

1944 Sermons¹

- January 2, 1944 No Title
[Matthew 25:31-46; 25:11; Doan, Page 68 + 76]
- January 9 No Title
First of Winter Union Services at First Church; sermon by E.C.D.
[Matthew 4:17-25; 7:13-29]
- January 16 No Title
Second Union Service: Winter Session
Rev. James T. Carter, Preacher
- January 23 God So Loved the World
[Genesis 1:23-31; John 3:14-16 & 20-21; reference to George Washington Carver and the 1943 biography of him by Rackham Holt]
- January 30 No Title
Union Service
Rev. James T. Carter, Preacher
- February 6 The Spoils of Life
Union Services, First Church
[Matthew 5:13-20; Emerson, Page 20. Also reference to the meeting of Oliver Cromwell and George Fox; also reference to the song, "America the Beautiful."]
- February 13 No Title
Union Service. Last of series in First Parish
Sermon by Mr. Carter
- February 20 No Title, but clearly about courage in the face of opposition
Union Service, North Church
[Sermon by E.C.D. on the separation of church and state. Reference to Andrew Melville and John Knox; also reference to the Boston Massacre and John Adams' willingness to support Josiah Quincey in representing the British perpetrators of the Massacre.]

¹ Davis collected the notes for his sermons between January 1, 1944, and September 1, 1944, in a small booklet. In addition, the sermon notes for December 24, 1944 were misplaced with in the booklet of 1941 sermon notes. I have moved them here. All locations are Petersham, Massachusetts, unless otherwise noted.

- April 2 Palm Sunday
[Luke 19:29-40; Soldier's Prayer. Reference to the 1943 movie, "Gung Ho!"]
- April 9 No Title, Easter Sunday
[Mark 16:1-9; Spender's "I think Continually of those...". Reference to 1943 Spencer Tracy film, "A Guy Named Joe."]
- April 16 "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." Isaiah 40:31
[Isaiah 40:18-31; Romans 12:9-21.]
- April 23 Poem, "Out of the Depths," Gubbins
[Luke 15, Prodigal Son; Robert Nathan's God Within the Shadow.]
- April 30 Psalm 84:1-8
[Psalm 84 begins, "'How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts! My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God.'" Reading: Isaiah 32; From *Human Phantasy* by J.H. Wheelock. Reference to Sennacherib (c.745 B.C.E. – 681 B.C.E.) King of Assyria and Babylon from 705 B.C.E. until his death. 2 Chronicles 31:20-21 quoted.]
- May 7 The Pulse of an Unborn Race
[Matthew 19:16-22; 20:25-28; This is not God. Anon. The Path Makers. Reference to William James' "Ladder of Faith." Discussion of three events in the week's news: (1) Ernie Pyle receiving the Pulitzer Prize; (2) the discovery of synthetic quinine; (3) Johnnie Hutchins receiving the Congressional Medal of Honor.]
- May 14 Motherhood from the point of view of its universal implications
Mother's Day
[Luke 2:41-52; From Maxim Gorky's *Mother*]
- May 21 The Forgotten Factor
[Matthew 13:1-23; ??? Class ???]
- May 28 The Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave
Union Service conducted at the First Parish, E.C.D. preaching
[Ephesians 6:14-20; [Stephen Spender's] Poem "I think Continually of those," The Pilot. [Arthur] Guiterman. Discussion of the origins of Memorial Day.]

- June 4 The Incarnation—a universal
[Deuteronomy 6; *North to the Orient*; *My Window in Nazareth*. Mention of Godfrey Cabot, and of “The Sun of Righteousness” (Malachi 4:2)]
- June 18 The Burning Bush
Union Service at the North Church; Baccalaureat Service for High School [Exodus 3:1-15; Mary Carolyn Davies, “The Day Before April.”]
- June 25 The Truth Shall Make You Free
[Luke 18:9-14; G.B. Foster, Page 148 from *The Finality of the Christian Religion* on Giordano Bruno; from *The Human Phantasy*, J.H.Wheelock]
- July 9 Relation of Church and State
[Matthew 20:25-28; *Great Companions*, 527 (Channing, from “The Bond of the Universal Church.”) Reference to a 1944 speech by Justice Learned Hand, and a reference to Festus Foster, 3rd minister of the First Church of Petersham.]
- July 16 Faith and Circumstance
[Psalm 111; Matthew 5:43-6:1; Song of Man 4, 66; reference to Iamblichus (c.242-c.325) Syrian Neo-Platonist.]
- July 23 Varieties of the Christian Tradition
[John 4:19-26; Psalm 84:1-4, 9-12; *Blessed Are the Meek*, 1944 book by Zofia Kossak, Page 173; Cap’n Bibber’s Philosophy]
- July 30 The Brotherliness of Man
[Mark 12:28-34; Mention of St. Francis and Cap’t Bibber from previous two sermons; 1 John 4:20.]
- August 20 Beliefs and Believing
[Soul of the Bible 275; Kipling, “Something Hidden,” from his poem “The Explorer.” Also mention of T.H. Huxley and Father Inchofer’s condemnation of the Copernican hypothesis. Quote from Charles Eliot.]
- August 27 From Age to Age
[Soul of the Bible 208; Old Ironsides, poem by O.W. Holmes Sr. Mention of the Liberation of Paris during WWII.]
- December 24 Christmas Service with List of Children Christened during 1944
[Isaiah 42:1-9; John 1-5, 9-11, 14; The Bishop and Quisling, *Time*, Dec. 25, 1944.]