

February 19, 2023 10:00 AM

Gathering

Prelude

Air I
G.F.Handel

Sanghee Kim, organ

**Land Acknowledgement, Welcome,
& Announcements**

Meg Rivers-Wright,
Parish Administration & Membership

Greet Your Neighbor

Introit

We Are All Earthlings
arr. Lisa Utzig

Sanghee Kim, piano

Some of us have feathers, some of us have fins.
Some of us are furry, some of us have grins.
We swim and hop and slither, we leap and soar and run.
And we all live together on a planet of the sun.

We are all earthlings, we are all earthlings.
Spinning around together on a planet of the sun.

Floating down a river, swinging through the trees.
Climbing up a mountain and going with the breeze.
All of us can have a happy, healthy place to be
If we can float and swim and climb in earthling harmony.

We are all earthlings, we are all earthlings.
Spinning around together on a planet of the sun.

Opening Words

"Call from Beyond"
Susan Maginn

Rev. Dr. Cynthia Landrum

Introduction to Theme

Cherilyn Reno, DRE,
UU Society of Grafton & Upton

Chalice Lighting

*** Hymn #343**

A Firemist and a Planet

** Rise in Body and Spirit*

*** Covenant**

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.

*** Affirmation #376**

Sing loudly till the stars have heard
In joy, feast on this bounteous word!
Our praises call us to explore
till suns shall rise and set no more.

Exploring

Stardust to Life:

Story Cherilyn Reno
Reflections Dr. Reverend Cynthia Landrum

Joys and Sorrows

Ann Sadler, Lay Minister

Prayer/Meditation

"Grateful for Creatures from A to Z"
Gary Kowalski
Dr. Reverend Cynthia Landrum

*** Hymn #203**

All Creatures of the Earth and Sky

Animals Morphing:

Story Cherilyn Reno
Reflections Dr. Reverend Cynthia Landrum

Sharing Our Gifts

This month we share our weekly offering with RIA, Inc. (Ready.Inspire.Act)
Checks may be made to "First Parish Church" or you can donate online at
<https://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate> or by text to (978) 310-3309.

Anthem

A Place in the Choir
arr. Janet Wheeler
FPC Adult Choir

Please join us in singing the refrain:

All God's creatures got a place in the choir
Some sing low and some sing higher
Some sing out loud on the telephone wire
And some just clap their hands, their paws, or anything they got now!

** Rise in Body and Spirit*

Humanity to the Stars:

Story Reflections Cherilyn Reno
Rev. Dr. Cynthia Landrum

Returning

*** Hymn #1064**

Blue Boat Home

*** Benediction**

"Out of the Stars"
John Weston

Cherilyn Reno and
Rev. Dr. Cynthia

*** 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

Presto in C Major op.102 no.3
from Songs without Words
F. Mendelssohn

Sanghee Kim, piano



Thank you to:

Kim Kinnear, Zoom Host
Peter Fiske and Lisa Rydin, Ushers
Sharon Brownfield and Rick Lent, Coffee Hour Hosts
and to our staff and leadership



Connect with First Parish Church:

- 1) Sign our visitor's log at tinyurl.com/visitfpc
- 2) Services Sunday at 10 am, in-person and online
- 3) Subscribe to...
The Chronicle, our monthly emailed newsletter
This Week at FPC, our weekly emailed newsletter
FPC Announce and FPC Forum, our email groups,
all at <https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org/subscribe-newsletters>



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



Sunday, February 19, 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 and on Facebook.

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: Kim Kinnear

Hymn Lyrics

Hymn #343

A Firemist and a Planet

A firemist and a planet, a crystal and a cell,
a starfish and a saurian, and caves where ancients dwelt;
the sense of law and beauty, a face turned from the sod —
some call it evolution, and others call it God.

Haze on the far horizon, the infinite tender sky,
the ripe, rich tints of cornfields, and wild geese sailing high;
and over high and lowland, the charm of goldenrod —
some people call it autumn, and others call it God.

Like tides on crescent seabeach, when moon's so new and thin,
into our hearts high yearnings come welling, surging in,
come from the mystic ocean whose rim no foot has trod —
some people call it longing, and others call it God.

A sentry lone and frozen, a mother starved for her brood,
and Socrates' dread hemlock, and Jesus on the rood;
and millions, who, though nameless, the straight, hard pathway trod —
some call it consecration, and others call it God.

Hymn #203

All Creatures of the Earth and Sky

1. All creatures of the earth and sky,
come, kindred, lift your voices high, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Bright burning sun with golden beam,
soft shining moon with silver gleam:

Chorus: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

2. Swift rushing wind so wild and strong,
white clouds that sail in heav'n along, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Fair rising morn in praise rejoice,
high stars of evening find a voice: (Chorus)

3. Cool flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for all life to hear, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Dance, flame of fire, so strong and bright,
and bless us with your warmth and light: (Chorus)

4. Embracing earth, you, day by day,
bring forth your blessings on our way, Alleluia, Alleluia!
All herbs and fruits that richly grow,
let them the glory also show: (Chorus)

5. All you of understanding heart,
forgiving others, take your part, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Let all things now the Holy bless,
and worship God in humbleness: (Chorus)

Hymn #1064 *Blue Boat Home*

1. Though below me, I feel no motion
standing on these mountains and plains.
Far away from the rolling ocean
still my dry land heart can say:
I've been sailing all my life now,
never harbor or port have I known.
The wide universe is the ocean I travel
and the earth is my blue boat home.

2. Sun my sail and moon my rudder
as I ply the starry sea,
leaning over the edge in wonder,
casting questions into the deep.
Drifting here with my ship's companions,
all we kindred pilgrim souls,
making our way by the lights of the
heavens in our beautiful blue boat home.

