

June 4, 2023

10:00 AM

Gathering

Prelude

Trish Woods, piano

Many of our musical selections today are from:

Beauty Calls Us Together:

*A Cantata Honoring 100 Years of the Flower Ceremony
1923-2023*

Words and music by:

the Rev. Suzelle Lynch, Kathryn Canan, Ruben Piirainen,
Anne Merdinger, and the Rev. Dr. Norbert Fabian Čapek

Land Acknowledgement, Welcome & Announcements Sharon Brownfield, President

Opening Words

the Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Chalice Lighting

*** Hymn #78**

Color and Fragrance

*** Covenant and Affirmation**

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

Dramatic Reading

*Dialogue About
Flowers and Men*

by the Rev. ‘Don Kafka
and Cliff Feakes
Kendra Jablonowski, Director
Performers

Solo

In the Depths of My Soul

N. F. Cepek
tr. Richard Henry
Music by K. Canan &
A. Merdinger
Dave Kay

Exploring

Meditation over the Flowers

by the Rev. N. F. Čapek
the Rev. Dr. Petr Samojský (video)

Flower Communion

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

Flower Communion Prayer

by the Rev. N. F. Čapek
the Rev. Dr. Petr Samojský (video)

Sharing Our Gifts

This month we share our
weekly offering with the
Organization for the Assabet
River (OARS).

You may donate with a check made out
to “First Parish Church,” online at
<https://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate>,
use the QR code, →
or text to (978) 310-3309.



DONATE HERE

Anthem

Mother Spirit, Melody N. F. Čapek & S. Lynch
Father Spirit/Beloved Arr. R. Piirainen
Words N. F. Čapek,

tr. P. Munk & A. Munk,
English version by R. F. Boeke
Additional lyrics by S. Lynch
FPC Adult Choir

Recognition of Service

Sanghee Kim

Joys and Sorrows

Ann Sadler, Lay Minister

Prayer or Meditation

Returning

*** Hymn**

We Are One

S. Lynch and
R. Piirainen

*** Benediction**

*** 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

Jen Dal

by the Rev. N. F. Čapek,
arr. S. Cartreine
FPC Adult Choir

Greet Your Neighbor



Thank you to:

Kim Kinnear, Zoom Host
Marcia Allison and Marion Scott, Ushers
Susan and Kevin O'Brien, Coffee Hour Hosts
and to our staff and leadership
Our decorative flowers today
are in celebration & appreciation of Sanghee Kim.



Ways to Connect with First Parish Church

Sign our visitor log
[tinyurl.com/visitfpc](https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org/visitfpc)



We'll send you
information if you
request it.

Come to
Sunday
service at
10 am
and/or
coffee hour
at **11 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, June 4, 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 **Kim Kinnear**.
3. Hymn lyrics are below.



Hymn #78

Color and Fragrance

- 1) Color and fragrance, magical rhythm,
sweet changing music will change us with them:
life within life, inner light gently glowing,
surely you seem to be God's vision growing.
- 2) O starry heavens, worlds of all splendor,
suns without number, new life engender:
wheel in a wheel with the light brightly glowing,
moving in harmony, God's vision growing.
- 3) Hand full of pebbles, high mountain passes,
depths of the ocean, dew on the grasses:
great things and small, with the light gently glowing,
word of the wordless song, God's vision growing.
- 4) Delicate beings, lacewing and sparrow
in field and forest, clover and yarrow:
life greeting life with the light brightly glowing,
none are too small to be God's vision growing.
- 5) In human eyes burns the soul of living,
illuminates altars of loving giving:
greeting, we meet, seeing light brightly glowing,
share in a greater life, God's vision growing.
- 6) Shaper of all things, to us you've given
our chance to keep here on earth, a heaven.
Moving in harmony, light gently glowing,
may we be, gratefully, God's vision growing.

Hymn

We Are One

1. We are here, and a new faith is dawning.
We are here, many hearts filled with hope.
We are here, joining freely together,
Siblings and strangers, cousins and neighbors.
Creating new traditions, shaping what will come.
We are here, we are here, we are one.
2. We are one, though each of us is different.
We are one, each with blessings and needs,
We are one, bringing beauty to the table,
Siblings and strangers, cousins and neighbors.
Nurturing each other, singing harmony.
We are one, we are one, we are free.
3. We are free, liberated from old symbols.
We are free, free to learn, grow, and serve.
We are free, like flowers in the gardens,
Siblings and strangers, cousins and neighbors.
Growing in courage to face the great unknown.
We are free, we are free, we are home.
4. We are home, respecting one another.
We are home, sharing all that must be done.
We are home, in the voices of our children,
Siblings and strangers, cousins and neighbors.
Loving one another, what could be more clear?
We are 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!

