On April 18, 2025, the Lexington Observer published <u>a letter</u> from an interfaith group of clergy in Lexington, MA, regarding threats to our constitutional rights and our democracy. With help from the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization, the Massachusetts Council of Churches, and Massachusetts rabbinic leaders, we have adapted and expanded this letter to deliver addressed to our Massachusetts Congressional delegation.

On Friday, May 30th, we will also carry this letter to Boston, praying with our feet, as we march it from Lexington to Boston, reversing Paul Revere's ride for liberty 250 years ago to sound the alarm for democracy. We will stop in Lexington, Arlington, Cambridge, and Boston to pray to God for the merciful and just rule of law from our federal administration, as well as the protection and preservation of our sacred values and democratic principles.

Massachusetts clergy of all faiths are encouraged to sign the letter, noting your organizational affiliation, for identification purposes only. Please forward this letter to your Massachusetts-based clergy colleagues and networks. We also welcome clergy to join us for all or part of the march or meet us in Boston at its terminus. <u>Click here to read and sign on to the letter</u>.

This is our call to religious leaders around the country, and all our fellow Americans: join us in calling for our President to obey the law and to respect the decisions of our courts and the rights of all American residents.

In our faith traditions and our American tradition, the President is not a dictator or tyrant. Instead, "the Law is King, and no person is above the law." (Thomas Paine, *Common Sense*)

In Faith, Hope, and Power,

The Prayers for Liberty Organizing Team (Please see the letter and its initial signatories for more information on participants and leadership.)

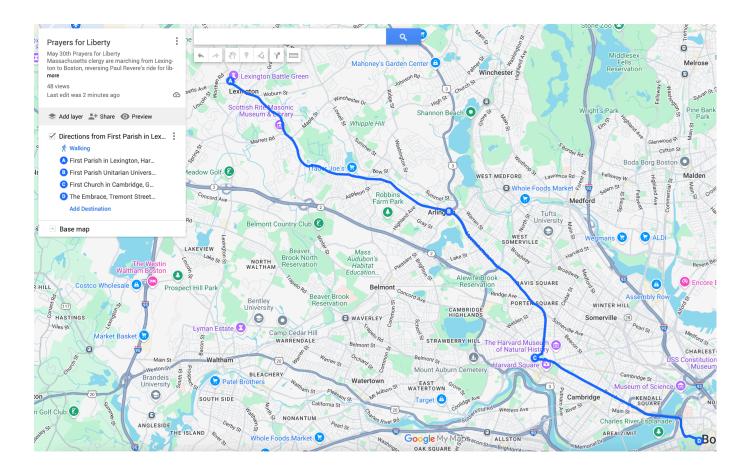
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What does the schedule look like on Friday, May 30th?

- 7:00 a.m. Gathering at First Parish in Lexington Center.
- 7:30 a.m. Opening prayer on Lexington Battle Green
- 7:45 a.m. Walk from Lexington to Arlington (Along Massachusetts Avenue. ~5.3 miles)
- 9:45 a.m. Prayer in Arlington Center The lawn at First Parish Unitarian Universalist Arlington
- 10:15 Walk to Cambridge Commons (Along Massachusetts Avenue. ~3.4 Miles)
- 11:30 Prayer in Cambridge Center Cambridge Commons
- 12:00 Walk to Boston Commons -(Broadway to Longfellow Bridge to Charles St. ~3.2 miles)

2:00Boston Prayer and Rally at the Common - Embrace Statue or Common Bandstand2:30-3:00End

View the #PrayersForLiberty Route <u>here</u> in Google Maps or below:



Who can participate in the march? For what parts?

A rapid planning schedule means the march needs to be limited in number of participants. We will walk relatively quickly between stops, in order to make it to each of our prayer gatherings on time. So we ask that only clergy participate in the march in Lexington, Arlington, and Cambridge. (See our schedule above.) For our non-clergy friends and for clergy friends who are disabled, tired, busy, etc., we welcome participation at any one of the prayer stops in Lexington, Arlington, Cambridge, or especially at our conclusion in Boston in lieu of marching.

We will stick to our schedule on the march. Participants are welcome to walk only one portion. Participants who get tired are welcome to stop, welcome to catch a rideshare vehicle to the next prayer gathering, welcome to take care of our own safety and needs as we see best. All participants are asked to obey all regular rules for pedestrian safety and to honor the instructions of our clergy event organizers as they are given, to help us stay safe and effective in our action.

Participants are strongly encouraged to carpool and explore public transportation options. We have no transportation available to or from any of the sites on the march, including from Boston Common back to Lexington Green.

Please arrive and walk in a spirit of love and prayer, practicing respect for all people, friends, and foes.

Can I use my clothing, signage, and speech to protest other offenses at this event?

While we respect the conscience, speech, and liberty of all our clergy and other participants, at this event we are focused on the preservation of our shared sacred values and democratic, constitutional governance. In our prayers and signage, we ask that participants not mention any other issues, however important they are to one's conscience or community.

What should I bring? What should I wear?

Clergy are encouraged to wear any clothing identifying their tradition and/or role. We will have bathroom stops in Arlington and Cambridge. We recommend you bring a refillable water bottle, some snacks in your pocket, sunscreen and hat, and comfortable walking shoes!

How can I amplify this message?

Clergy are encouraged to share about this in person, at services and on social media. Use the hashtag #PrayersForLiberty. Invite a colleague to join you, maybe someone who might not otherwise attend.