

May 21, 2023
10:00 AM

Gathering

Prelude Hallelujah Trish Woods, piano
by Leonard Cohen

Land Acknowledgement, Welcome & Announcements

Introit *There's A Light* FPC Adult Choir
by Beth Neilsen Chapman
arr. Ysaye Barnwell

Opening Words *The Great Teachers in Life* Lailah Ruminski
by Jason Cook

Chalice Lighting *Coming of Age Chalice Lighting* Yoong Heffner-Wong
by Jamie Dorer

* **Hymn #360** *Here We Have Gathered*

* **Covenant and Affirmation** Benji Edgerton

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.

Centering

Joys and Sorrows Ann Sadler, Lay Minister

Prayer or Meditation *Sensory Reflection* Annadelia Ruminski
by Claudene (Deane) Oliva

* **Hymn #1009** *Meditation on Breathing*

Bridging Ceremony

Introduction Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum
Marissa Evans, Acting Director, Religious Education

* *Rise in Body and Spirit*

Presentation of Graduating Seniors

Sue Stewart, RE Committee

Graduating Seniors

Erik Lilliott
Alex MacNeill
Ben Child
Torin Osenar
Richard Parse

Blessing

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Bridging Ceremony

Congregation

Sharing Our Gifts

This month we share our weekly offering with **Boston Area Gleaners**.
Checks may be made to "First Parish Church" or donate online
at <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate> or by text to (978) 310-3309.

Anthem

Bonse Aba FPC Adult Choir
arr. Victor Johnson

Coming of Age

Introduction to Coming of Age Program

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum
Marissa Evans, Acting Director, Religious Education

Introduction of Coming of Age Youth

Joshua Ledwell and Lisa Fagerstrom

Credo Statements

Meredith Jablonowski
Annadelia Ruminski
Benji Edgerton
Freya Wilcox
Zemzem Osenar

Returning

* **Hymn #123**

Spirit of Life

* **Benediction #505**

Freya Wilcox

* **Closing Song**

Keep on Movin' Forward

Pat Humphries
Emma's Revolution

Postlude

Sogno di Volare
by Christofer Tin

Trish Woods, piano

* *Rise in Body and Spirit*



Thank you to:
 Brendon Chetwynd, Zoom Host
 Rebecca and John MacNeil, Ushers
 Sharon Brownfield and Rick Lent, Coffee Hour Host
 and to our staff and leadership



Land Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge that this service is being held by a community that gathers on the stolen traditional lands of the Massachusett, Nipmuc, Pawtucket, and Wampanoag People. We pay respect to those Indigenous Peoples who lost their lives in the colonization of this land and recognize that these Indigenous tribes are still today facing violations of sovereignty, territory, and water. We also give thanks for the Earth we walk upon, the waters, the lifegiving plants, and all the Earth's creatures, as well as the winds, sun, moon, and stars. We recognize this is just a first step in moving toward right relationship with Native peoples and healing of the Earth.



Ways to Connect with First Parish Church

Sign our visitor log
tinyurl.com/visitfpc



We'll send you information if you request it.

Come to Sunday service and/or coffee hour
 10 am
 in person
 or online

Subscribe to our publications

The Chronicle - monthly e-newsletter
This Week at FPC - weekly e-newsletter
FPCAnnounce & FPCForum - email groups

at

<https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org/subscribe-newsletters>

**FIRST PARISH
 CHURCH
 OF STOW &
 ACTON**

Unitarian Universalist



Sunday, May 21, 2023

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum
 Minister

Marissa Evans
 Acting Director, Religious Education

Meg Rivers-Wright
 Administration and Membership

Brad Dumont
 Music Director

Trish Woods.....Interim Pianist
Mike Silkonis.....Sexton
Ben Child.....Tech Assistant
Janet Beatrice.....External Publicity
Sharon Brownfield.....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.

Masking Policy: Masking is required in the sanctuary except at the pulpit, for soloists, and in the balcony. Masking is also required in religious education classrooms, and staff offices upon request.

On the web at [fpc-stow-acton.org](https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org) and on Facebook.

