165

Sermon

Christening

Hymn 438

Hymn 166

Benediction

Postlude

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Sermon: "In the Days of Herod the King"

63 B.C.: Quarrel of two Maccabeans of Kingdom

Pompey: The Roman stepped in and took over the Jewish  
nation.

Herod, an Edomite, begged to be made King.

Herod ???

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Vesper Pageant Dec. 21, 1941, 4:15 P.M.

Organ.

The Light of Bethlehem. Abt  
The Light of God. Mozart

Sentences, Invocation Lord's Prayer

Hymn 162 It Cam Upon the Midnight Clear.

Reading: Luke 2:1-21

Names of children born or Christened during the year, more  
or less in the Parish

Hymn 174. The First Nowell

(Announcements at this time the hymn 163 to be sung at  
close of the Pag.)

(Minister goes to rear of Church)

All lights out

Pageant

Lighting the Candles

Organ.

Christ Child, Nickols  
The Guiding Star, Nickols

(When candles are lighted and boys are at stations)

Organ plays Adesta Fidelas Through.

Doors are opened, Pageant enters singing Adesta Fideles.

Stand in front, finishing hymn, while Madonna and angles enter.

Then singers move to stations, and all the Pageant join in  
singing one stanza of Silent Night.

Singing of Ave Maria

The Pageant then moves to front.

Lights in rear go on.

Pageant and Congregation join in singing Joy to the World, Hymn  
163.

Benediction from the Rear.