

March 27, 2022
9 and 11 AM

Gathering

Prelude *Chorale Prelude on* J.S. Bach
“Nun Komm Der Heiden Heiland”
Gabriella Lindhurst, Organ
Assumption University '23 Organ Scholar

Land Acknowledgement, Welcome & Announcements
Mary Evans

Greet Your Neighbor

Introit *If Not Now, When?* A. & J. Korman
Assumption University VOCE

Opening Words

Chalice Lighting

* **Hymn #1056** *Thula Klizeo*

* **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

Going Forth with the Light

Joys and Sorrows

9 am: Susie O'Brien, Lay Minister

11 am:

* *Please stand in body or in spirit.*

Prayer or Meditation

Diane Miller

Exploring

Sharing Our Gifts

This month we share our weekly offering with the Food Project.
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 *Shir L'Shalom* Arr. J. David Moore
Assumption University VOCE

See Insert for Translation

Sermon *Seeking Asylum*

- *Background and introductions* Diane Miller
- *The Lemus/Belisle family share their experience escaping violence in Honduras* Introduced by Susie O'Brien
Translation Assistance by S. Rodriguez
- *Afghan Evacuees: interfaith group experience* Roy Miller
- *Afghan Evacuees: settling a family* Mary Evans

Returning

* **Hymn #155** *“Circle ‘Round for Freedom”*

* **Benediction** Steve Evans

* **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 *Kaval Sviri* Bulgarian Folksong
Assumption University VOCE

MANY THANKS TO

Assumption University VOCE

Assumption University VOCE is a vocal ensemble made up of soprano and alto singers from across campus who have committed to singing together on a wide range of music at community events.

The ensemble meets twice a week along with a commitment to singing University Chorale, the larger ensemble. In May, students from this ensemble will be touring Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The ensemble is led by

Brad Dumont, Assumption's Director of Choral Activities.

Please come say hi to us following the service!



Thank you to:
Zoom Helper, Kim Kinnear

And our ushers,
9 am Mark Koenig & Troy Liston
11 am Kate Imhoff & Nick Francis.
and to all our participants, staff, and leadership

Our flowers today
are given by
Marcia & Don Rising
“In memory of family and dear friends
who are in our thoughts always.”



* *Please stand in body or in spirit.*

**FIRST PARISH CHURCH
OF STOW & ACTON**

Unitarian Universalist



Sunday, March 27, 2022

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister
Michelle Cote, Director of Religious Education
Deedee Perkins, Parish Administrator
Brad Dumont, Music Director
Sanghee Kim, Organist/Pianist
Joleen Trotta, Welcoming & Membership Coordinator
Mike Silkonis, Sexton
Marissa Evans, Youth Coordinator
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.*

Large print orders of service and hymnals are available from an usher to help everyone be a part of worship in the fullest way possible. Assisted Listening Devices are available when worship is in the sanctuary.

On the web at fpc-stow-acton.org and on Facebook.

ONLINE SUPPLEMENT PAGE

This page contains information specifically for folks joining us online!

Today's Zoom Host: Kim Kinnear

Hymn #1056 *Thula Klizeo*

Thula klizeo, nala pase kaya.
Thula klizeo, nala pase kaya.
Hey kaya, nala pase kaya.
Hey kaya, nala pase kaya. Thula kli

[Pronunciation: Too lah klih zee yo. Nah lah pali sey ky
ya, Ey ky ya, Nahy lah pah sey ky yah]

[Translation of Zulu: Be still my heart, even here I am at
home.]

Hymn #155 *Circle 'Round for Freedom*

Circle 'round for freedom, circle 'round for peace,
for all of us imprisoned, circle for release,
circle for the planet, circle for each soul,
for the children of our children, keep the circle whole.

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

MARCH PLATE SHARE

THE FOOD PROJECT empowers and equips young leaders, grows and distributes fresh, healthy, affordable food in the city and the suburbs, and inspires and supports others to create change in their communities. Our impact is focused on the synergy between the three components of our proven model – **youth, food and community**.

YOUTH: *Empower and equip youth leaders.*

Youth are the center of The Food Project's mission and work. Every year we hire 140 youth from cities and suburbs, to participate in our Seed, Dirt, and Root Crews. Our model brings them together using the common ground of food and farming to work across race, class, gender identity and all manner of differences.

FOOD: *Grow and distribute fresh, healthy, affordable food in cities and suburbs.*

Access to fresh, healthy food is a right, not a privilege. We grow thousands of pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables and distribute that food in the communities where we farm. Our produce is sold through affordable farmers' markets and CSAs, and donated through our strong network of community partners.

