

April , 2023 10:00 am

Gathering

Prelude *Daydreaming* Brad Dumont, piano

Land Acknowledgement & Welcome Sharon Brownfield,
Board President

Greet Your Neighbor

Introit *Resilience*

Opening Words

Chalice Lighting

* **Hymn** *Ain't Gonna Let Nobody
Turn Me Around* Please see insert

Centering

Lighting the Lantern Children and youth will process
to front of sanctuary

Time for All Ages “Trans Rights Now!” Marissa Evans,
Acting Director
Religious Education

* **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** Children and youth will process
out while congregation sings
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.

Joys and Sorrows Hector Constantzos, Lay Minister

Prayer/Meditation

* **Hymn** *If Thoughts and Prayers* Please see insert

* *Rise in Body and Spirit*

Exploring

Reading

Plate Sharing Introduction (video) 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.

Anthem

Step by Step, FPC Adult Choir
arr. Joan Szymko

Step by step, the longest march
can be won, can be won.
Many stones can form an arch,
singly none, singly none.
And by union what we will
can be accomplished still.
Drops of water turn a mill,
Singly none, singly none.

Sermon

“Resistance” The Reverend Dr.
Cynthia L. Landrum

Returning

* **Hymn** *One Foot/Lead with Love* Please see insert

* **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

The Ferry Beach Song photos by Susan Avery
by Janet Beatrice
(video)

* *Rise in Body and Spirit*



Thank you to:
 Kim Kinnear, Zoom Host
 Nancy Cataldo and Judy Holmes, Ushers
 Sheryl LaFayette, Coffee Hour Host
 and to our staff and leadership

Our flowers today are given by Anne Sadler
 in memory of her parents, Betty & David Edwards.
 March 26th marked 70 years since their marriage.



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 2, 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.

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 #2 *Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round*
Justice Choir Songbook

1. Ain't gonna let nobody turn me 'round,
turn me 'round, turn me 'round.
Ain't gonna let nobody turn me 'round,
I'm gonna keep on a-walkin', keep on a-talkin',
marching up to freedom land.
2. Ain't gonna let **segregation** (turn me 'round...)
3. Ain't gonna let **racism** (turn me 'round...)
4. Ain't gonna let **no hatred** (turn me 'round...)
5. Ain't gonna let **nobody** (turn me 'round...)

Hymn *If Thoughts and Prayers*

1. If thoughts and prayers could only heal a world by bullets shattered,
where greed and power write the laws and Black lives do not matter.
So think and pray, then raise your voice against the tools of slaughter.
Call out the lies and fight for truth till justice rolls like water.
2. If thoughts and prayers could only feed the needy and the forgotten
who dwell beside us in this land affluence gone rotten.
So think and pray, then open wide your eyes to see your neighbor.
Call out the greed and teach to share, and in God's eyes find favor.
3. If thoughts and prayers could only cure the bigotry and malice
that prey like cancer on our fears and viciously enthrall us.
So think and pray, but then arise! Be strong and persistent!
Call out the hate, embrace the love; the Gospel is resistance.

Hymn #22
Justice Choir Songbook

One Foot/Lead With Love

[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.
(Repeat all 4 lines)

[Verses, call and response:]

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

[Chorus]

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

[Chorus]

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

[Last chorus: repeat last line two more times]

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

9 am Rehearsal, Open Choir, Sanctuary
10 am Service, Sanctuary/Online
11 am Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall



The Auction Train is still here!

The Online Auction continues through this Wednesday, April 5th.
At www.fpc-stow-acton.org, click the Monopoly picture, scroll down the auction page, and click "Auctria SignIn." to register!

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 Plant Sale Planning

It's time to start planning for this important fundraiser for our church, which happens this year on Saturday, May 20, 9:30-11:30 am. As we do every year, we're asking for plants – lots of plants – from your yards and gardens!

Consider which plants to donate:
shrubs, small trees, ground cover, herbs, perennials, vegetables, or flowering plants you may have started. Different/unusual ones are especially desirable.



Dig them up and pot them as soon as possible:
Early-season transplanting is less stressful on plants. Put them in a good spot where they can grow strong until 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.

