

**FIRST PARISH
CHURCH
OF STOW & ACTON**
Unitarian Universalist

Sunday, June 9, 2024

**The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L.
Landrum**
Minister

Meg Rivers-Wright
Administration, Membership

Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson
Dir. of Religious Education

Chris Hossfeld
Music Director

Trevor Berens
Accompanist

Justin Marble
Nursery Care Coordinator

Mike Silkonis
Sexton

Janet Beatrice
External Publicity

Felix Freeman
Tech Assistant

Jenni Edgerton
President

Brendon Chetwynd
Vice President

Bill Froberg
Treasurer

Johanna Pyle
Clerk

*First Parish is a Unitarian Universalist Association Welcoming Congregation.
We warmly welcome gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people into our
community.*

Large print orders of service and hymnals are available from an usher.
Assisted Listening Devices are available when worship is in the Sanctuary.

FPC currently has a masks-optional policy throughout the church.
In the Sanctuary, several back rows with accessible seating are “mask-
required.”

FPC is on the web at fpc-stow-acton.org and on Facebook.

June 9, 2024: 10:00

Gathering

Prelude

“Blumenlied”
Gustav Lange

Trevor Berens, piano

Welcome

Opening Words

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Chalice Lighting

* Hymn #64

Oh, Give Us Pleasure in the Flowers Today

Sharing

* **Covenant, Affirmation, and Land Acknowledgement**

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.

From all that dwell below the skies
let words of love and peace arise.
Let joyful songs of praise be sung.
through every land, by every tongue.

Joys and Sorrows

Hector Constantzos, Lay Minister

Prayer or Meditation

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

* Hymn

We Are One



1 We are here, and a new__ faith is dawn - ing. We are
2 We are one, — though each of us is dif - ferent. We are
3 We are free, lib - er - a - ted from old sym - bols. We are
4 We are home. — re - spect - ing one an - oth - er. We are



here, man - y hearts_ filled with hope. We are here, join - ing
one, each with bless - ings and needs. We are one, bring - ing
free, free to learn,_ grow, and serve. We are free, — like
home, shar - ing all that must be done. We are home, in the



free - ly to - geth - er, sib - lings and stran - gers, cous - ins and neigh - bors. Cre -
beau - ty to the ta - ble, sib - lings and stran - gers, cous - ins and neigh - bors. —
flow - ers in the gar - dens, sib - lings and stran - gers, cous - ins and neigh - bors. —
voic - es of our child - ren, sib - lings and stran - gers, cous - ins and neigh - bors. —

at - ing new tra - di - tions, — shap - ing what will come. We are
 Nur - tur - ing each oth - er, — sing - ing har - mo - ny. We are
 Grow - ing in cour - age to face the great un - known. We are
 Lov - ing one an - oth - er, — what could be more clear? We are

here, we are here, we are one.
 one, we are one, we are free.
 free, we are free, we are home.
 home, we are home, we are

here! We are free, we are home, we are here! We are one, we are free, we are here!

Rev. Suzelle Lynch (uurevlunch@gmail.com) ©2023. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Flower Communion

Introduction to Flower Communion

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Meditation over the Flowers

N. F. Čapek

Rev. Dr. Petr Samojský

Flower Communion

To receive a virtual flower, please use the QR code
 or go to: <https://wheelofnames.com/hpj-8xg>



Anthem

Jen Dal
 N. F. Čapek

Adult Choir

Jen dál, jen dál, jen dál,
 za pluhem pospíchám,
 než den se s nocí políbí,
 svou brázdu vyorám.

Onward, onward, onward,
 I press on behind the plow,
 before day kisses night,
 I am plowing my own furrow.

Jen dál, jen dál, jen dál,
 ať půdu kypří pluh,
 kde zvyků starých úhor byl,
 ať vládne tvůrčí duch.

Onward, onward, onward,
 let the plow loosen the soil,
 where there was a wasteland of old habits,
 the creative spirit now reigns.

Jen dál, jen dál, jen dál,
 a hloub ať ryje pluh,
 je věčnost v každé vteřině—
 a z brázdy mluví Bůh.

Onward, onward, onward,
 and wherever the plow digs deep,
 there is eternity in every moment—
 and God speaks from the furrow.

Flower Communion Prayer

N. F. Čapek

Rev. Dr. Petr Samojský

* Hymn #78

Color and Fragrance

N. F. Čapek

Pride Celebration

Glitter Blessing

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum
Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson
Director of Religious Education

You are holy and you are loved.
You are made of stardust; may you sparkle and shine.
May you be blessed as you go forth to bless the world.

Sharing Our Gifts

This month we share our weekly offering with **Supporting Asylum Seekers Task Force**. You may donate with a check made out to First Parish Church, online at <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate>, or text (978) 310-3309.

Anthem

Rainbow Connection
P. Williams & K. Ascher

FPC Adult Choir
Trevor Berens, piano

*Please join in singing on the text in **bold**.*

Why are there so many
Songs about rainbows
And what's on the other side?
Rainbows are visions
But only illusions
And rainbows have nothing to hide
So we've been told
And some choose to believe it
I know they're wrong wait and see

**Someday we'll find it,
The rainbow connection
The lovers, the dreamers and me**

Who said that every wish
Would be heard and answered
When wished on the morning star?
Somebody thought of that
And someone believed it
Look what it's done so far
What's so amazing

That keeps us stargazing
And what do we think we might see?

