

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

Sunday, June 6, 2021  
10:00 AM

**Gathering**

**Prelude**

*Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve*

M.J.G. Eberling

arr. B. Kolodziej

Sanghee Kim, organ

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

**Chalice Lighting**

## Hymn #347

### *Gather the Spirit*

Mike Pfitzer, voice

1. Gather the spirit, harvest the power. Our sep'rate fires will  
kindle one flame.

Witness the mystery of this hour. Our trials in this light  
appear all the same.

(Chorus) Gather in peace, gather in thanks. Gather in  
sympathy now and then.

Gather in hope, compassion and strength. Gather to  
celebrate once again.

2. Gather the spirit of heart and mind. Seeds for the sowing  
are laid in store.

Nurtured in love, and conscience refined, with body and  
spirit united once more. (Chorus)

3. Gather the spirit growing in all, drawn by the moon and fed  
by the sun.

Winter to spring, and summer to fall, the chorus of life  
resounding as one. (Chorus)

## **Sharing**

### **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**

Mike Pfitzer, Voice

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.

### **Message for All Ages**

*Honoring Our Graduates*

Michelle Coté,  
Director of Religious Education

Finn Bouley	Rose Mallon
Rhia Chetwynd	Alana Sinclair
Norah Francis	Masha Schmitt

Sheena Grabarek

### **Blessing for Transitions**

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

### **Joys and Sorrows**

Marcia Rising, Lay Minister

### **Prayer or Meditation**

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

### **Exploring**

### **Sharing Our Gifts**

<i>Circle Game</i>	J. Mitchell
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Mike Pfitzer, voice

This month we share our weekly offering with OUT MetroWest.

Checks may be made to “First Parish Church” and sent to the Church at:

Pledges: attn: Pledge Secretary, PO Box 215, Stow MA 01775

Donations: attn: Treasurer, 353 Great Rd, Stow MA 01775

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

## **Sermon**

Transitions

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

## **Returning**

### **Hymn #354**

*We Laugh, We Cry*

1. We laugh, we cry, we live, we die; we dance, we sing our song.

We need to feel there's something here to which we can belong.

We need to feel the freedom just to have some time alone.

But most of all we need close friends we can call our very

own.

And we believe in life, and in the strength of love;  
and we have found a need to be together.

We have our hearts to give, we have our thoughts to  
receive;

and we believe that sharing is an answer.

2. A child is born among us and we feel a special glow.

We see time's endless journey as we watch the baby grow.

We thrill to hear imagination freely running wild.

We dedicate our minds and heart to the spirit of this child.

And we believe in life, and in the strength of love;

and we have found a time to be together.

And with the grace of age, we share the wonder of youth,

and we believe that growing is an answer.

3. Our lives are full of wonder and our time is very brief.

The death of one among us fills us all with pain and grief.

But as we live, so shall we die, and when our lives are done

the memories we shared with friends, they will linger on

and on.

And we believe in life, and in the strength of love;

and we have found a place to be together.

We have the right to grow, we have the gift to believe  
that peace within our living is an answer.

4. We seek elusive answers to the questions of this life.

We seek to put an end to all the waste of human strife.

We search for truth, equality, and blessed peace of mind.

And then, we come together here, to make sense of what  
we find.

And we believe in life, and in the strength of love,  
and we have found a joy being together.

And in our search for peace, maybe we'll finally see:  
even to question, truly is an answer.

## **Benediction**

### **Sung Benediction**

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**

*Waltz in D-flat Major, Op. 64, No. 1*

F. Chopin

Sanghee Kim, piano



Those who are on Zoom may remain

for a virtual “coffee hour” following the postlude.

If you’re in the “drive-in church”, honk and wave to each other!

Thank you to our helpers today: Sharon Brownfield and Sheryl

LaFayette

and all those who helped with this service,

and to our staff, board, and other leaders.





*First Parish is a  
Unitarian Universalist  
Association Welcoming  
Congregation. We  
warmly welcome gay,  
lesbian, bisexual, and  
transgender people into  
our community.*

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum,  
Minister

Michelle Cote, Director of Religious  
Education

Deedee Perkins, Parish Administrator

Dr. Mike Pfitzer, Director of Music

Sanghee Kim, Organist/Pianist

Joleen Trotta, Welcoming &  
Membership Coordinator

Janet Beatrice, External Publicity

Katy Weeks, President

Sharon Brownfield, Vice President

Bill Froberg, Treasurer

Helen Ham, Clerk

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