COMMUNITY: *Inspire and support others to create change in their own communities.*

We uplift the assets of the community, help remove barriers, and support the priorities established in partnership with residents, community groups, other nonprofits, elected officials, municipalities, and local businesses.

HELP SEED A MORE EQUITABLE TOMORROW

The Food Project envisions a world where youth are active leaders, diverse communities feel connected to the land and each other, and everyone has access to fresh, local, healthy, affordable food. An investment in The Food Project will help make this vision a reality.

SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 2022

This Week-March 27th-in Our Religious Education Program:

Please note that all children and youth should go directly to the church and will leave for their RE programs after the Message for all Ages.

Prek-5th graders will continue with their exploration of Transformation by exploring the biblical and big bang theories of earth creation.

The Junior Youth Group will meet during the 9am service for a hang-out session.

Youth Fundraiser for Asylum Seekers: Today following the 9am service youth will be selling bread they baked, felted soap, and other goods as a fundraiser for the Supporting Asylum Seekers fund. Stop by their table in the Atrium to support Afghan refugees and bring home some goodies! (Please note that current Covid restrictions do not allow eating or drinking inside the church buildings).

Senior Youth are invited to remain in church to enjoy the service.

OWL program for 7-10th grade meets at 2 today in Fellowship Hall

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SUNDAY, MARCH 28-APRIL 2, 2022

Monday

Assabet Food 8:00am Vestry
Sounds of Stow 7:00pm HallJ
Jazz Band 7pm Sanctuary

Tuesday

Coffee at the Gazebo 10am-11am
Guest Table Meeting Hall 7-8pm

Wednesday

Meditation 7:25 pm zoom

Thursday

Archives Vestry 9:30am-11:30am
Peace Vigil 5:00pm front of church
Choir Rehearsal 7:15pm Hall

Friday

Club UU 6:30 Lower Hall

SUNDAY APRIL 3, 2022

***9am in the sanctuary; 11am in the sanctuary and online
“Strong Is What We Make Each Other”***

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum & Michelle Coté, Director of Religious Education

After two long years we are finally able to gather for an intergenerational service!! This service will feature a story told by both children and adults. It interweaves the story with music, acting and opportunities for all to participate. The theme is how we as a congregation make each other strong by how we support each other. What a wonderful message to share as we gather in community with all our members from young to old.

The story was adapted by the Rev. Erika Hewitt from the story “Hare’s Gifts” by Rev. Ken Collier. For this service, we are asking members to please bring a canned good or dried food to donate to a local organization.

We are no longer requiring advance registrations for in-person worship. We do require masks (covering both the nose and mouth) and social distancing in our building for worship services. Thank you!

Join by Video: <https://tinyurl.com/fpcspring>

Meeting ID: 959 7712 0122

Passcode: 01775

Join by phone: 1-929-205-6099 (long distance rates will apply)

ANNUAL REPORT ARTICLES

WEDNESDAY APRIL 6

TO office@fpc-stow-acton.org

Please send as a WORD Document

(NO PDFs please) Thanks!

FERRY BEACH RETREAT

APRIL 29~MAY 1

We have a date for our Ferry Beach Retreat on the beautiful south coast of Maine.

We will be gathering Friday, April 29 through Sunday, May 1. Stand by for additional information regarding pricing, registration and other details in the next few days, but this is *happening!* ~Margaret Tucker

Moving Forward! FPC's Strategic Plan

As we work to stay connected and worship together during these challenging times, we as a congregation, individually and in groups, have been developing a vision and plan for moving FPC forward. **The Strategic Planning Task force created a Strategic Plan that focused on 8 areas:**

- Church membership,**
- Buildings and Campus,**
- NetZero Greenhouse Gas Emission,**
- Hybrid Worship**
- Marketing Effort**
- Social Justice Programs**
- RE program**
- Music and Arts**

During the month of April, you will be given an opportunity to learn more about the strategies developed in each area. For more detail, you will find the Strategic Plan under the Members and Friends section of our website.

~Sharon Brownfield

Translation to Shir L'Shalom

Lyrics by Yaakov Rotblit

Let the sun rise
light up the morning
The purest of prayers
will not bring us back

He whose candle was snuffed out
and was buried in the dust
bitter crying won't wake him up
and won't bring him back

Nobody will bring us back
from a dead and darkened pit here,
neither the victory cheer
nor songs of praise will help

So just sing a song for peace
don't whisper a prayer
Just sing a song for peace
in a loud shout

Allow the sun to penetrate
through the flowers
don't look back
let go of those departed

Lift your eyes with hope
not through the rifles' sights
sing a song for love
and not for wars

Don't say the day will come
bring on that day –
and in all the city squares
cheer only for peace!