Sharing Our Gifts

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

Pledges:

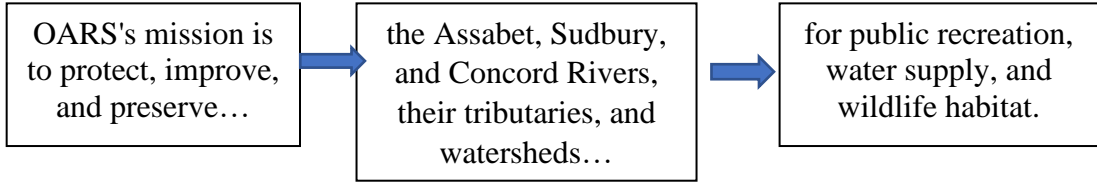
Attn: Pledge Secretary
PO Box 215
Stow, MA 01775

Donations:

Attn: Treasurer
353 Great Rd
Stow, MA 01775

Announcements begin on next page

June Plate Sharing:
Organization for the Assabet River



Established in 1986 as the *Organization for the Assabet River* by a group of concerned citizens, OAR added the Sudbury and Concord Rivers to its mission in 2011, becoming *OARS*. It raises awareness of each river's importance, collects data for research, and works towards solutions to help the rivers achieve "fishable and swimmable" state standards.



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.

Today at FPC

11:00 am Sign up at Coffee Hour to volunteer at Assabet Craft Beer & Food Truck Fest! Festival Date: Sat. Sept. 2, 12-4 pm in front of the church. See *The Chronicle* and *This Week at FPC* for details!

Lots of volunteers are needed!

Thirty people have already signed up to help! ♥ This year, to make the work lighter *and* allow time to enjoy the festival yourself, we split each job into 2-hour slots. Because of this, **we need at least 30 more people to help.** We'd like to fill most of the slots before summer. If you know you can join us, please sign up today or next Sunday, 6/11. **You'll get a complimentary bottle of First Parish Lager,** brewed especially for our volunteers by Neil Saunders, Dave Sansone, & Scott Feldhusen! Last year we made over \$10,000 to support FPC! Come be a part of this really fun-draiser!



This Week in Religious Education

Club UU - June 9th, 6:30-8:30pm - Popcorn Party! We'll celebrate the final Club UU of the church year with tasty popcorn toppings, plus art and games that use popcorn in fun ways. For children in K-5th grade. ***Parent Social Night** will take place in the Vestry concurrently. Gather together to play board games! Adults of all ages are welcome.



VOTE HERE

Help us choose an End-of-Year Activity for Junior & Senior Youth

Please VOTE in this poll! Options include the Acton Drag Show on June 16th, a field trip to Kimball Farm, & a Pizza/Popcorn party with games.

RE Child & Youth Registration:

We are encouraging ALL families to complete registration forms for the RE program next year as soon as they are able. Use the QR code here.



RE Volunteer Registration:

For anyone who can help support the Religious Education (RE) program with your time and energy next year (even just for one-time events), use the QR code here for the RE Volunteer form.



VOLUNTEER

Hard copies of these forms are available on the table in the main vestibule at church. Completed forms can be placed in Marissa's mailbox outside of the church administrator's office by the photocopier.

This Week at FPC: June 5 - June 9

- Tue 6/6** **Coffee and Chat*** 10-11 am, Town Gazebo at Town Park, adjacent to FPC. Bring your own coffee!
Beerfest Meeting, 6:30 -7:30 pm, Parlor
Book Group, 7-8 pm, Online
- Wed 6/7** **SGM Facilitators Meeting** 7-9 pm, Community Room
Meditation* 7:30-8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall/Online
Contact: meditation@fpc-stow-acton.org
- Thu 6/8** **Peace Vigil*** 5-6 pm, in front of FPC, btwn Common & Great Rds
Contact: Neil Saunders neilsaund@verizon.net
Choir Rehearsal 7:15-9 pm, Sanctuary
- Fri 6/9** **SGM 2nd Friday Group** 9:30-11:30 am, Community Room
Bridge Group* 1-3:30 pm, Community Room
Contact: Hector Hconstantzos@gmail.com
Guest Table 5:30-10 pm, (Fellowship Hall)
Club UU and Parent Social Night 6:30-8:30 pm, Lower Hall & Vestry
- Sat 6/9** **Saturday Morning Breakfast** 7:30 am coffee, 8 am breakfast, Hall

Sun 6/10 **Next Sunday's Service:** 10am, Sanctuary/Online/Phone

To Question, Truly, is an Answer - Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Our last Sunday before “summer services” will be a “Question Box Sermon” – an old UU tradition where we ask you to submit questions to a box we’ll have available, and Rev. Cindy will answer as many as time permits in the sermon! The rest of the service will be music-filled as we celebrate our time with our Music Director Brad Dumont, and with our Acting Director of Religious Education, Marissa Evans, and wish them both well on their future paths.

