

April 16, 2023 10:00 AM

Gathering

Prelude *Spain* Trish Woods, piano
by Chick Corea

Land Acknowledgement & Welcome Brad Dumont, Music Director

Introit #389 *Gathered Here* FPC Adult Choir

Opening Words by Carl G. Seaburg

Chalice Lighting

* **Hymn #361** *Enter, Rejoice & Come In*

* **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** 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

Time for All Ages “Do You Like Me?” Rev. Dr. Cynthia L.
~ Ernie and Bert Landrum

“Mahna Mahna”
~ Mahna Mahna and the
Snowths

Lighting the Lantern

Joys and Sorrows Ann Sadler, Lay Minister

Prayer or Meditation

* **Hymn #16** *Tis a Gift to be Simple*

* *Rise in Body and Spirit*

Exploring

Video “The Mystery Box” Kermit & Cookie Monster

Introduction to Offering Sam Williams, Executive Director
Concord Prison Outreach

Sharing Our Gifts
This month we share our weekly offering with Concord Prison Outreach.
You may donate with a check made out to “First Parish Church,”
online at <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate>, or text to (978) 310-3309.

Offertory Solo** *Rainbow Connection* Brad Dumont and soloists
by Paul Williams and
Kenneth Ascher

** Please see our insert for song lyrics in order to follow along!

Sermon “Perfectionism & The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L.
the Beauty and Possibility of Chaos” Landrum

Returning

* **Hymn (video)** *Turn the World Around* ** See insert for lyrics
~ Harry Belafonte and the
Muppets

* **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 ‘til we meet again.

Postlude *Sonora* Trish Woods, Piano
by Trish Woods

Greet Your Neighbor

* *Rise in Body and Spirit*



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

Our flowers today are given by Kate & Russ Hart in memory of their parents,
 John & Marian Hardiman and Fred & Shirley Hart,
 and siblings Morgan & Marijean Hardiman



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 Massachusetts, 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

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, April 16, 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 in 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 #361 *Enter, Rejoice, and Come In*

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Enter, rejoice, and come in.
Enter, rejoice, and come in.
Today will be a joyful day;
enter, rejoice, and come in. | 4. Don't be afraid of some change.
Don't be afraid of some change.
Today will be a joyful day;
enter, rejoice, and come in. |
| 2. Open your ears to the song.
Open your ears to the song.
Today will be a joyful day;
enter, rejoice, and come in. | 5. Enter, rejoice, and come in.
Enter, rejoice, and come in.
Today will be a joyful day;
enter, rejoice, and come in. |
| 3. Open your hearts ev'ryone.
Open your hearts ev'ryone.
Today will be a joyful day;
enter, rejoice, and come in. | |

Hymn #16 *'Tis a Gift to Be Simple*

'Tis a gift to be simple, 'tis a gift to be free,
'tis a gift to come down where we ought to be,
and when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'twill be in the valley of love and delight.

When true simplicity is gained,
to bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed.
To turn, turn will be our de-light,
'till by turning, turning we come 'round right.

Hymn #1074 *Turn the World Around (Harry Belafonte & the Muppets version of words)*

1. We come from the fire, living in the fire, go back to the fire, turn the world around.
We come from the fire. Go back to the fire, turn the world around.

Section 1 (Harry): We come from the fire, living in the fire,
go back to the fire, turn the world around.

Section 2 (Muppets): *We come from the fire.
Go back to the fire, turn the world around.*

2. We come from the water, living in the water, go back to the water, turn the world around.

Section 1 (Harry): We come from the water, living in the water,
go back to the water, turn the world around. (Repeat)

Section 2 (Muppets): *We come from the water.
Go back to the water, turn the world around. (Repeat)*

3. We come from the mountain, living on the mountain,
go back to the mountain, turn the world around.

Section 1 (Harry): We come from the mountain, living on the mountain,
go back to the mountain, turn the world around. (Repeat)

Section 2 (Muppets): *We come from the mountain.
Go back to the mountain, turn the world around. (Repeat)*

Whoa, so is life! Ah, so is life! Whoa, so is life! Ah, so is life!

Chorus:

Do you know who I am? Do I know who you are?
See we one another clearly? Do we know who we are?

