

Sunday, January 22, 2023 10:00 AM

Gathering

**Prelude** No. 3 from *The Adventures of Ivan* Brad Dumont, piano  
by Aram Khachaturian

**Land Acknowledgement & Welcome** Kirsten Chetwynd,  
Small Group Ministry Facilitator

**Greet Your Neighbor**

**Introit** “Another World is Possible” Brad Dumont, piano  
FLOBOTS

**Opening Words  
(Responsive)** “You Are Welcome Here”  
by Rev. Dr. Debra W. Haffner

**Chalice Lighting**

**\* Hymn #55** “Dark of Winter”

<b>* Covenant</b>	<b>* Affirmation</b>
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

**Message for All Ages** “Making Choices, Casting Votes” by Jessica Halperin  
The Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum

**Going Forth with the Light**

*\* Rise in Body and Spirit*

**Joys and Sorrows** Ann Sadler, Lay Minister

**Prayer or Meditation** “You Are Loved” by Rev. Greta Jo Seidohl

**\* Hymn #1053** “How Could Anyone”

Exploring

**Video** “Universe in My Uterus”  
by Rev. Karen G. Johnston

**Sharing Our Gifts**  
This month we share our weekly offering with *Acton and Stow Area  
Interfaith Partnership to Support Afghan Refugees*. 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** “The Gift of Love” FPC Adult Choir  
Hal Hopson

**Sermon** *Reproductive Freedom Redux*  
(50th anniversary of Roe v. Wade)  
The Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum

Returning

**\* Hymn #1008** “When Our Heart Is in a Holy Place”

**\* Benediction (Unison)** “My Chant for Choice” by Jezibell Anat  
We love our bodies.  
We make our choices.  
We trust our wisdom.  
We raise our voices. ...x4

**\* Closing Song** “Keep on Movin’ Forward” Pat Humphries  
Emma’s Revolution

*\* Rise in Body and Spirit*



Thank you to:  
Kim Kinnear, Zoom Host  
Nancy Cataldo and Judy Holmes, Ushers  
Sharon Brownfield and Rick Lent, Coffee Hour Hosts  
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.

#### Connect with First Parish Church

Sign our visitor's log at [tinyurl.com/visitfpc](https://tinyurl.com/visitfpc)  
Services Sunday at 10 am, in person and online



Subscribe to  
*The Chronicle*, our monthly emailed newsletter,  
*This Week at FPC*, our weekly Friday email,  
and our email groups FPC Announce and FPC Forum, all at <https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org/subscribe-newsletters>

# FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW & ACTON

*Unitarian Universalist*



Sunday, January 22, 2023

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 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.

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

## **You are Welcome Here**

by The Rev. Dr. Debra W. Haffner, 2022

Shared with permission.

*You are welcome here.*

If you are straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, intersexual, demisexual, pansexual, or asexual, or resist labels completely,

*You are whole and welcome here.*

If you are transgender, non-binary, gender queer or cis gender,

*You are whole and welcome here.*

If you are confused about your sexuality, have questions, struggle in an intimate relationship or struggle because you aren't in one,

*You are whole and welcome here.*

If you have had an abortion or an unintended pregnancy, given up a child, had a miscarriage, have AIDS or HIV, struggle with infertility, or sexual dysfunction,

*You are whole and welcome here.*

If you have been the victim of sexual abuse, sexual harassment, or sexual assault,

*You are whole and welcome here.*

If you have made sexual decisions or had behaviors that you regret,

*You are welcome here and we will help you offer restorative justice and healing.*

Your sexuality is holy and sacred and an integral part of who you are.

*You are whole and welcome here.*

*As Unitarian Universalists, we will side with you, love you, and fight for your rights.*

*We seek to create a world where sexuality and sexual diversity is celebrated with holiness and integrity.*

## ONLINE SUPPLEMENT PAGE

This page contains information specifically for folks joining us online!

FPC now has a closed captioning option in online services. If the Closed Captioning option is not turned on, you can use the button at the bottom of your screen to request that the host turn it on.



