



Thank you to:

Zoom Host
Joe Stadolnik, Tech Helper
Felix Freeman, Tech Assistant
Nancy Cataldo and Judy Holmes, Ushers
Jeff Brown, Coffee Hour Host
and our staff and leadership

Our flowers today are given by Dave Kay and Katy Weeks
in memory of members of our families who have gone before



How to Connect with First Parish Church:

- Sign our visitor log at tinyurl.com/visitfpc:
We'll send you information on request.



- Come to Sunday's 10 am service and 11 am social hour, in person or online.
- Subscribe to our publications...
The Chronicle - monthly e-newsletter
This Week at FPC - weekly e-newsletter
FPCAnnounce & FPCForum - e-mail groups

...all at <https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org/subscribe-newsletters>.

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW & ACTON

Unitarian Universalist



Sunday, October 29, 2023

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum
Minister

Meg Rivers-Wright
Administration and Membership

Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson
Director of Religious Education

Chris Hossfeld
Music Director

Trevor Berens
Accompanist

Cindy Koegler
Youth Coordinator

Mike Silkonis
Sexton

Janet Beatrice
External Publicity

Jenni Edgerton
President

Brendon Chetwynd
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.*

To help everyone be a part of worship in the fullest way possible,
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.
Several rows in the back of the Sanctuary are designated "mask-required."
They are a greater distance from unmasked speakers and include accessible seating.

FPC is on the web at [fpc-stow-acton.org](https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org) and on Facebook.

October 29, 2023 10:00 am

Gathering

Prelude “Verrufene Stelle” (Condemned Place) Trevor Berens, piano
Robert Schumann

Land Acknowledgement & Welcome Johanna Pyle,
Clerk, Board of Trustees

Opening Words The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Chalice Lighting

* **Hymn #1067** “Mother Earth, Beloved Garden ”

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.

Time for All Ages Rayla D. Baldwin-Mattson
Director of Religious Education

Going Forth with the Light

Joys and Sorrows Kate Hart, Lay Minister

Prayer or Meditation

* **Hymn #52** “Sweet Fields of Autumn”

* *Rise in Body and Spirit*

Exploring

Reading Excerpt from *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*
by Elizabeth George Speare

Sharing Our Gifts

This month at FPC we share our weekly offering with Out MetroWest (see insert).
You may donate with a check made out to First Parish Church,
online at <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate>, or text to (978) 310-3309.

Anthem “Psalm 25” FPC Adult Choir
from the Bay Psalm Book (1640/1698) Trevor Berens, piano

1 I lift my soul to thee, O Lord,
2 My God I trust in thee,
Let me not be ashamed, nor let
my foes joy over me.

4 Thy ways, Jehovah to me show,
thy paths make me discern,
5 Make thou me in thy truth to go,
6 and cause thou me to learn.

3 Yea, let not them that wait on thee;
be fill'd with shamefulness,
But let them all ashamed be,
who causelessly transgress.

10 Jehovah's paths they mercy are;
and truth all of them too,
To them that keep his covenant,
and testimonies do.

Sermon “FPC & the Salem Witch Trials”
The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Returning

* **Hymn #1017** “Building a New Way”

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

* **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 “It Was Always You, Helen” Trevor Berens, piano
Philip Glass

October Plate Sharing:



Out MetroWest is a non-profit organization that offers free programs for LGBTQ+ young people from pre-K through high school, including specific programs for trans and gender expansive children and youth. Out MetroWest offers a safe and welcoming physical space for youth and their families to be themselves, to find friends and support. Out MetroWest offers nearly 20 programs each month at 6 locations including their center in Framingham and satellite locations in Acton, Medway, Needham, Waltham and Westborough. The director of Out MetroWest is FPC's former Youth Coordinator, Whitney Retallic. For more information see OUTMetrowest.org.

