

February 26, 2023 10:00 AM

Gathering

Prelude *Adiago* Sanghee Kim, organ
 F. Mendelssohn

Land Acknowledgement/Welcome Hector Constantzos, Lay Minister

Introit *Standing Stone* Sanghee Kim, piano
 Melanie DeMore

Opening Words

Chalice Lighting

* **Hymn #38** *Morning Has Broken*

* **Covenant** *** 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

Message for All Ages Marissa Evans,
 Acting Director of Religious Education

Going Forth with the Light

Joys and Sorrows Hector Constantzos, Lay Minister

Prayer/Meditation

* **Hymn #205** *Amazing Grace*

* *Rise in Body and Spirit*

Exploring

Reading/Reflection

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 donate online at
<https://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate> or by text to (978) 310-3309.

Anthem

Ella's Song FPC Adult Choir
 Bernice Johnson Reagon

We who believe in freedom cannot rest
 We who believe in freedom cannot rest
 until it comes

Until the killing of black men, black
 mothers' sons
 Is as important as the killing of white men,
 white mothers' sons

That which touches me most
 Is that I had a chance to work with people
 Passing on to others that which was passed
 on to me

To me young people come first
 They have the courage where we fail
 And if I can but shed some light as they
 carry us through the gale

The older I get the better I know that the
 secret of my going on Is when the reins are
 in the hands of the young, who dare to run
 against the storm

Not needing to clutch for power
 Not needing the light just to shine on me
 I need to be one in the number as we stand
 against tyranny

Struggling myself don't mean a whole lot,
 I've come to realize
 That teaching others to stand up and fight
 is the only way my struggle survives

I'm a woman who speaks in a voice and I
 must be heard
 At times I can be quite difficult, I'll bow to
 no man's word

We who believe in freedom cannot rest
 We who believe in freedom cannot rest
 until it comes

Sermon “Literature, Film, and Beyond: White Saviorism”
 The Rev. Cynthia L. Landrum

* *Rise in Body and Spirit*

Returning

*** Hymn**

Lead with Love/One Foot
Melanie DeMore

[Chorus:]

You gotta put one foot in front of the other
And lead with love
Put one foot in front of the other
And lead with love
x2

[Verses, in call-and-response style:]

1 Don't give up hope
You're not alone
Don't you give up
Keep movin on

2 Lift up your eyes
Don't you despair
Look up ahead
The path is there

3 I know you're scared
And I'm scared too
But here I am
Right next to you

*** 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

Two Selections
D. Kabalevsky, B. Fenstock

Sanghee Kim, piano



Thank you to:
Sheryl LaFayette, Zoom Host
Kate Imhoff and Nick Francis, Ushers
Jeff Brown, Coffee Hour Host
and our staff and leadership

**FIRST PARISH
CHURCH
OF STOW &
ACTON**

Unitarian Universalist



Sunday, February 26, 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!

1. 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.



2. Today's Zoom Host: **Sheryl LaFayette**

3. Hymn Lyrics:

Hymn #38

Morning Has Broken

- 1 Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!
- 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.
- 3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

Hymn #205

Amazing Grace

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch* like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
was blind but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!
3. Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.
4. When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

* or "soul"

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

FPC Announcements: Sunday, February 26, 2023

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**

PreK-1st and 2nd-5th: It's show-and-tell week, sharing something that we love! Please bring something to share with the class that is meaningful to you.

Junior Youth: We begin our study of Paganism, getting the lay of the land including different types of pagan practices. We'll also share stories or activities from our own culture(s) of origin or interest, particularly from pre-Christian times.

Senior Youth: Youth are welcome to stay in worship or help out in a younger class. At 3-5pm this afternoon, Senior Youth Group is meeting to prepare for CityReach; youth not participating in CityReach are also welcome.

Today at FPC

10 am Service, Sanctuary/online
11 am Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall
12 pm Spiritual Conversations, online
2 – 6 pm City Reach Prep, Youth Room

Spiritual Conversations: TODAY and 3/12, 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.

Last Chance: Heather Maloney Concert Tickets on sale TODAY

Today at coffee hour, the Coffeehouse Committee will be selling tickets to renowned vocalist Heather Maloney's March 4th 7 pm concert in our Fellowship Hall. This will be the last chance to purchase tickets for \$17 without paying a processing fee.

Tickets are also available at www.eventbrite.com for \$17 plus a small fee. Those on-line sales will end at 8 a.m. on March 4. Tickets will also be available at the door for \$20. For more information about this concert, see <https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org/music/coffeehouse>.



Racial Justice Task Force (RJTF) monthly drop-in session, 2/27, 7:00 pm

We are re-invigorating our partnership with UU Urban Ministry (UUUM) in Roxbury. Come hear an update on our recent meeting with them and share your ideas and interest in planning for engaging moving forward with this beloved community. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86115322039>

This Week at FPC: February 27-March 4

- Mon 2/27** ▶ Jazz Band Rehearsal, 7-9 pm, Sanctuary
▶ RJTF drop-in, 7-7:30 pm, online
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- Tue 2/28** ▶ Coffee and Chat* 10-11 am, Town Gazebo at Town Park, adjacent to FPC. Bring your own coffee!
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- Wed 3/1** ▶ UU Journey Class #3, 7-9 pm, Parlor
▶ SGM Facilitators Meeting, 7-9 pm, Community Room
▶ Meditation* 7:30-8:30 pm, Hall/Online
Contact meditation@fpc-stow-acton.org for more info.
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- Thu 3/2** ▶ Peace Vigil* 5-6 pm, in front of FPC, btwn Common & Great Rds
Contact Neil Saunders neilsaund@verizon.net for more info.
▶ Choir Rehearsal, 7:15-9 pm, Sanctuary
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- Fri 3/3** ▶ Bridge Group* 1-3:30 pm, Community Room
Contact Hector Hconstantzos hconstantzos@gmail.com for more info.
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- Sat 3/4** ▶ New Revival Coffee House: Heather Maloney, 7 pm

*All are welcome to these weekly FPC events

Next Sunday's Service: March 5, 2023

10:00 AM in the Sanctuary and online/phone

"Vulnerability: Being All In" – Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Brené Brown said, "Vulnerability is not knowing victory or defeat; it's understanding the necessity of both; it's engaging. It's being all in." This sermon will explore both the difficulty and benefits of being vulnerable and open.



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

This Summer's Sunday Services: Will you lead or contribute?



The Worship Committee has started planning for FPC's summer services which will run each Sunday for the 12 weeks between June 18 and September 3. We're interested in hearing from any member of the congregation who'd be interested in leading a service or offering an idea for a service they'd like to work on with a member of our committee. Please contact Neil Saunders, Chair (neilsaund@verizon.net) with your ideas, suggestions, or questions.

FPC's Annual Spring Auction

Feeling the midwinter blues or blahs...? One of the best ways to revitalize can be to give – to help someone else. And may we suggest... giving your time or talents to FPC's biggest fundraiser of the year?

This year's auction will bring the Monopoly game to life, and we invite you to donate, volunteer, and attend!

DONATE

baked goods
services
a gift card from
your favorite
business
meals for home
delivery
host a dinner
host a party

VOLUNTEER

set-up & clean-up
servers
bid spotters &
recorders
be an auctioneer
clean-up

ATTEND

Silent Auction -
March 26 - April 5
on Auctria
Live Auction -
April 1 at FPC,
6:30-9:30 pm



To get started, go to our FPC webpage where you'll find a donation form, gift card sign-up Genius, and many more details. And thank you! <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/article/fpc-auction-2023---monopoly>