ONLINE SUPPLEMENT PAGE: Information for folks joining us online

1. Closed captioning is available for FPC's online services. If you don't see captions on your screen, you can use the button at the bottom of your screen to request that the host turn them on.
2. Today's Zoom Host is Brendon Chetwynd.
3. Hymn lyrics are below.



Hymn #360

Here We Have Gathered

1. Here we have gathered, gathered side by side;
circle of kinship, come and step inside!
May all who seek here find a kindly word;
may all who speak here feel they have been heard.
Sing now together this, our hearts' own song.
2. Here we have gathered, called to celebrate
days of our lifetime, matters small and great:
we of all ages, women, children, men,
infants and sages, sharing what we can.
Sing now together this, our hearts' own song.
3. Life has its battles, sorrows, and regret:
but in the shadows, let us not forget:
we who now gather know each other's pain;
kindness can heal us: as we give, we gain.
Sing now in friendship this, our hearts' own song.

Hymn #1009

Meditation on Breathing

1. When I breathe in,
I'll breathe in peace.
When I breathe out,
I'll breathe out love.
2. Breathe in,
Breathe out,
Breathe in,
Breathe out

Hymn #123

Spirit of Life

Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

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

Announcements begin on next page

May Plate Sharing:

Boston Area Gleaners

BAG began as a small volunteer effort focused on gleaning as a way to address food insecurity: harvesting surplus crops that would otherwise go to waste, and distributing them to people without access to healthy food. Since the early 2000's, it has grown to become the largest gleaning organization in the northeast, and through their distribution program they deliver fresh food to a network of local food pantries, shelters, and meal programs, and provide trucking support to partner non-profits and farms in need of resources.

With the support of other organizations, BAG purchased Stonefield Farm in 2021 and developed the Food Hub, a wholesale market for local produce, providing income opportunities for farmers and a much-needed farm-to-institution supply line for local universities, hospitals, and food banks. Their vision is to sustain a permanent agricultural supply chain that will improve the viability of local farms and the health of communities in the Boston metro area who have historically suffered from inequity in the food system. You can read more about BAG's plans for addressing ongoing nutritional challenges in our state, and volunteer gleaning "trips" at local farms such as Applefield Farm in Bolton: www.bostonareagleaners.org Your support is deeply appreciated.



Today at FPC

10 am Service, Sanctuary/Online
11 am Coffee Hour and Beer Fest sign-ups, Fellowship Hall

Sign up today to volunteer at our Assabet Craft Beer & Food Truck Festival

Sat. Sept. 2, 12-4 pm in front of the church, rain or shine

<u>Craft Brews</u>	<u>Food</u>	<u>Music</u>
Amory's Tomb Brewing	Kith & Kin	by Sugar High
Bull Spit Brewing	Twisted Pickle	<u>Fun for Kids</u>
Dirigible Brewing	Big T's BBQ	carnival games
Redemption Rock	Braised tacos & bowls	face painting
Cider, seltzer, kombucha, soft drinks	New City Microcreamery FPC cookie table	crafts table

Admission is \$5-10 donation, kids 12 & under free, drink tickets \$5.

Lots of volunteers are needed to help with what will be another really fun family event for both FPC and our wider community.

Each Sunday in May you can sign up at Coffee Hour and get a complimentary bottle of First Parish Lager, brewed especially for our volunteers by Neil Saunders, Dave Sansone, & Scott Feldhusen!

This Week in Religious Education

Join us for an intergenerational service today featuring Coming of Age and Senior Graduation Recognition!

FPC Parents and Guardians:

Please access the Religious Education Children & Youth 2023-2024 Registration Form by scanning the QR code here or picking up a paper copy at Coffee Hour.



Interested in becoming an RE Volunteer for 2023-2024?

Please complete the paper Volunteer Form at Coffee Hour.

