

**May 8, 2022**  
**10:00 AM**

**Gathering**

**Prelude** Andante in D Major from Sonate op.65 no.6  
F. Mendelssohn  
Sanghee Kim, organ

**Land Acknowledgement, Welcome & Announcements**  
Brendon Chetwynd

**Greet Your Neighbor**

**Introit** *If Every Woman in the World* by K. MacKay  
FPC Adult Choir  
Krystal Morin, guest conductor

**Opening Words** by Author

**Chalice Lighting**

\* **Hymn #357** *Bright Morning Stars Are Shining*

\* **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**

**Message for All Ages** Michelle Coté,  
Director of Religious Education

\* *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

**Going Forth with the Light**

**Joys and Sorrows** Hector Constantzos, Lay Minister

**Prayer or Meditation**

\* **Hymn #1009** *Meditation on Breathing*

**Exploring**

**Responsive Reading #573** *Mother's Day* by Julia Ward Howe  
*Proclamation*

**Introduction to Plate Sharing** Boston Area Gleaners

**Sharing Our Gifts**

This month we share our weekly offering with  
the Boston Area Gleaners

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** *Circle of the Sun* by S. Rogers  
FPC Adult Choir  
Krystal Morin, guest conductor

**Sermon** *Nurturing Peace; Freedom to Choose*  
The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

**Returning**

\* **Hymn #162** *Gonna Lay Down My Sword and Shield*

\* **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** Allegro from Sonata in C Major K545 W.A.Mozart  
Sanghee Kim, piano



Thank you to:  
Sharon Brownfield, Zoom Host,  
Marion Scott & Jeff Brown, Ushers  
and to our participants, staff and leadership

Our flowers today are given by  
Lisa Fagerstrom & Sharon Webb  
in memory of  
“Our beloved mothers,  
Loree McLean Fagerstrom & Emily Hearn Webb”



Many thanks to Krystal Morin,  
our guest conductor this morning.

## FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW & ACTON

*Unitarian Universalist*



**Sunday, May 8, 2022**

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister  
Michelle Cote, Director of Religious Education  
Deedee Perkins, Parish Administrator  
Brad Dumont, Music Director  
*Krystal Morin, Guest Conductor*  
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](http://fpc-stow-acton.org) and on Facebook.

\* *Please rise in body or in spirit.*

## ONLINE SUPPLEMENT PAGES

These pages contain information specifically for folks joining us online!

### Today's Zoom Host:

#### Hymn #357 *Bright Morning Stars*

1. Bright morning stars are rising.  
Bright morning stars are rising.  
Bright morning stars are rising.  
Day is a-breaking in my soul.
2. Oh, where are our dear mothers?  
Oh, where are our dear mothers?  
Oh, where are our dear mothers?  
Day is a-breaking in my soul.
3. They are sowing seeds of gladness.  
They are sowing seeds of gladness.  
They are sowing seeds of gladness.  
Day is a-breaking in my soul.
4. Oh, where are our dear fathers?  
Oh, where are our dear fathers?  
Oh, where are our dear fathers?  
Day is a-breaking in my soul.
5. They are in the fields a-plowing.  
They are in the fields a-plowing.  
They are in the fields a-plowing.  
Day is a-breaking in my soul.

#### Hymn #1009 *Meditation on Breathing*

When I breathe in, I'll breathe in peace.  
When I breathe out, I'll breathe out love.

Breathe in, Breathe out, Breathe in, Breathe out

#### Responsive Reading #573 *Mother's Day Proclamation* by Julia Ward Howe

Arise, then, women of this day!

*Arise all women who have hearts, whether your baptism be that of water or of fears!*

Say firmly: "We will not have great questions decided by irrelevant agencies,"

*Our husbands shall not come to us, reeking with carnage, for caresses and applause.*

"Our sons shall not be taken from us to unlearn all that we have been able to teach them of charity, mercy, and patience."

*We women of one country will be too tender of those of another country to allow our sons to be trained to injure theirs."*

From the bosom of the devastated earth a voice goes up with our own. It says, "Disarm, Disarm!"

*The sword of murder is not the balance of justice! Blood does not wipe out dishonor nor violence indicate possession.*

As men have often forsaken the plow and the anvil at the summons of war, let women now leave all that may be left of home for a great and earnest day of counsel.

*Let them meet first, as women, to bewail and commemorate the dead.*

Let them then solemnly take counsel with each other as the means whereby the great human family can live in peace,

*And each bearing after her own time the sacred impress, not of Caesar, but of God.*

## 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

### **Hymn #162** *Gonna Lay Down My Sword and Shield*

1. Gonna lay down my sword and shield, down by the riverside,  
down by the riverside, down by the riverside.  
Gonna lay down my sword and shield, down by the riverside,  
gonna study war no more.

(Chorus) I ain't gonna study war no more,  
I ain't gonna study war no more,  
ain't gonna study war no more.  
I ain't gonna study war no more,  
I ain't gonna study war no more,  
ain't gonna study war no more.

