

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW & ACTON

Unitarian Universalist

Sunday, March 20, 2020

10:00 AM

Gathering

Prelude

Andante

F. Mendelssohn
Sanghee Kim, organ

Welcome & Announcements

Sharon Brownfield, Board Vice President

Call to Worship

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Chalice Lighting

Ingrid Holcomb

Hymn #316

Enter, Rejoice, and Come In

Dr. Mike Pfitzer, voice

1. Enter, rejoice, and come in. Enter, rejoice, and come in.
Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice, and come in.
2. Open your ears to the song. Open your ears to the song.
Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice, and come in.
3. Open your hearts ev'ryone. Open your hearts ev'ryone.
Today will be a joyful day; enter, rejoice, and come in.

Sharing

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.

Message for All Ages

Michelle Coté,
Director of Religious Education

Joys and Sorrows

Ingrid Holcomb and Susie O'Brien,
Lay Ministers

Prayer or Meditation

Hymn #318

We Would Be One

1. We would be one as now we join in singing
our hymn of love, to pledge ourselves anew
to that high cause of greater understanding
of who we are, and what in us is true.
We would be one in living for each other
to show to all a new community.

2. We would be one in building for tomorrow
a nobler world than we have known today.
We would be one in searching for that meaning
which bends our hearts and points us on our way.
As one, we pledge ourselves to greater service,
with love and justice, strive to make us free.

Exploring

Reading

Sharing Our Gifts

Let It Be

Lennon-McCartney
Ken Langer, Guitar and Voice

This month we share our weekly offering with UU Mass Action

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

Donations and Pledge checks may also be mailed to the church at
353 Great Road, Stow, MA 01775 or placed in the church mailbox.

Sermon

Creative Justice

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Returning

Hymn #1014

Answering the Call of Love

1. The promise of the Spirit:
faith, hope and love abide.
And so ev'ry soul
is blessed and made whole;
the truth in our hearts is our guide.

Chorus:

We are answering the call of love:
hands joined together
as hearts beat as one.
Emboldened by faith,
we dare to proclaim
we are answering the call of love.

2. Sometimes we build a barrier
to keep love tightly bound.
Corrupted by fear,
unwilling to hear,
denying the beauty we've found.

Chorus

3. A bright new day is dawning
when love will not divide.
Reflections of grace
in ev'ry embrace,
fulfilling the vision divine.

Chorus

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

Lamplighter's Hornpipe

trad. American Fiddle Tune
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 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
Whitney Granger, Sexton
Paul Spanagel, Youth Coordinator
Janet Beatrice, External Publicity

Katy Weeks, President
Sharon Brownfield, Vice President
Lee Coopridier, Treasurer
Liz Moseley, Clerk

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

SUNDAY MARCH 22 AT CHURCH

MARCH PLATE SHARING UU MASS ACTION

UU Mass Action is the State Action Network for UUs in Massachusetts and is the organization that will share one half of non-pledge plate donations for the month of March. UU Mass action is one of 23 national, UU State Action Networks. UU Mass Action's mission is to organize and mobilize Unitarian Universalists across the state to confront injustice in Massachusetts.

UU Mass Action is a 501c3 organization funded by congregations, individuals and grant foundations. This is our UU shared, State Action Network working for justice. UU Mass Action serves in a leadership capacity in the Mass Power Forward Coalition (Climate Justice and Action), the Safe Communities Coalition (Immigrant Justice) and Massachusetts Against Solitary Confinement (Criminal Justice Reform).

In addition, UU Mass Action is a voting member of the Raise Up Mass Coalition (Economic Justice) and a member of the Criminal Justice Reform Coalition.

UU Mass Action works, along with coalition partners, to develop the strategy to achieve campaign goals and to engage UUs in the campaigns that fight oppression here in Massachusetts.

NO Adult Choir Rehearsal

Zoom and Parking Lot Social Distancing Coffee Hour (Bring your own coffee)!

News About our Religious Education Program

There is a family worship packet being sent out to all families on Friday, March 20th. This week the packet focuses on caring for others.

