

August 24, 2025

10:00 am

Gathering

Prelude "Twenty-One Exchanges" Caitlin McIntyre,
Roger Zahab Ian McIntyre

Welcome & Announcements June McKnight, worship committee

Chalice Lighting Minister Emeritus, Rev. Tom Rosiellio

Opening Words Rev. Tom Rosiello

*** Hymn #1011** Gathering Chant
"Return Again"

Centering

*** Covenant and Affirmation**

<i>(Spoken in unison)</i>	<i>(Sung in unison)</i>
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 June McKnight

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 Adapted from Frederick E. Gills

Musical Reflection "Hast Never Come to Thee an Hour" Caitlyn McIntyre,
Ian McIntyre
Zahab/Whitman

** Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Exploring

Sharing Our Gifts

In July and August we share our weekly offering with four recipients, **UU Trauma Response Ministry, UU Mass Action, Native Plant Trust, and Groton Hill Music Center**. 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.

Offertory "Equality" Caitlyn McIntyre,
Zahab/Whitman Ian McIntyre

Video Presentation Excerpt from
"A Vision Unfolding"
Kyle Peterson

*** Hymn #113** "Where is Our Holy Church"

Sermon "Liberal Religion in
Challenging Times" Rev. Tom Rosiello

Returning

*** Hymn #131** "Love Will Guide Us"

*** Benediction**

*** 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 'til we meet again.

Postlude "The Deserted Garden" Caitlyn McIntyre,
Florence Price Ian McIntyre

Thank you

Sharon Brownfield, Zoom Host
Webb Tilney, Tech Helper
Our ushers, Steve Evans, Rick Lent
Our staff and leadership

To our visitors, thank you for coming!

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

- Fill out a Visitor Card in your pew or online (QR code)
- Visit our website, www.fpc-stow-acton.org. There is so much happening at FPC! Our homepage and the "Church Life" tab detail our events and programs.
- Subscribe to our e-newsletters and email groups (QR Code)



Visitor Card



E-Newsletters

July/August Plate Sharing

- **UU Trauma Response Ministry** Provides culturally sensitive spiritual care to congregations after critical and traumatic events.
- **UU Mass Action** Organizes and mobilizes UUs in Massachusetts to confront oppression.
- **Native Plant Trust** Conserves and promotes New England's native plants to ensure healthy, biologically diverse landscapes.
- **Groton Hill Music Center** A community music school and performing arts venue hosting lessons, lectures, concerts, and recitals.

FIRST PARISH CHURCH OF STOW & ACTON

Unitarian Universalist

Sunday, August 24, 2025



The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister
Rayla Baldwin-Mattson, Director of Religious Education
Meg Rivers-Wright, Parish Administration & Membership
Chris Hossfeld, Music Director
Trevor Berens, Accompanist
Justin Marble, Nursery Care Coordinator
Mike Silkonis, Sexton
Brendon Chetwynd, President,
Trisha Gudit, Vice President
Bill Froberg, Treasurer
Johanna Pyle, Clerk

First Parish is a UU Association Welcoming Congregation. We warmly welcome gay, lesbian, bisexual, & 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, back rows with accessible seating are "mask-required."

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