Our service will be followed by our annual picnic on the church lawn (library side of the church where there’s some shade). This is a bring-your-own lunch and picnic gear (plates, napkins, utensils, beverages, blankets, chairs, sunscreen, lawn games, ukuleles....) but you’re also welcome to bring an element to share if you wish, and we’ll have a table for potluck-style offerings to be shared.

Join Worship by Video: <https://tinyurl.com/2223fpc>

Meeting ID: 999 7077 0266; Passcode: 01775

Join Worship by Phone: (929) 205-6099 (toll call)

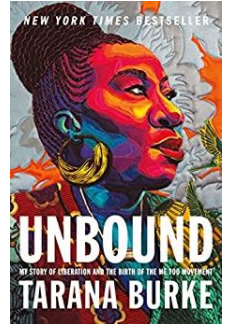


FPC Events

FPC Book Group Tue 6/6, 7-8 pm, online

Unbound: My Story of Liberation and the Birth of the Me Too Movement by Tarana Burke

From the founder and activist behind one of the largest movements of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, the "me too" movement, Tarana Burke debuts a powerful memoir about her own journey to saying those two simple yet infinitely powerful words—me too—and how she brought empathy back to an entire generation in one of the largest cultural events in American history.



Contact Sharon Brownfield, sharonbrownfield@gmail.com, for more information or the link.

Guest Table Fri 6/9, Doors open 5:30, Dinner starts 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
Graduations! Weddings! End of the school year! Summer! There are so many things to celebrate this time of year. Join us and celebrate at our next Guest Table dinner on June 9th. Our menu has not yet been finalized and we will post it once it is. However, save the date to dine, volunteer, and just join in good cheer.

Saturday Morning Breakfast Sat 6/10, 7:30 am coffee, 8 am breakfast, Fellowship Hall; \$6, RSVP Jeff Brown, jab.jeffbrown@gmail.com



“African Safari” - Elaine Olsen, a UU living in Gloucester, was able to go to Africa on a safari in the fall of 2022. She will talk about her adventures and show some of her pictures. In her own words, “I am looking forward to sharing the incredible sights found in top Tanzania game-viewing sites: Sinya Game Reserve near Kilimanjaro, Tarangire National Park, Ngorongoro Crater, and the Serengeti. Imagine seeing elephants, giraffes, lions, Cape buffalo, hippos and dozens of other magnificent animals and birds up close as well as spectacular sunset vistas. See how simple Swahili expressions like Jambo, Asante sana, and Hakuna Mataram quickly tie you to generous guides and hosts. And learn how the opportunity to interact with Maasai villagers, school children and teachers, and clinic and social action organizations (Albino Peacemaker Center, Safe Water Ceramics, Shanga House) speaks to our UU principles.”

33
We Are One

Words and melody by Rev. Suzelle Lynch
Musical arrangement by Ruben Piirainen

♩ = 90 G11 G7 Asus4 A7 Dsus4 D

1. We are
2. We are
3. We are
4. We are

3 Gsus2 G Dm Am

here, and a new — faith is dawn - ing. We are
one, though each of us is dif - frent. We are
free, li - ber - at - ed from old sym - bols. We are
home, re - spect - ing one an - oth - er. We are

5 Gsus2 G Dm Am

here, man - y hearts — filled with hope. We are
one, each with bles - sings and needs. We are
free, free to learn, — grow, and serve. We are
home, shar - ing all that must be done. We are

7 Gsus4/B B♭M7 Am

here, one, free, home, join - ing bring - ing like in the free - ly beau - ty to the tab - le, flowers in the gar - dens, voic - es of our child - ren,

9 B♭M7 C2 B♭M7 A7

sib - lings and strang - ers, sib - lings and strang - ers, sib - lings and strang - ers, sib - lings and strang - ers, cous - ins and neigh - bors. Cre - cous - ins and neigh - bors. cous - ins and neigh - bors. cous - ins and neigh - bors.

11 Dm F Gm7 E7

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

13 G11 G7 Asus4 A7 1. 2. 3. Dsus4 D

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

15 4. Dsus4 D G11 G7 Asus4 A7

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

17 Dsus4 D G11 G7 Asus4 A7 Dsus4 D

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