### Today's Zoom Host:

### Hymn Lyrics

#### Hymn #55 *Dark of Winter*

1. Dark of winter, soft and still,  
your quiet calm surrounds me.  
Let my thoughts go where they will;  
ease my mind profoundly.  
And then my soul will sing a song,  
a blessed song of love eternal.  
Gentle darkness, soft and still,  
bring your quiet to me.
2. Darkness, soothe my weary eyes,  
that I may see more clearly.  
When my heart with sorrow cries,  
comfort and caress me.  
And then my soul may hear a voice,  
a still, small voice of love eternal.  
Darkness, when my fears arise,  
let your peace flow through me.

#### Hymn #1053

*How Could Anyone*

How could anyone ever tell you you were anything less than beautiful?  
How could anyone ever tell you you were less than whole?  
How could anyone fail to notice that your loving is a miracle?  
How deeply you're connected to my soul.

#### Hymn #1008

*When our heart is in a holy place*

Chorus: When our heart is in a holy place,  
When our heart is in a holy place,  
We are bless'd with love and amazing grace,  
When our heart is in a holy place.

1. When we trust the wisdom in each of us,  
Ev'ry color ev'ry creed and kind,  
And we see our faces in each other's eyes,  
Then our heart is in a holy place.
2. When we tell our story from deep inside,  
And we listen with a loving mind,  
And we hear our voices in each other's words,  
Then our heart is in a holy place.
3. When we share the silence of sacred space,  
And the God of our Heart stirs within,  
And we feel the power of each other's faith,  
Then our heart is in a holy place.

### 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

**Plate Sharing  
This Month:  
Acton and Stow  
Area Interfaith  
Partnership to  
Support  
Afghan Refugees  
(ASAIPSAR)**

This Partnership was created last year when the FPC’s Asylum Seekers Task Force learned of a group of churches organizing to help Afghans being evacuated en-mass. We joined the group to form the ASAIPSAR. We’ve since provided food and made deliveries to newly arrived Afghan families, created an ongoing food pantry in Lowell, and aligned with the IINE (International Institute of New England) to support a family of six in Lowell and another in Maynard. We’re looking for ways to sustain this Interfaith effort and investigating how to help people in Haiti.

**This Week in Religious Education**

**PreK-1st Grade and 2nd-5th Grade:** We’ll explore the idea of how we can make choices in order to find our center and live in our values.

**Junior Youth (6th-8th Grade):** We’ll continue the study of Islam, making connections between Islam and Unitarian Universalism.

**Senior Youth (9th-12th Grade):** High School Discussion Group, with the topic of maintaining physical health. At 11:30 am Senior Youth will sort CityReach supplies again.

*What do you value most about the church and RE program, and what might enhance their vitality? What elements of worship and RE classes would your children be most excited about?* Hour-long Cottage Meetings will pose these kinds of questions to generate reflection and visioning.

**Sign up here to join a meeting:** <https://bit.ly/recottage> **and please fill out this companion survey:** [bit.ly/fpc-re-survey](https://bit.ly/fpc-re-survey). Everyone in the FPC community is encouraged to fill this out! Please also pass this on to young adults who’ve graduated from the RE program - we have a special virtual cottage meeting for youth and young adults! Participants will be entered into a raffle for \$25 gift cards when they sign up.

**Religious  
Education  
Cottage  
Meetings:**

We want to hear from you about our programming for children, youth, and families!

**FPC Announcements: Sunday, January 22, 2023**

**Today at FPC**

- 10 am Service, Sanctuary/Online
- 11 am Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall
- 12 pm Spiritual Conversations Through Poetry, Parlor/Online

**Clothing & Supply Drive for CityReach – 2<sup>nd</sup>/Final Collection!**

Today, Sunday, January 22, 11:15am - Noon, Fellowship Hall  
We received an amazing amount of donations last Sunday! Many thanks to everyone who contributed. We are collecting donations again today for anyone who couldn’t make it last Sunday. Please review the information below before selecting your donations.

This March, our Senior Youth will participate in the overnight CityReach program. CityReach gives youth and adults a chance to learn about homelessness from people who have experienced it. Youth learn from unhoused mentors and offer hospitality (including food and clothing) to guests. This drive is an opportunity to donate clean, seasonally appropriate clothing and supplies to CityReach.

