FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW & ACTON



Unitarian Universalist

Thursday, February 23, 2023 Black History Month Vespers Service

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L.
Landrum, Minister

Marissa Evans, Acting Director
of Religious Education

Meg Rivers-Wright,
Administration and
Membership

Brad Dumont. Music Director

Sanghee Kim Organist/Pianist	
Mike Silkonis	Sexton
Ben Child	Tech Assistant
Janet BeatriceExternal Publicity	
Sharon Brownfie	eld President
Jenni Edgerton	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.

To help everyone be a part of worship in the fullest way possible, the ushers can provide large print orders of service and hymnals or, for people who need to step out during the service for any reason, an assisted listening device (portable radio) which works throughout the building.

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

February 23, 2023 6:00 PM

Wading In

Gathering Music #210

Wade in the Water

(Chorus) Wade in the water, wade in the water, children, wade in the water, God's gonna trouble the water.

- See that band all dressed in white.
 God's gonna trouble the water.
 The leader looks like an Israelite.
 God's gonna trouble the water. (Chorus)
- See that band all dressed in red.
 God's gonna trouble the water.
 It looks like the band that Moses led.
 God's gonna trouble the water. (Chorus)

Land Acknowledgement

Opening Words "Each Day" Kristin Harper

Chalice Lighting

A Long Way

Readings "Wade in the Water" Sofia Betancourt

"Lynching Version Ebony C. Peace

2.0"

Reflections Lisa Fagerstrom

Hymn # 97 Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child

1. Sometimes I feel like a motherless child, sometimes I feel like a motherless child, sometimes I feel like a motherless child, a long way from home, a long way from home.

- 2. Sometimes I feel like I have no friend, (3x) a long way from home.
- 3. Sometimes I feel like I'm almost gone, (3x) a long way from home, a long way from home.

There Must Be

Lamentations "Lamentations" Mathew P. Taylor

Meditation/Prayer "A Prayer for Liminal Octavia Raheem Space"

Reading Howard Thurman

Hymn #30 Over My Head

- 1. Over my head I hear music in the air. Over my head I hear music in the air. Over my head I hear music in the air. There must be a God somewhere.
- 2. Over my head I hear singing in the air. (3x) There must be a God somewhere.
- 3. Over my head I see trouble in the air. (3x) There must be a God somewhere.
- 4. Over my head I feel gladness in the air ...
- 5. Over my head I see angels in the air ...

Lay My Burdens Down

Reading(s) "Love Abundant" Alicia T. Forde

"A Riff" Mark MorrisonReed

Ritual

Hymn #201 Glory, Glory, Hallelujah

- 1. Glory, glory, hallelujah! Since I laid my burden down. Glory, glory, hallelujah! Since I laid my burden down.
- 2. Feel like shouting, "Halleluja!" ...
- 3. Life is sweeter, so much sweeter. ...
- 4. Feel like dancing, hallelujah! ...
- 5. Love is shining all around me, ...

Benediction "Only Begun" William Sinkford