

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW & ACTON

Unitarian Universalist



Sunday, October 27, 2024

**The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L.
Landrum**
Minister

Meg Rivers-Wright
Administration, Membership

Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson
Dir. of Religious Education

Chris Hossfeld
Music Director

Trevor Berens
Accompanist

Justin Marble
Nursery Care Coordinator

Mike Silkonis
Sexton

Janet Beatrice
External Publicity

Felix Freeman
Tech Assistant

Brendon Chetwynd
President

Trisha Gudit
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.
Assisted Listening Devices are available when worship is in the Sanctuary.

FPC currently has a masks-optional policy throughout the church.
In the Sanctuary, several back rows with accessible seating are "mask-required."

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

October 27, 2024: 10:00

Gathering

Prelude

“The Haunted Spot”
Schumann

Trevor Berens, piano

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

“October Round”
Catherine Young

FPC Choir

*October’s clock now to gold has turned. Time runs down.
Watch the land beneath cold blue skies, ochre, russet, and brown.
Wild geese call the wanderer home. Frost tonight.
Warm within we kindle gold in the firelight.*

Opening Words

“United by Story Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum
and Bound by Love”
by Andrea Hawkins-Kamper

Chalice Lighting

“All Souls Chalice Lighting”
by Florence Caplow

* **Hymn #103**

“For All the Saints”

Centering

* **Covenant and Affirmation**

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.

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.

Land Acknowledgement

* *Please rise in body or in spirit*

In Memoriam, Part 1

You are invited to place a memento or photo on our altar, and/or to label a rock with a name or symbol and place it on our altar. Rocks will be taken after the service to the Memorial Garden.

Going Forth with the Light

Our love surrounds you.
Here joy has found you.
Let hope abound freely.
Go in peace!

Chris Hossfeld, Words and Music

Sharing

Departing Staff Recognition

Janet Beatrice

Trisha Guditz, Board

Sharing About Endowment

John Kendrick, Endowment Committee

Joys and Sorrows

Ann Sadler, Lay Minister

Joys and Sorrows is a time for the things on our hearts and minds to be heard by the gathered community. If you would like a follow-up call by a lay minister or the minister, email caring@fpc-stow-acton.org.

Prayer or Meditation

“Prayer of Remembrance”

by Lori Walke

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Hymn #1002

“Comfort Me”

Remembering

Reflections

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Sharing Our Gifts

This month we share our weekly offering with **Concord Prison Outreach**. You may donate by check made out to First Parish Church, at fpc-stow-acton.org/donate, or text (978) 310-3309.

** Please rise in body or in spirit*

Anthem

“Wanting Memories”
Ysaye M. Barnwell

FPC Choir

Refrain:

I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me
To see the beauty in the world through my own eyes
You used to rock me in the cradle of your arms
You said you'd hold me till the pains of life were gone
You said you'd comfort me in times like these
And now I need you, now I need you, and you are gone

Refrain

Since you've gone and left me, there's been so little beauty
But I know I saw it clearly through your eyes
Now the world outside is such a cold and bitter place
Here inside I have few things that will console
And when I try to hear your voice above the storms of life
Then I remember all the things that I was told

Refrain

I think on the things that made me feel so wonderful when I was young
I think on the things that made me laugh, made me dance, made me sing
I think on the things that made me grow into a being full of pride
I think on these things, for they are truth

Refrain

I thought that you were gone, but now I know you're with me
You are the voice that whispers all I need to hear
I know a please, a thank you, and a smile will take me far
I know that I am you and you are me and we are one I know that who I am is
numbered in each grain of sand
I know that I've been blessed again, and over again

Refrain

In Memoriam, Part 2

Sharing the names of those in our lives who have died this year.

Returning

Hymn #1001

“Breaths”

* **Benediction**

by Rev. Colleen Squires

* **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

“Prelude from Psycho”
Bernard Hermann

Trevor Berens, piano

Those who have rocks to place, and anyone else wishing to join us, please join us following the service for a brief service in the memorial garden.

In the Garden

Reading

Placing of Rocks

* **Hymn #205**

“Amazing Grace”

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
was blind but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!
3. Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;

'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

4. When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Thank you:

Kim Kinnear, Zoom Host
Marion Scott, Lisa Rydin, Ushers
Coffee Brewer, Russ Hart ☕♥
Our staff and leadership

To our visitors, thank you for coming!

We hope you find what you're looking for and that you'll come back. Here's how to keep connecting with our people and programs:



- ♥ **Watch these pages** for information about fall & winter *Newcomer Coffees* to meet the minister and other newcomers, and *UU Journey classes* to learn about UU history, spirituality, mission, and traditions.
- ♥ **Fill out a Visitor Card in your pew** or scan the QR code to complete the same form online.
- ♥ **Check out our website at www.fpc-stow-acton.org** There's so much happening at FPC! Visit our homepage and the "Church Life" tab to learn about our events & programs.
- ♥ **Subscribe to our e-newsletters and email groups**



Visiting & Learning
about FPC

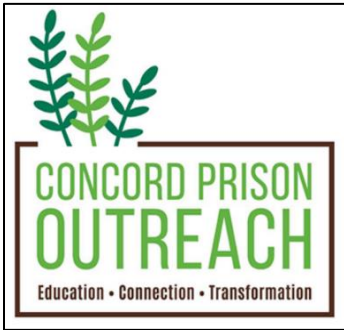


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Religious Education

Today - Who doesn't want to wear their costume to church? Not us! Wear your costume again and keep on with those happy spirits. There will be a *Time For All Ages* during the morning worship followed by age-appropriate classes.

October Plate Sharing



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

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

This Week at FPC

Reading & Meditation Wed, 10/30, 6:40 pm-8:45 pm, Hall and online
6:40 - 7:20 pm Read & discuss *The Experience of Insight*, by Joseph Goldstein
7:20 - 7:30 pm Transition break
7:30 - 8:45 pm Meditation

FPC's Butterfly Story Hour Sat. 11/2, 7-8:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
The FPC Arts Committee has an exciting panel* of FPC storytellers lined up for this event, so come enjoy and support FPC's very own raconteurs. Bring friends and family!

*There are just one or two story-telling slots left. We'll need a great audience too! If you have a story, please contact larval conservators and show hosts Dave Kay dave.brightleaf@gmail.com and/or Katy Weeks katy.brightleaf@gmail.com with your story synopsis.

Next Sunday's Service: 11/3, 10am, Sanctuary/Online/Phone
"Democracy"- Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum - As we approach the election, with many feeling like we're flirting with fascism, and drawing on the work of Heather Cox Richardson, Rev. Cindy will reflect on how democracy itself is at stake in this election.

Upcoming

The UU Journey at FPC Next Sun, 11/3, 12-2:30 p.m. and a 2nd Sun. TBA
Lunch provided. *A Two-Session Course on UU History, Spirituality, Mission, and Traditions*. Rev. Cindy Landrum leads class. Join us for this opportunity to...

- ▶ share your own spiritual journey
- ▶ ask questions about UU and FPC
- ▶ get to know others in the church

You do not need to be new to FPC to participate; all are welcome!
To sign up, please contact Meg Rivers-Wright, Parish Administrator, at office@fpc-stow-acton.org or [617-291-3351](tel:617-291-3351).