Section 1 (Harry or Harry & Muppets):
Do you know who I am? Do I know who you are?
See we one another clearly? Do we know who we are? (repeat)

Section 2 (Muppets): *Do you know who I am? Do I know who you are?
See we one another clearly? Do we know who we are?*

Whoa, so is life! Abateewah, (ha!) so is life!
Whoa, so is life! Abateewah, (ha!) so is life! (repeat)

4. Water make the river, river wash the mountain,
Fire make the sunlight, turn the world around.
Heart is of the river, body is the mountain, Spirit is the sunlight, turn the world around.
We are of the spirit, truly of the spirit, Only can the spirit turn the world around! (repeat)

Chorus

Sharing Our Gifts (Zoom Host: Please see next page)

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

Today at FPC

10 am Service, Sanctuary/Online

11 am Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall

12 pm FPC Pagan Group, Parlor

Do you know a teen interested in babysitting?

We are looking to supplement our core group of paid FPC-affiliated teen childcare providers with a few new individuals from the Stow/Acton/Maynard area who are in 8th grade or beyond that you would personally recommend. Teens don't necessarily have to have babysitting experience, just be responsible and have interest in connecting with children. We pay \$15/hr. and have occasional weekend openings, especially Sunday mornings in the summer. If you know someone to recommend, please email Justin Marble at justin.a.marble@gmail.com.



FPC Grounds Committee needs your help

Would you like to join our group of gardeners for a new season of planting and grounds care at FPC? We need some help, and experience is not required. This year we want to:

- Spruce up the Rosiello garden and buy new benches.
- Add ground covers to various locations.
- Plant the new pollinator bed in front of the church.
- Maintain the flowerpots in front of the church and Fellowship Hall.
- Organize a spring and fall clean-up of church grounds.



Please let Rick Lent (rickmlent@gmail.com) know of your interest.

April Plate Sharing:

Concord Prison Outreach

Concord Prison Outreach (CPO) is a 501(c)(3) organization composed of a coalition of individuals and faith communities committed to helping people who are incarcerated build better lives for themselves and their families. Since its founding in 1968, when its first volunteers helped to support people in a local prison infirmary, CPO has developed into the largest organization of its kind in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. CPO works cooperatively with the

Massachusetts Department of Correction (DOC), offering educational programs that focus on skill-building and personal growth, essentials to help support people in prison to achieve success while incarcerated or post-incarceration.

Recently, CPO has restarted programming in the BRAVE (Building Responsible Adults through Validation and Education) Unit to house 45 young fathers at MCI-Concord. Many of the young fathers have no relationships with their own fathers, or positive role models. Mentors will support these younger men as they work at being fathers themselves, navigate the stressors of prison life, and participate in programming to bolster other areas of their lives. Programming includes mentoring to guide fathers to have healthier relationships with their children.

For information about CPO programs and volunteer opportunities, please visit the website concordprisonoutreach.org.

This Week in Religious Education

Children (PreK-1st & 2nd-5th Graders):

Passover & Coming Together

Junior Youth (6th-8th graders): Connections between

Quakerism & Connections with Unitarian Universalism

High Schoolers are welcome to enjoy the service or help out in a younger class.

This Week at FPC: April 17 - 21

- Mon 4/17**
- Massachusetts Public Schools' Vacation Week
 - **Auction Committee Meeting** 6:30-8:30 pm, Community Room

- Tue 4/18**
- **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
 - **Trustee Mtg.** 7-9:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
 - **SGM: 3rd Tuesday Group** 7-9 pm, Online

- Wed 4/19**
- **Worship Committee** 12-1 pm, Online
 - **SGM: 3rd Wednesday Group** 7:30-9:30 pm, Online
 - **Meditation*** 7:30-8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall/Online
Contact: meditation@fpc-stow-acton.org

- Thu 4/20**
- **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
 - **SGM: 3rd Thursday Group** 7:30-9:30 pm, Online

- Fri 4/21**
- **Bridge Group*** 1-3:30 pm, Community Room
Contact: Hector Hconstantzos@gmail.com

Sun 4/23 **Next Sunday's Service:** 10am, Sanctuary/Online/Phone

“Earth, A Sacred Place” – Climate Change Taskforce

On this Earth Day, April 23, we are reminded of how our lives are dependent upon, enriched, and nourished by the very ground we walk on and the air we breathe. This service will be a deep reflection on this sacred place we call home. The core of the service will be the FPC choir's performance of Paul Winters' *Missa Gaia*, which celebrates the whole earth by integrating world music with animal and bird songs from the wild. The choir will be joined by FPC's Jazz Band. Readings and prayers from a variety of traditions will help deepen our commitment to Gaia's preservation.

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

Vespers: “Refresh, Renew, Revitalize” Next Thurs, 4/27, 6pm, Community Room - Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Our vespers series this year will be a spiritual service focused on how we refresh, rejuvenate, build community, and draw spiritual support for the work of justice. Come join us for a peaceful service between our peace vigil and choir rehearsal times on the fourth Thursday of the month.

