

**January 9, 2022**

**Gathering**

**Prelude**      *Arioso from Cantata BWV 156*      J.S.Bach  
Sanghee Kim, organ

**Land Acknowledgement, Welcome & Announcements**  
Sarah Hanselman, Small Group Ministry Facilitator

**Call to Worship**      The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

**Chalice Lighting**

**Hymn #38**      *Morning Has Broken*      Ken Langer, vocals

1. Morning has broken like the first morning,  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!
2. Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.
3. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day!

**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**

**Joys and Sorrows**      Marcia Rising, Lay Minister

**Prayer or Meditation**

**Hymn #1009**      *Meditation on Breathing*      Ken Langer, vocals

Melody and Descant:  
When I breathe in, I'll breathe in peace.  
When I breathe out, I'll breathe out love.

Drone: Breathe in, Breathe out, Breathe in, Breathe out

**Exploring**

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

**Sharing Our Gifts**      Diane Miller

This month we share our weekly offering with RIA House

Donate online at <https://fpc-stow-acton.org/donate> or by text to  
(978) 310-3309 or mail checks made to "First Parish Church" at:  
Pledges: attn: Pledge Secretary, PO Box 215, Stow MA 01775  
Donations: attn: Treasurer, 353 Great Rd, Stow MA 01775

**Anthem**      *Weather the Storm*      by Ken Langer,  
adapted from a text by Nayyirah Waheed  
Ken Langer, vocals & instruments

**Sermon**      *Living with Intention*  
The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

**Returning**

**Hymn #1064**      *Blue Boat Home*      Ken Langer, vocals

1. Though below me, I feel no motion  
standing on these mountains and plains.  
Far away from the rolling ocean  
still my dry land heart can say:  
I've been sailing all my life now,  
never harbor or port have I known.  
The wide universe is the ocean I travel  
and the earth is my blue boat home.



## Time to sign up for Small Group Ministry for 2022!

We are forming new groups of 8-10 people who will meet monthly, starting in February, with a trained facilitator to discuss a session topic. The topics are chosen to provide an opportunity for Intimacy and Ultimacy – increasing awareness of yourself and connections to other group members.

We encourage existing participants to join again, either in the same or in a new group, and particularly welcome those new to the program or new to the church. This is an excellent way to become part of this beloved community.

**Please register by January 16th  
online at:**

<http://fpc-stow-acton.org/sgm>

**questions, contact:**

Karen Kinnear, SGM facilitator - [sgm@fpc-stow-acton.org](mailto:sgm@fpc-stow-acton.org)  
Joleen Trotta, Membership Coordinator - [mdc@fpc-stow-acton.org](mailto:mdc@fpc-stow-acton.org)

## FPC Announcements Sunday, January 9, 2022

### TODAY AT FPC

#### **This Week-January 9th-in Our Religious Education Program:**

All our programs will be virtual this week.  
Here is the schedule for Sunday:

**9:15: Prek-5th graders** will meet on zoom to connect and have fun!

**10am Church Service** on Zoom

**11:00 Junior Youth Group** will meet on zoom with Marissa to hang out and play virtual games.

**12:00 Senior Youth Group** will meet on zoom with Marissa to hang out and play some games.

If you have any questions please contact Michelle Cote or Marissa Evans.

### PLATE SHARE FOR JANUARY

RIA (**Ready. Inspire. Act.**) is thankful once again to be one of the Plate Sharing recipients. Covid and all its variants has shut down most of what we'd taken for granted. What is not shut down is the continued need for women (men and children) to be trafficked. What is that?? It's today's version of SLAVERY where a person can be bought for the satisfaction of another. Yes, it exists today and RIA House is fighting every day to support women find their way out of this horrific web.

## THE WEEK OF January 10 - 15, 2021

- Monday** SGM 7pm zoom  
Sounds of Stow 7pm zoom  
Climate Task Force 7:30 pm, zoom
- Tuesday** Coffee at the Gazebo 10:00 am Gazebo  
Racial Justice Task Force 7:00 pm zoom
- Wednesday** Meditation 7:00 pm zoom
- Thursday** SGM zoom 9:30am  
Staff Meeting 12:30 pm  
Peace Vigil outside front of church 5:00 pm  
Choir Rehearsal 7:15 pm
- Friday** SGM zoom 9:30 am

## SUNDAY JANUARY 16, 2022

### “Critical Race Theory: Truth and Fiction”

Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

10:00 Online Service only

On this Martin Luther King, Jr. Day weekend, Rev. Cindy will look at some of the debates going on across the country about Critical Race Theory and clarify what it is, what the objections are about, and how this connects to our faith.

Join by video: <https://tinyurl.com/fpcdecjan>

Meeting ID: 931 5354 4388

Passcode: 11762

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

### Coffee and Chat

will continue on Tuesday mornings from 10-11AM  
Meet at the Town Park adjacent to FPC.  
Wear a mask, dress for the weather, and bring your own coffee!  
If the weather is poor an FPC Announce will be posted with a link for a Zoom meetup instead.

~Ann Sadler

### Racial Justice Task Force News:

The FPC Racial Justice Task Force will be holding our **monthly meeting** via Zoom on the following date:  
**Tuesday, Jan. 11th at 7 P.M.**

We'd love to have new and returning participants who are interested in joining us in the important work of racial justice. Please contact Lisa Fagerstrom, RJTF Chair ([lfager@aol.com](mailto:lfager@aol.com)), if you'd like to be added to the group's e-mail list and receive notices/zoom links for our meetings.

Also, we've been having some interesting conversations around various topics related to racial justice at our **monthly RJTF drop-in** Zoom gatherings.

**The next one will be on Monday, Jan. 24th at 7 P.M.** Zoom link will be sent out closer to that date. Topic TBA.