☪

Land Acknowledgement

- ☪ We would like to acknowledge that this service is being held by a community that gathers on the stolen traditional lands of the Massachusetts, Nipmuc, Pawtucket, and Wampanoag People.
- ☪ We pay respect to those Indigenous Peoples who lost their lives in the colonization of this land and recognize that these Indigenous tribes are still today facing violations of sovereignty, territory, and water.
- ☪ We also give thanks for the Earth we walk upon, the waters, the lifegiving plants, and all the Earth's creatures, as well as the winds, sun, moon, and stars.
- ☪ We recognize that this is just a first step in moving toward right relationship with Native peoples and healing of the Earth.

Today at FPC

10 am.....**Service**, Sanctuary/online
11 am.....**Coffee Hour**, Fellowship Hall
5-7 pm **Halloween Party**, Lower Hall

This Week in Religious Education

See our weekly e-newsletter, *This Week at FPC*, for details.

Today 10/29

Explorations for HS Halloween party prep
Gr.6-8 Halloween party prep
Gr.K-5 Halloween fun day

Thu 11/9 & Sun 11/12



**Our Whole Lives:
Lifespan Sexuality
Education -**
Parent orientation for next
OWL session in January
2024.

5 pm: Youth group haunted house and RE Halloween Party: Haunted room,



games & prizes, crafts,
movies. Please bring your
favorite dish for our potluck!

Please contact our DRE as soon as possible if your youth in grades 7-9 would like to participate or if your older youth who missed out during covid would like to, too.

Sun 11/5 Children & Youth Children's Chapel.

Sun 11/12 after worship RE Meet & Greet

This Week at FPC: October 30–November

31	OCT, TUE	● 10 – 11am	Coffee & Chat (Gazebo)
1	NOV, WED	● 6:40 – 8:45pm	Meditation (Fellowship Hall & online)
		● 7 – 9pm	SGM Facilitators Meeting (Community Room)
2	NOV, THU	● 9:30 – 11:30am	Archives Committee (Hall)
		● 5 – 6pm	Peace Vigil (outside)
		● 7:15 – 9pm	Choir Practice (Hall)
3	NOV, FRI	● 1 – 3:30pm	Bridge Group (Community Rm)
		● 7 – 9pm	Open Mic Night (Fellowship Hall)

Next Sunday's Service: 11/5, 10am, Sanctuary/Online/Phone

“All Souls Day Celebration and Memorial Garden Dedication”

– Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum – Bring photos or mementos or upload pictures to <https://tinyurl.com/fpcallsouls23> to share as we remember those in our lives who died this year. The service will include a special dedication of our new Memorial Garden. In addition, children will go straight to our new monthly “Children’s Chapel” and then join the rest of us in the Memorial Garden.

FPC Upcoming Events

Reading & Meditation Every Wed 10/18-12/20

(but 11/22), Fellowship Hall

6:40 - 7:20 pm Read & discuss

A Path with Heart,

by Jack Kornfield

7:20 - 7:30 pm Transition break

7:30 - 8:45 pm Meditation



Open Mic Night Fri 11/3, 7 pm in Fellowship Hall



Please join us as a performer, listener, or both!

Share a song, story, poems, spoken word/dance/movement, instrumental piece, or whatever else you'd like.

All ages are welcome & encouraged to participate!

Last year's attendees were *very* supportive, so don't be shy!
Refreshments provided.

Contact Katy Weeks to sign up: katy.brightleaf@gmail.com

The UU Journey at FPC: Sun 11/5 and 12/10, 12 -2:30 pm

A Two-Session Course on UU History, Spirituality, Mission, and Traditions



Rev. Cindy Landrum leads class

Opportunities to share your own spiritual journey, ask questions, and get to know others in the church.

You do not need to be new to FPC to participate.
All are welcome!

Please contact Meg Rivers-Wright,
Parish Administrator, at office@fpc-stow-acton.org or [617-291-3351](tel:617-291-3351)

ONLINE SUPPLEMENT PAGE: Information for folks joining us online

1. Closed captioning is available for FPC's online services. If you don't see captions on your screen, you can use the button at the bottom of your screen to request that the host turn them on.
2. Today's Zoom Host
3. Hymn lyrics will be in a slide presentation today.



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