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):

Breathing and Buddhism

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

Quakerism Week One: Mapping the Terrain

Coming of Age: Theology and Beliefs (Human Nature, Those We Disagree with and Those with Needs Greater Than Our Own)

We're Hiring! Help us find a Family Programs Assistant

In response to a resounding desire from the FPC community to maintain and grow our programs for children, youth, and families, we have created this temporary 3-month position. The Family Programs Assistant will work with Marissa Evans through the remainder of the church year. Learn more here: <https://bit.ly/familyprogramsassistant>. If you are interested or know someone who may be, please email dre@fpc-stow-acton.org.

This Week at FPC: April 3 - 8

Tue 4/4 **Coffee and Chat*** 10-11 am, Town Gazebo at Town Park, adjacent to FPC. Bring your own coffee!
Book Group 7-8 pm, online

Wed 4/5 **Meditation*** 7:30-8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall/Online
Contact: meditation@fpc-stow-acton.org

Thu 4/6 **Peace Vigil*** 5-6 pm, in front of FPC, btwn Common & Great Rds
Contact: Neil Saunders neilsaund@verizon.net
Maundy Thursday Vespers 6 pm, Sanctuary and Online
Choir Rehearsal 7:15-9 pm, Sanctuary

Fri 4/7 **Bridge Group*** 1-3:30 pm, Community Room
Contact: Hector Hconstantzos@gmail.com
Club UU 6:30-8:30 pm, Lower Hall
Snacks, Desserts, and Games Night 6:30-8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

Sat 4/8 **Saturday Morning Breakfast** 7:30-9 am, Fellowship Hall

Sun 4/9 **Next Sunday's Service:** 10am, Sanctuary/Online/Phone

“The Velveteen Rabbit: Being Real (Easter Service)” - Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum
In Margery Williams’ *The Velveteen Rabbit*, the Skin Horse says, "Real isn't how you are made...It's a thing that happens to you. When a child loves you for a long, long time, not just to play with, but REALLY loves you, then you become Real." We'll celebrate the ways we become real in the spirit of Easter this year. Finally, as is the tradition at FPC, we'll close our service with a group singing of the “Hallelujah Chorus” and have an egg hunt for the children following the 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)



*All are welcome to these weekly FPC events.

Events at FPC

FPC Book Group Tue 4/4, 7-8 pm, online

Upstream: Selected Essays by Mary Oliver. A collection of essays in which the revered poet reflects on her willingness, as a young child and as an adult, to lose herself within the beauty and mysteries of both the natural world and the world of literature.

Maundy Thursday Vespers Thu 4/6, 6 pm in the Sanctuary and Online

Join Lisa Fagerstrom in our sanctuary and Reverend Cindy from online (at a conference in Rhode Island) as we break bread together and celebrate the Last Supper of Jesus and his companions in our annual Maundy Thursday vespers.

Snacks, Desserts, & Games Night: Fri 4/7, 6:30-8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

The Membership Committee invites you to come play board games, card games, dice games, or any game that doesn't require a power source other than you. Feel free to bring prebagged snack packs and individually wrapped desserts with no nuts to share - we'll be bringing some, too!

Saturday Morning Breakfast Sat 4/8, 7:30 am coffee, 8 am breakfast, Fellowship Hall
\$6, RSVP Jeff Brown, jab.jeffbrown@gmail.com

“The Worcester County Beekeepers Association”

Ken Warchol of Northbridge, MA belongs to the Worcester County Beekeepers Association (WCBA). Beekeepers have been in his family for six generations going back to the 1840's in Poland. Ken got his first colony when he was six and has owned as many as 120 colonies. He has been the Apiary Inspector for the Mass. Department of Agriculture, a high school teacher in Northbridge retiring in 2008, and president of the WCBA. In 1985 he was proclaimed Mass. State Beekeeper of the Year. He will give a presentation about the current health of the local bee population and offer samples of fifteen different honeys from around the world for us to taste. Masks will be optional. There is plenty of room in Fellowship Hall if you want to maintain distance from other attendees.