2. Gonna lay down my burden, down by the riverside,  
down by the riverside, down by the riverside.  
Gonna lay down my burden, down by the riverside,  
gonna study war no more. (Chorus)
3. Gonna shake hands around the world, ev'rywhere I roam,  
ev'rywhere I roam, ev'rywhere I roam.  
Gonna shake hands around the world, ev'rywhere I roam,  
gonna study war no more. (Chorus)

## Plate Sharing This Month



Boston Area Gleaners (BAG) is a community-supported 501 (c) (3) organization whose core commitment is bringing food to those in need. The Gleaners do this in part by rescuing surplus crops from local farms, such as Applefield and Small Farm in Stow and Cucurbit Farm in Acton, that would otherwise go to waste and distributing the surplus to hunger relief organizations, such as area food banks, shelters, meal programs, and low-income markets that provide food to agencies with a social justice mission. Boston Area Gleaners relies on the efforts of many volunteers to harvest during the season and to distribute perishables to hunger relief organizations during the winter months.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, BAG has re-engineered their volunteer operation to increase the distribution of emergency food to relief organizations serving food-insecure populations. They've participated in the USDA Farm to Families initiative and collaborated with Food for Free, Just Eats Grocery Box program, to distribute family-size boxes of food each week during the winter to residents of Greater Boston.

As part of BAG's vision to expand its impact from farms to families, it has agreed to purchase Stonefield Farm in Acton. To fund this, it is selling an Agricultural Preservation Restriction on the property to the Town of Acton and Sudbury Valley Trustees. This will ensure the land will remain undeveloped and open space in perpetuity.

Please visit the website [www.bostonareagleaners.org](http://www.bostonareagleaners.org) to learn more about BAG's mission and how to volunteer.

## FPC Announcements

May 8, 2022

### Today at FPC

**10:00am - Worship in the Sanctuary & on-line & Religious Education**

**“Connections” Time in the Fellowship Hall following the service**

**11:15am Strategic Plan Mtg (Community Rm)**

**11:30 am Spiritual Conversations Through Poetry**

**11:30 am FPC Budget Review for the new fiscal year, Fellowship Hall All Are Welcome**

**7:30pm FPC Budget Review ZOOM All are welcome**

### This Week in Our Religious Education Program:

**Children in grades Prek-Grade 5** will continue learning about Transformation by exploring the idea of people joining church communities with a focus on our own Unitarian and Universalist churches.

**Junior Youth (Grades 6-8)** will focus on helping prepare for the youth service on May 15th.

**Senior Youth (grades 9-12)** are invited to remain in the sanctuary to enjoy the service.

## THE WEEK OF MAY 9-14, 2022

### Monday

SGM 7:00pm Community Room  
Stow Chorus 7:00pm Hall & a small group Sanctuary  
Jazz Band 7:00pm Vestry  
FPC Budget Review 7:30pm Zoom All are welcome

### Tuesday

Coffee at the Gazebo 10am-11am  
Racial Justice Task Force 7:00pm zoom  
Climate Task Force 7:30pm zoom

### Wednesday

Meditation 7:25 pm zoom

### Thursday

SGM 9:15 am Hall,  
SGM 9:30 am zoom  
Peace Vigil 5:00pm front of church  
Choir Rehearsal 7:15pm Hall

### Friday

SGM 9:30 am zoom  
Hall in use & Rental 3:00pm-11:00pm (see Leah A.)

### Saturday

SGM 8:45am Hall  
Growing Victory Garden 9:00am Zoom

### Sunday, May 15, 2022

*10:00 am in the sanctuary and online*

#### Youth Sunday

FPC Youth along with Marissa Evans, FPC Youth Coordinator;  
Michelle Cote, Director of Religious Education; and Rev. Dr.  
Cynthia L. Landrum

Our youth will join us in leadership for this special service. High school seniors may also be recognized at this service.

Masks are required for FPC's worship services in-person. 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)

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### SUMMER SERVICES      June 19-September 4

This is a reminder that the Worship Committee is now actively looking for people interested in either leading or participating in one of our summer services, which will begin on **June 19** and run each **Sunday** for **12 weeks** through **September 4**.

**Do you have an idea for a summer service?** A member of the Worship Committee would be happy to be a resource for you and make sure your service conforms to any guidelines (such as Covid) we might have. Alternatively, is there someone you think the Worship Committee should approach about leading a service of their own?

While we are not prescribing an overarching theme for this year's services, we are particularly aware of the connections we are making with others in our broader community, and we would love to have a few services that focus on extending those bridges and possibly introducing us to other local organizations with compatible missions.

**Please contact any of us on the Worship Committee with your ideas, suggestions, or questions:**

Neil Saunders, Chair ([neilsaund@verizon.net](mailto:neilsaund@verizon.net))

Marcia Allison ([marrich86@hotmail.com](mailto:marrich86@hotmail.com))

Susan Avery ([susan.avery@verizon.net](mailto:susan.avery@verizon.net))

Aimee Ledwell ([redshoegirl@gmail.com](mailto:redshoegirl@gmail.com))

Sharon Webb ([marysharonwebb@gmail.com](mailto:marysharonwebb@gmail.com))

Rev. Cindy Landrum ([minister@fpc-stow-acton.org](mailto:minister@fpc-stow-acton.org))

We look forward to hearing from you!