In addition we will offer a zoom RE session on Monday, March 23rd at 11am. This session will be geared for children in grades K-5. The zoom link will be sent out soon.

Our 6-8th graders will be invited to take part in a separate zoom session-date and time still being determined.

THE WEEK AT CHURCH MARCH 23-28, 2020

Please check with committee head for each meeting below to see where, when & if these will be held .

Racial Justice Tuesday 7:00pm

Communications Committee Tuesday 7:00pm

Meditation Wednesday, 7:30pm

Staff Meeting Thursday 9:30am, Zoom

Peace Vigil Thursday 5:00pm, outside in front of Church

TRUSTEE MEETING Thursday 7:00pm, Zoom

NO Bridge Friday

Sunday, March 29 Worship 10AM

"THE FIRST SHALL BE LAST AND THE LAST FIRST"
at 10 AM ONLY

Sanctuary closed. Virtual Service by Zoom or at 107.7 FM in the FPC parking lot.

Guest Minister: Rev. Walter LeFlore

Zoom online video: <https://uuma.zoom.us/j/754049953>

Join by phone: 646-876-9923

Meeting ID: 754 049 953

The 2020 FPC Auction – The Roaring Twenties

**Reset your calendar
In the 1920s' spirit of optimism,
the Spring Auction is rescheduled for
May 16!**

The spring auction remains the biggest church fundraiser of the year. In keeping with the latest recommendations to social distance, we have moved the auction to May 16th. Let's hope that we can all gather together at that time for a fun night at FPC! In the meantime, we will continue our planning!

Donors: We will continue to accept donations through April 5 th . How about using some of this down time to come up with some auction donations ideas? No matter when we hold the auction, and whether in-person or on-line, we will still need lots of donations. You can sign up at the FPC Auction Site - <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/article/fpc-auction-2020-roaring-twenties> . Need an idea? Contact the auction committee!

Food and Volunteers: For the time being, we are not asking for food donations and volunteers. As the date draws nearer and we have a better idea of how this event will unfold, we will put out a new call for help in these areas.

And just for fun, some 1920s trivia. At the Antwerp, Belgium Olympics, Finland dominated the long distance running events. The Flying Finns led by Paavo Nurmi and Hannes Kolehmainen, won gold medals in the 10,000 meter run, marathon, individual cross-country, and team cross-country events.

We refuse to be killjoys! Plan on having a Roaring Good Time come May 16th!
The Auction Committee

ANNUAL REPORTS

Annual Reports are due by Thursday April 16 this year. Email your report to me at katy@brightleafenergy.com , with the words: "FPC Annual Report [Title of your report]" in the subject line of your email.

- Who does this? Committee Chairs, certain staff and Officers
 - What is it? A report of what your committee did over the past year. Many reports are about one page long, but if your group did a lot of work, we'd be more than happy to read about it!
 - How to send it? Write the report in a Word (or other text-style) document and attach the file to your email. Again, send the report to katy@brightleafenergy.com with the report title in the subject line.
- Thank you, Katy Weeks for the Board of Trustees

Saturday Morning Breakfast

***Please note that the March 22 and April 11
breakfasts have been cancelled.***

Our next planned breakfast will be May 16.

“Lost Treasures of the North High Jungle of Peru.”

Over the last 20 years Daniel Fernandez-Davila has returned to the North High Jungle of Peru to build rural libraries as well as to rescue clues of the lost civilization of the Chachapoya. We invite you May 16, at Fellowship Hall when Daniel will bring to you some images of these unseen treasures and share as well his humanitarian educational mission that unfolds every year in this extremely remote area of the Andes.

Daniel Fernandez-Davila is an active archaeologist (BA Archaeology and diploma of Anthropological Studies from Catholic University, Peru; MA in Archaeology and Ancient Heritage from University of Leicester, England) who has conducted excavations and mapping projects in the Andes and continues doing independent research in the north cloud forest of Peru. Daniel has served as an historical advisor for the BBC and Discovery Channel in the production of Ancient Civilization documentaries and has 30 years of experience teaching World History, Latin America, Archaeology and World Geography. He has been teaching Social Studies at Wayland Middle School since 2005.