Spiritual Conversations Through Poetry Next Sunday, 4/23, 12 noon, Online

You don't need to know anything about poetry to join Elizabeth Cobblah, Ilene Rudman, and Hector Constantzos for this deeply satisfying time of connection that's been going on at FPC for over a decade! Engage with others through a poem – read, listen, respond. Please contact one of us with questions or to attend: ecobblah@fenn.org, irudman@aol.com, or Hconstantzos@gmail.com.

Start Planning for the FPC Plant Sale – An Important Fundraiser!

This year's Plant Sale is Saturday, May 20, 9:30-11:30 am. If there's leftover stock from that live sale, we'll hold an honor system sale, too (time TBD). As we do every year, we're asking FPC earth lovers for plants – lots of plants – from your yards and gardens!

Consider which plants to donate:

shrubs
small trees
ground cover
herbs
perennials
vegetables
flowering plants you may have started
(different/unusual ones are especially desirable)

Dig up and pot them ASAP:

Early-season transplanting is less stressful on plants. Put them in a good spot where they can grow strong and look their very best for delivery and Sale Day.



We're also looking for help with gathering, organizing, and labeling plants, and setting up and running the sale. Please email peggyaladini@gmail.com.

Rainbow Connection

by Paul Williams and Kenneth Ascher

Why are there so many
songs about rainbows
and what's on the other side?
Rainbows are visions,
but only illusions,
and rainbows have nothing to hide.

So we've been told
and some choose to believe it.
I know they're wrong, wait and see.
Someday we'll find it, the rainbow connection,
the lovers, the dreamers, and me.

Who said that every wish
would be heard and answered
when wished on the morning star?
Somebody thought of that
and someone believed it.
Look what it's done so far.

What's so amazing that keeps us stargazing
and what do we think we might see?
Someday we'll find it, the rainbow connection,
the lovers, the dreamers, and me.

All of us under its spell,
we know that it's probably magic.

Have you been half asleep
and have you heard voices?
I've heard them calling my name.
Is this the sweet sound
that calls the young sailors?
The voice might be one and the same.

I've heard it too many times to ignore it.
It's something that I'm supposed to be.
Someday we'll find it, the rainbow connection,
the lovers, the dreamers and me.
La-da-da-dee-da-da-doo
Ba-da-da-da-da-dee-da-doo

Turn the World Around

by Harry Belafonte

Section 1 (Harry):

We come from the fire, living in the fire,
go back to the fire, turn the world around.

We come from the fire, living in the fire,
Go back to the fire, turn the world around.

We come from the water, living in the water,
go back to the water, turn the world around.

We come from the water, living in the water,
Go back to the water, turn the world around. (Repeat)

We come from the mountain, living on the mountain,
go back to the mountain, turn the world around.

We come from the mountain, living on the mountain,
Go back to the mountain, turn the world around. (Repeat)

Whoa, so is life!

Whoa, so is life!

Chorus:

Do you know who I am?

Do I know who you are?

See we one another clearly?

Do we know who we are?

(Repeat Chorus, double-time)

Do you know who I am? Do I know who you are?

See we one another clearly? Do we know who we are?

Do you know who I am? Do I know who you are?

See we one another clearly? Do we know who we are?

Section 2 (Muppets):

We come from the fire.

Go back to the fire, turn the world around.

We come from the fire.

Go back to the fire, turn the world around.

We come from the water.

Go back to the water, turn the world around.

(Repeat)

We come from the mountain.

Go back to the mountain, turn the world around.

(Repeat)

Ah-ha, so is life!

Ah-ha, so is life!

Chorus:

Do you know who I am?

Do I know who you are?

See we one another clearly?

Do we know who we are?

(Repeat Chorus, double-time)

Do you know who I am? Do I know who you are?

See we one another clearly? Do we know who we are?

Do you know who I am? Do I know who you are?

See we one another clearly? Do we know who we are?

(Repeat Chorus, as sung above)

Do you know who I am?

Do I know who you are?

See we one another clearly?

Do we know who we are?

In unison:

Whoa, so is life! Abatewah, (ha!) so is life!

Whoa, so is life! Abatewah, (ha!) so is life!

Water make the river, river wash the mountain, Fire make the sunlight, turn the world around.

Heart is of the river, body is the mountain, Spirit is the sunlight, turn the world around.

We are of the spirit, truly of the spirit, Only can the spirit turn the world around!

We are of the spirit, truly of the spirit, Only can the spirit turn the world around!

Chorus (as before, in two parts)

** Rise in Body and Spirit*

** Rise in Body and Spirit*