**LOOKING FORWARD TO A MAJOR NEW FPC  
FUNDRAISING EVENT...**



**The Assabet Craft Beer  
& Food Truck Festival  
at First Parish Church of Stow & Acton  
on Saturday, September 3, 2022  
from 12 noon to 4pm (rain or shine)**

with

Craft brews from Amory's Tomb Brewing (Maynard), Bull Spit Brewing (Lancaster), and Sterling Street Brewery (Clinton), plus cider, wine, and soft drinks

Food from Meat@Slim's (BBQ), Lala's Neapolitan-ish Pizza, Kith & Kin (including gluten-free & vegetarian), and New City Microcreamery

Music provided by TBD

Children's games (including cornhole) and face painting

Admission \$5 per person  
(free for children 12 and under)  
with drink tickets \$5 each

***Please stop by our table at coffee hour today and sign up to volunteer at the Festival.*** We still need lots of help with set-up, admission entry, guest relations, parking, cleanup, first aid,

marketing, and TIPS certification. And as our way of saying thank you, we have a special gift for everyone who signs up.

For more details, contact any of our organizers: Neil Saunders, Hector Constantzos, Dave Sansone, Scott Feldhusen, Rebecca Stadolnik, and Margaret Tucker. Cheers



**It's time to start planning for this year's Plant Sale**

***Date: Saturday, May 21 Time: 9:30-11:30***

As we do every year around this time, we ask First Parish earth lovers for plants – lots of plants – from your yards and gardens! Please take a moment to consider plants you'd like to donate to the Sale, which is an important fundraiser for the Church. Please note that plants that are different or unusual in some way are especially desirable, the kinds of plants that if they weren't already in your yard or garden, you yourself would like to buy.

We seek shrubs, small trees, ground cover, herbs, perennials, and vegetables or flowering plants you may have started.

Please dig up and pot the plants you'd like to donate as soon as possible. Right now is the best time of year to do this! Early-season transplanting is less stressful on plants. Please put them in a good spot where they can grow strong until it's time for delivery. That way, the plants will be well-established and looking their very best on Plant Sale day!

We're also looking for help with gathering, organizing, and labeling plants, and setting up and running the Sale. Please email [peggyopaladini@gmail.com](mailto:peggyopaladini@gmail.com) with questions, or to help.

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**THE FPC JAZZ BAND PLAYS  
AT FPC AND OTHR VENUES  
Add these new dates to your calendars  
and bring a friend**

- **Sunday, May 22**, 9:00 & 11:00 a.m., FPC church services
- **Sunday, July 10**, 10:00 a.m., FPC church service
- **Saturday, Sept. 17** at 4:30 p.m., public concert outdoors at Hudson Town Hall, 78 Main St, Hudson

# FPC Auction 2022

## Garden Party

Have a Wild Thyme!

Live Auction at FPC: June 18, 2022  
Beginning at 2:00 PM (Outside)  
Live Bidding inside

Light snacks and beverages served outside  
~Childcare will be provided~

**Silent Auction Online Begins June 8, 2022**

Check out the FPC website for updates  
[www.fpc-stow-acton.org](http://www.fpc-stow-acton.org)



Hi FPCers!

The Auction Committee is planning a wonderful Spring Auction event - two actually!

**The on-line silent auction will run from June 8th-22nd on Auctria.**

**Our Gala Garden Party Live Auction will be held on June 18th at FPC starting at 2 PM.**

All are guaranteed to have a good time! However, what's an auction with lots of goodies to bid on?

*Donations are coming in slowly and we (your Auction Committee) urge you to seed your ideas and get them planted in our auction catalogue!* Can you donate a service like a morning of weeding or knife sharpening, or access to equipment like kayaks, or perhaps you would like to host a lovely afternoon cheese tasting or gourmet dinner? What about some of your art work (we saw how talented our community is at the recent pop-up art show!) or some baked goods? Our garden is huge! We have lots of space for all your creative ideas and lots of bidders just waiting to harvest that special something.

**To donate**, go to our FPC Auction website here <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/article/fpc-auction-2022---garden-party> and fill out a donation form. Make sure to send pictures of your item to the Auction Committee (email below). Or use the Signup Genius link to purchase a gift card from a local business and donate it to the auction. Gift cards are very popular and an easy way for everyone to contribute to the auction.

**We would like all auction donations by May 18.**

Finally, we will have two wonderful contests this year: a **garden hat contest** and a **floral arrangement contest**. The contest judging criteria are coming to the website soon, so keep checking back! Let's all help our garden bloom! Your Auction Committee  
[auction@fpc.groups.io](mailto:auction@fpc.groups.io)