3. I give thanks to the waves upholding me,
hail the great winds urging me on,
greet the infinite sea before me,
sing the sky my sailor's song:
I was born up on the fathoms,
never harbor or port have I known.
The wide universe is the ocean I travel,
and the earth is my blue boat home.

Announcements begin on next page

Plate Sharing
This Month:
RIA, Inc.
(Ready.Inspire.Act)

RIA provides a range of community-based services to stand with and support people with experience in commercial sex and its associated exploitation, trafficking, and prostitution. Our vision is a world where people's bodies are not victimized, exploited, bought, or sold for the sexual gratification of another person. FPC has embraced and supported RIA House since its start 12 years ago.

Survivors tell us again and again that rent is their highest expense. Deciding between food, rent, and utilities is a decision they wrestle with every day. Our dream is to provide 12-24 months of rental assistance for every survivor of human trafficking and sexual exploitation we serve. Rental assistance is a gift of opportunity for someone in need. It means a survivor can take a breath, know she is trusted to manage her own life, and begin to plan how to improve her life and the lives of her children. Together we are supporting one woman at a time. We thank each and every one of you for believing and trusting RIA to be here in this way with others.



This Week in Religious Education

Children and youth (through 8th grade) are invited to stay in worship this week for an intergenerational service about Darwin, space, evolution, humanity and animals. Costumes related to animals and space are encouraged, as are stuffed animals!

High School Discussion Group: Join us for an informative conversation on personal finance! We'll make a budget together and talk about tips for living on a budget.

FPC Announcements: Sunday, February 19, 2023

Today at FPC

10 am Service, Sanctuary/Online

11 am Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall

Gratitude from Marissa Evans & the RE Committee:

Many thanks
to everyone who participated in
the Religious Education survey
and Cottage Meetings!



We heard from over 50 people
and truly appreciate your
thoughtful responses. It's clear
how highly this community
values raising children with
Unitarian Universalist values in
a supportive and nurturing
environment.

We see clear trends
emerging already,
especially the desire to
attract more families
with children, and
have more
intergenerational &
family-friendly
activities.

I will be working with
staff, the Religious
Education committee,
and our consultant
Deb Weiner
to review all the data
we collected
and create a plan for
moving forward
that honors your
collective input.



Spiritual Conversations: Next Sunday, 2/26, online

You don't need to know anything about poetry to join Elizabeth Cobblah, Ilene Rudman, and Hector Constantzos 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. Contact Hector Hconstantzos@gmail.com for the link.

This Week at FPC: February 20-25

- Mon 2/20** Presidents' Day
-
- Tue 2/21** Coffee and Chat* 10-11 am, Town Gazebo
Town Park, adjacent to FPC. Bring your own coffee!
Membership Committee mtg. 11:30-1 (NEW DAY/TIME), online
SGM: 3rd Tuesday Group, 7:30-9:30 pm, online
-
- Wed 2/22** UU Journey Class #2, 7-9 pm, Community Room
Trustee Meeting, 7-9:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
Meditation* 7:30-8:30 pm, Hall/Online
Contact meditation@fpc-stow-acton.org for more info.
-
- Thu 2/23** Peace Vigil* 5-6 pm, in front of FPC, btwn Common & Great Rds
Contact Neil Saunders neilsaund@verizon.net for more info.
Memorial Garden Committee, 6-7 pm, online
Black History Month Vespers, 6-6:45 pm, Community Room
Choir Rehearsal, 7:15-9 pm, Sanctuary
-
- Fri 2/24** Bridge Group* 1-3:30 pm, Community Room
Contact Hector Hconstantzos@gmail.com for more info.

*All are welcome to these [weekly FPC events](#)

Next Sunday's Service: February 26, 2023

10:00 AM in the Sanctuary and online/phone

"From Literature to Film: White Saviorism" - Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Rev. Cindy is once again challenged by a great "auction sermon" topic! This year, one of two auction sermons is on decolonization, and how "white saviorism" is demonstrated in literature and film from early films all the way through to The Help and Avatar. We'll look at popular entertainment, but then all the way into our stories within our own faith. How does knowing this change how we work towards decolonization?



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

Refresh, Renew, Revitalize: Black History Month Vespers

Thu, Jan 26, 6pm, Community Room, Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

This month we focus on racial justice and how we continue to engage in the work towards racial equity. Come join us for a peaceful service between our peace vigil and choir rehearsal times on the fourth Thursday of the month.

Heather Maloney in Concert, Saturday, Mar 4, 7:00 pm

The New Revival Coffeehouse is proud to present renowned vocalist Heather Maloney at a live concert in Fellowship Hall.



The Massachusetts-based "writer song-singer" found music in the midst of three years at a meditation center, honing a sound moored in days of silent reflection and reverence for storytellers like Joni, Rilke, Ken Burns, and the anonymous authors of Zen parables. And while she eventually traded the quiet, structured life



New Revival
Coffeehouse

as a yogi for the kinetic life of a touring musician, the core of her songwriting remains centered around the same curiosity about our inner world and the desire to articulate it through storytelling.

"Utterly gorgeous, visceral" - New York Times

"Her not-so-secret weapon is that voice" - Boston Globe

"Stunning, breathy, and starkly memorable" - SPIN Magazine

Heather has toured nationally as a headliner as well as in support of acts like Lake Street Dive, Shakey Graves, Gary Clark Jr., Colin Hay, Mary Chapin Carpenter, and many more.

Tickets for the upcoming Coffeehouse will be on sale at coffee hour the next two Sundays for \$17 and no service fee. Tickets are also available at Eventbrite with a small service fee, but the Coffeehouse Committee believes this concert may sell out, so don't delay getting your tickets.