CityReach ACCEPTS		WON'T ACCEPT
Practical, unisex clothing in all sizes, but XL, XXL, XXXL are especially in demand for layering  NEW CLOTHING: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>women’s and men’s underwear &amp; bras in all sizes and styles (color pref. over white)</li><li>white socks</li></ul> USED CLOTHING: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>warm coats</li><li>sweatshirts (esp. hooded)</li><li>sweatpants</li><li>sweaters</li><li>T-shirts</li><li>long-sleeve shirts</li><li>jeans, khakis, casual pants</li></ul>	USED CLOTHING: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Waterproof boots, comfortable shoes, sneakers, belts</li><li>Hats, waterproof gloves, scarves</li><li>All kinds of carrying cases: backpacks, tote bags, fanny packs, small suitcases with wheels</li><li>Travel-size toiletries such as soap, shampoo, deodorant, lotion, Chapstick, toothpaste, shaving cream</li><li>Toothbrushes, disposable razors, tampons</li><li>Sleeping bags &amp; blankets (clean and in good condition)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><u>out-of-season clothing</u></li><li><u>children’s clothes</u></li><li><u>clothes w/holes</u></li><li>dress clothes</li><li>slippers</li><li>bathrobes</li><li>pajamas</li><li>aftershave or mouthwash containing alcohol</li></ul>

## This Week at FPC: January 23-28

- Mon 1/23** Jazz Band Rehearsal, 7-9 pm, Sanctuary
- Tue 1/24** Coffee and Chat\* 10-11 am, Town Gazebo  
Town Park, adjacent to FPC. Bring your own coffee!
- Wed 1/25** Meditation\* 7:30-8:30 pm, Hall/Online  
Contact [meditation@fpc-stow-acton.org](mailto:meditation@fpc-stow-acton.org) for more info.
- Thu 1/26** Peace Vigil\* 5-6 pm, in front of FPC, btwn Common & Great Rds  
Contact Neil Saunders [neilsaund@verizon.net](mailto:neilsaund@verizon.net) for more info.  
Vespers Service, 6-6:45pm, Community Room  
Choir Rehearsal, 7:15-9 pm, Sanctuary
- Fri 1/27** Bridge Group\* 1-3:30 pm, Community Room  
Contact Hector [Hconstantzos@gmail.com](mailto:Hconstantzos@gmail.com) for more info.

\*All are welcome to these weekly FPC events

### Next Sunday's Service

Sunday, January 29, 2023

"Principles and Values" 10 AM in the Sanctuary or online/phone

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

The UU Principles are actually part of the UUA bylaws, and periodically we review them. Changes to them are being proposed for this year's General Assembly. We'll take a look at the principles' history and the current proposals in this service.



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

Meeting ID: 999 7077 0266 Passcode: 01775

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



## Additional Announcements Live links in *This Week at FPC* Friday email

### Spiritual Conversations Through Poetry Jan 22, noon, online

You don't need to know anything about poetry to join Elizabeth Cobblah, Ilene Rudman, and Hector Constantzos today at 12:00 PM for Spiritual Conversations Through Poetry. Come and engage with others through the sharing of a poem – read it, listen to it, let it take you to possible new insights, and respond to it. Such conversations have been going on at FPC twice a month for over a decade. We sincerely hope you will join us in this deeply satisfying time of connection.

### FINAL Small Group Ministry (SGM) Registration DEADLINE

Don't delay - register TODAY - Deadline is 1 pm Sunday, January 22nd to get in on the start of the SGM year.

Have it your way. Let us know if you prefer finally getting together with people in person, want to wait a bit, or if you are more comfortable meeting over zoom all year. Whichever way, we would love to have you be part of our new SGM groups that are forming.

We meet 2 hours monthly, starting in February in groups of about 8-10 for a facilitated discussion. No preparation required. Show up as you are for an opportunity to get to know yourself and your group at a meaningful level.

Please let us know your preferences and availability through...

- email to Karen Kinnear [sgm@fpc-stow-acton.org](mailto:sgm@fpc-stow-acton.org)
- the registration form at the bottom of <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/sgm>, OR
- sign up at coffee hour

### Refresh, Renew, Revitalize: Vespers Service Thu, Jan 26, 6pm,

Community Room, Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Our vespers series this year is designed to be a spiritual evening where we refresh and rejuvenate for the work of social justice in our community and the world. Join us in the Community Room between our peace vigil and choir rehearsal!

*Masks are required, except for being optional for speakers and soloists.*