**Someday we'll find it,
The rainbow connection
The lovers, the dreamers and me**

All of us under its spell
We know that it's probably magic

Have you been half asleep
And have you heard voices?
I've heard them calling my name
Is this the sweet sound
That calls the young sailors?
The voice might be one and the same
I've heard it too many times to ignore it:
It's something that I'm supposed to be

**Someday we'll find it,
The rainbow connection
The lovers, the dreamers and me**

Returning

* **Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

* **Closing Song**

Peace be with you 'til we meet again!
As life lays its task before you,
keep love's banner floating o'er you.
Peace be with you 'till we meet again.

Postlude

"Heliotrope Bouquet"
Scott Joplin

Trevor Berens, piano

Greet Your Neighbor & Invitation to Picnic!

Thank you:

Jenni Edgerton, Zoom Host
Jeff Brown, Jamison House, Ushers
Our staff and leadership



To our visitors, thank you for coming!

We hope you found something you're looking for in our service and congregation, and that you'll come back if it feels like a fit.

Here's how to keep connecting with our people and programs:

1) Come to coffee hour right after the service, downstairs in Fellowship Hall. (Except for today. Come to the picnic!)

2) Fill out a Visitor Card in your pew and hand it to an usher or scan the QR code on the left to complete a form online.

3) Subscribe to our e-newsletters and e-mail groups with the QR code to the right.



Today at FPC

10 am Service, Sanctuary and online

11 am Church Picnic, Town Center Park - Walk there through our Memorial Garden!

- Missing a water bottle? Items from our Lost & Found as well as containers left in the kitchen will be on display on a table in Fellowship Hall. Feel free to reclaim your treasure inside the church after picnicking! All items will be recycled after today.

12 pm Spiritual Conversations about Poetry, online

You don't need to know anything about poetry to join Elizabeth Cobblah, Ilene Rudman, and Hector Constantzos for this deeply satisfying time of engaging with others through a poem.

Contact one of us to attend: ecobblah@fenn.org, irudman@aol.com, or Hconstantzos@gmail.com.

This Week at FPC

MON 6/10 Parish Jazz Band Rehearsal, 7 pm, Sanctuary

Please contact Michael Paladini mwpaladini@gmail.com for more information.

WED 6/12 Reading and Meditation, 6:40 pm-8:45 pm, Fellowship Hall and online

FRI 6/14

▶ **5:30-6:30 pm Guest Table**, Fellowship Hall

~Doors open at 5 ~All are Welcome ~No Charge. Menu TBA

▶ **6:30-8:30 pm Club UU**, Vestry and Youth Room

Our K-5 kids have a monthly social event just for them! They'll enjoy fun science activities and games together.



SAT 6/15

▶ **9-10 am Garden Conversations**, online

Please join us the 3rd Saturday of every month to share questions, tips, and sometimes resources for the gardening season. Gardeners with all levels of experience are invited to join the conversation. Email rickmlent@gmail.com for the Zoom link. **AND!** Join your Garden crew right after church next Sunday, June 16 – rain or shine - for garden work.

▶ **9-10 am Spanish Conversations**, Vestry

Contact Roy Miller at millerroy@comcast.net

Next Sunday's Service, 6/16, 10am, Sanctuary/Online/Phone

"Annual Jazz Summer Service" Come and enjoy our very own Parish Jazz Band, led by Michael Paladini, for a service focused on the Blues, featuring music from Miles Davis, Thelonius Monk, Duke Ellington, and others. Michael's homily will be on "The Paradox of Suffering" – why we need it, even though we try to avoid it.

Every Week at FPC

Tues. 10AM

Coffee and Chat at the Town Center Park Gazebo



Wed. 6:40PM

Meditation in Fellowship Hall & Online



Thurs. 5PM

Peace Vigil on the Town Common in front of FPC



Thurs. 7:15 PM

Choir Rehearsal in the Community Room - Join the choir! music@fpc-stow-acton.org

Fri. 1PM

Bridge Playing in the Community Room



Announcements

June Plate Sharing: The Supporting Asylum Seekers group is an active part of the Social Justice work of FPC. We work to support asylum seekers and refugees who seek a safe home in our surrounding communities. Some of our activities, like political advocacy or helping asylum seekers find jobs, learn English, navigate the medical system, ride a bike or the buses, don't need money. Other help does take money: Providing food and housing in a motel for a family while they are waiting for entry to the Massachusetts Emergency Family Shelter system; rides to medical appointments and job interviews when one of us is not available to drive; legal fees for asylum cases.



We greatly appreciate the Congregation's ongoing support and plate sharing! The Supporting Asylum Seekers group meets by Zoom on the 1st Monday of each month, and all are invited to join us for a meeting or for any of our actions. Contacts: Susie O'Brien or Steve Evans at asylumsupport@fpc-stow-acton.org.

Religious Education

Our Religious Education program year has concluded and will resume again in September. Contact our Director of Religious Education, Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson, with any questions: dre@fpc-stow-acton.org. Register your children & youth or register to volunteer for Fall using the QR codes below!

Registration



Volunteers



Information for folks joining us online:

Today's Zoom Host: Jenni Edgerton

Hymn lyrics will be in a slide presentation today.

Sharing Our Gifts: If you are mailing a pledge or a donation, here is the information:

Pledges:

Attn: Pledge Secretary
PO Box 215
Stow, MA 01775

Donations:

Attn: Treasurer
353 Great Rd.
Stow, MA 01775