

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW & ACTON

Unitarian Universalist

Sunday, April 19, 2020

10:00 AM

Gathering

Prelude

Air

G.F. Handel
Sanghee Kim, organ

Welcome & Announcements

Ruth Lull, Climate Change Task Force

Call to Worship

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Chalice Lighting

by Amit Ray
Marcia Rising, Lay Minister & Climate Change Task Force

Hymn #7

The Leaf Unfurling

Mike Pfitzer, voice

1. The leaf unfurling in the April air,
the newborn child, the loving parents' care;
these constant, common miracles we share:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. All life is one, a single branching tree,
all pain a part of human misery,
all happiness a gift to you and me:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
3. The self-same bells for joy and sorrow ring.
No one can know what the next hour will bring.
We cry, we laugh, we mourn, and still we sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

Katy Weeks, Board President & Climate Change Task Force
& Rick Lent, Climate Change Task Force

Prayer or Meditation

Hymn #21

For the Beauty of the Earth

Mike Pfitzer, voice

1. For the beauty of the earth, for the splendor of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:

(Chorus) Source of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.

2. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight: (Chorus)
3. For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light: (Chorus)
4. For the joy of human care, sister, brother, parent, child,
for the kinship we all share, for all gentle thoughts and mild: (Chorus)

Exploring

Reading

Beginners

by Denise Levertov

Marion Scott & Paul Reisberg, Climate Change Task Force

This month we share our weekly offering with RIA House

Checks may be made to "First Parish Church" and sent to the Church at:

Pledges: attn: Pledge Secretary, PO Box 215, Stow MA 01775

Donations: attn: Treasurer, 353 Great Rd, Stow MA 01775

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

Sharing Our Gifts

Love Song to the Earth

P. McCartney & N. Bedingfield

Mike Pfitzer, voice

Featuring Vocal Performances by Paul McCartney, Jon Bon Jovi, Sheryl Crow,
Fergie, Colbie Caillat, Natasha Bedingfield, Sean Paul, Leona Lewis,
Johnny Rzeznik, Krewella, Angelique Kidjo, Nicole Scherzinger,
Kelsea Ballerini, Christina Grimmie, Victoria Justice, & Q'orianka Kilcher
For more information or to donate, please visit <http://lovesongtotheearth.org>

FPC Climate Threat Statement

Peter & Faye Cordone, Climate Change Task Force

Sermon

50th Earth Day Celebration:

A New Awakening

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Returning

Hymn #1064

Blue Boat Home

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.
2. Sun my sail and moon my rudder as I ply the starry sea,
leaning over the edge in wonder, casting questions into the deep.
Drifting here with my ship's companions, all we kindred pilgrim souls,
making our way by the lights of the heavens in our beautiful blue boat home.
3. I give thanks to the waves up holding me, hail the great winds urging me on,
greet the infinite sea before me, sing the sky my sailor's song:
I was born up on the fathoms, never harbor or port have I known.
The wide universe is the ocean I travel, and the earth is my blue boat home.

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

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

D. Akers
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.