This Week at FPC: May 22 – 26

Mon 5/22 **LGBTQ+ Task Force meeting** 6:30 pm, Online
Racial Justice Task Force (RJTF) Drop-in 7:30-8 pm, Online
Parish Jazz Band Rehearsal 7-9 pm, Sanctuary - Please contact Michael Paladini mwpaladini@gmail.com for more information

Tue 5/23 **Coffee and Chat*** 10-11 am, Town Gazebo at Town Park, adjacent to FPC. Bring your own coffee!
Membership Committee mtg. 11:30 am -1 pm, Online

Wed 5/24 **Guest Table organizing group** 6:30-8pm, Parlor
Meditation* 7:30-8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall/Online
 Contact: meditation@fpc-stow-acton.org

Thu 5/25 **Peace Vigil*** 5-6 pm, in front of FPC, btwn Common & Great Rds
 Contact: Neil Saunders neilsaund@verizon.net
Vespers: Refresh, Renew, Revitalize 6-6:45 pm, Community Room
Choir Rehearsal 7:15-9 pm, Sanctuary

Fri 5/26 **Bridge Group*** 1-3:30 pm, Community Room
 Contact: Hector Hconstantzos@gmail.com

Sun 5/28 **Next Sunday's Service:** 10am, Sanctuary/Online/Phone
"Changing the World, One Book at a Time" –Rev. Tom Rosiello, Minister emeritus
 Rev. Rosiello will speak about his connection with the non-profit San Francisco-based organization, Libros Para Todos (Books for Everyone), that produces, publishes, and provides books in Spanish and English to pre-k and kindergarten students in public elementary schools throughout California. Their mission is "to promote bilingualism and biliteracy, cross-cultural communication, human connection and empathy. But really, we just want to do a nice thing - for the kids, for the community, for everybody" (<https://www.librosparatodos.org>).

Join Worship by Video: <https://tinyurl.com/2223fpc>
 Meeting ID: 999 7077 0266; Passcode: 01775
Join Worship by Phone: (929) 205-6099 (toll call)

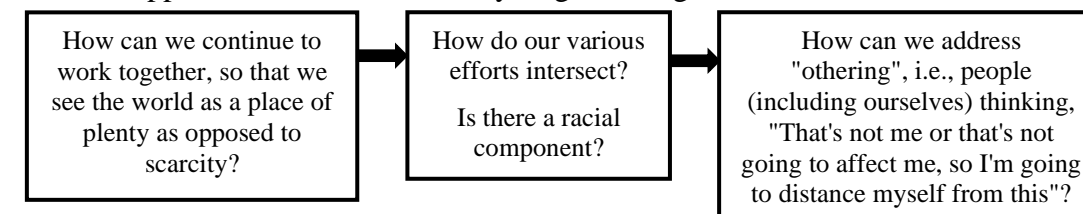


*All are welcome to these weekly FPC events

Events at FPC

LGBTQ+ Task Force meeting Mon 5/22, 6:30 pm, Online.
 We'll be planning activities for Pride month in June. Email jledwell@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

RJTF Monthly Drop-in Session Mon 5/22, 7:30pm (*30 min. later than our usual)
 The Racial Justice Task Force invites you to join our end-of-season Drop-In Session to discuss *intersectionality*. Our goal in exchanging ideas is to share ways we can support each other. Email katy.brightleaf@gmail.com for Zoom link!



Vespers: Refresh, Renew, Revitalize Thu, 5/25, 6pm, Community Room
 - Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum. Our vespers series this year concludes with a spiritual service focused on how we refresh, rejuvenate, build community, and draw spiritual support for the work of justice.

Pachysandra Day: Community Planting Next Sunday, 5/28, after service
 FPC's Memorial Garden, located at the northeast corner of the property, is to be a place of memorialization and rest for our church community, and a space of peace and contemplation for the larger community. Please join us after Tom Rosiello's service to plant the Garden's sacred bed of pachysandra, the place of rest for ashes and interned members of our community.



It is our hope that this expanse of pachysandra be gathered from and planted by our community, so we are calling for pachysandra from any and all gardens!

- The bed is fully prepared, so the work will be very light.
- If you weren't able to bring your donations to yesterday's plant sale, contact sonja.furneaux@gmail.com to donate.

Like our faith, this sacred bed is a large and welcoming space. Its creation from plants sourced from many yards, planted by many hands, will be a testament and true reflection of our community. ♥

