

If you wanted to see with your naked eye a paramecium swimming in a drop of water, you would have to enlarge the drop until it was some 40 feet across. However, if you wanted to see the atoms in the same drop, you would have to make the drop 15 miles across....

—Bill Bryson

A Short History of Nearly Everything

There is another world, but it is in this one.

—Paul Éluard

The world is not what it seems—but it isn't anything else, either.

—Raymond Queneau

There are two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.

—Einstein

The lover of beauty ends by finding it everywhere about him.

—Marguerite Yourcenar

Memoirs of Hadrian

Sharing Our Gifts

Make your check payable to “First Parish Church” and send it to:

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

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

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

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The Parish Jazz Band

Nick Bundy, tenor saxophone

Paul Chastell, trombone

Peter Fiske, drums/percussion

Margaret “Peggy” Langley, flute

Lindsay Lozeau, trumpet

Michael Paladini, guitar

Quinci Sprague, bass

Stephen Warnick, piano

and Sara Beauvais, vocals

First Parish Church of Stow & Acton

Unitarian Universalist

Sunday, July 23, 2023

10:00 AM



A portrait of deep space from the Hubble Telescope
Photo courtesy of NASA.

“Strange and Wonderful”

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum, Minister
Meg Rivers-Wright, Membership and Administration
Michael Silkonis, Sexton
Janet Beatrice, External Publicity
Trish Woods, Interim Pianist
Rev. Thomas A. Rosiello, Minister Emeritus

Jenni Edgerton, President
Brendon Chetwynd, Vice President
Bill Froberg, Treasurer
Johanna Pyle, Clerk

First Parish is a Unitarian Universalist Association
Welcoming Congregation. We welcome gay, lesbian,
bisexual, and transgender people into our community.

Summer Worship

July 23, 2023

Strange and Wonderful

Preludes

“Nica’s Dream”

by Horace Silver

“Well, You Needn’t”

by Thelonious Monk

Welcome, Announcements, & Land Acknowledgment

Michael Paladini

Chalice Lighting/Opening Words #420 “We are here...”

Quinci Sprague

Reading

Untitled (“What Was Bequeathed Us”)

Lindsay Lozeau

by Gregory Orr

Covenant

Peter Fiske

Please join us in reciting:

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

Sara Beauvais and Michael Paladini

Please join us in singing:

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.

Interlude

“Black Coffee”

by Paul Webster and Sonny Burke

Sharing of Joys and Sorrows

Hymn #118

Sara Beauvais and Congregation

This Little Light of Mine

Meditation #530

from “Out of the Stars”

Lindsay Lozeau

by Robt. Weston

Sharing Our Gifts

In July and August we share our weekly offering with two organizations, Horizons at LMS and Libros Para Todos. Ways to donate to FPC are listed on the reverse of this program.

“Sugar”

by Stanley Turrentine

Homily

“Strange and Wonderful”

by Michael Paladini

Hymn #21

Sara Beauvais and Congregation

For the Beauty of the Earth

Closing Words

“Tell all the truth...”

Michael Paladini

by E. Dickinson

#1263(RWF)/#1129(THJ)

Benediction

Sara Beauvais and Michael Paladini

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.

Postludes

“That Lucky Ol’ Sun”

by Beasley Smith

“Four”

by Miles Davis

Accommodations

Your ushers can provide a large print order of service or hymnal, or an assisted listening device, which works throughout the building.

Masking Policy

As of July 1, 2023, FPC has moved to a mask-optional policy throughout the church. We have designated several rows in the back of the Sanctuary as “mask-required”. They are a greater distance from unmasked speakers and the choir and include accessible seating.

Land Acknowledgment

We would like to acknowledge that this service is being held by a community that gathers on the stolen traditional lands of the Massachusett, 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 this is just a first step in moving toward right relationship with Native peoples and healing of the Earth.

Connect with the First Parish Church Community

- Sign our visitor log at tinyurl.com/visitfpc
We’ll send you information if you request it.
- Come to Sunday service
10 am 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
by visiting <https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org/subscribe-newsletters>



Upcoming 10 am Sunday Services

All services are in the Sanctuary and Online, unless otherwise noted.
Visit <https://www.fpc-stow-acton.org/services> for service descriptions.

7/30	“Blessing of the Animals” Susan Avery, <u>FPC front lawn</u>
8/6	“20 th Annual Joint Summer Service” Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum
8/13	“Circle Worship” Lindsay LaPointe, <u>Fellowship Hall</u>
8/20	“Superheroes” Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum
8/27	“Spiritual Conversations Through Poetry” <u>Community Room</u>
9/3	“Meditation” Joe Stadolnik, <u>Fellowship Hall</u>

Join Worship by Video: <https://tinyurl.com/2223fpc>

Meeting ID: 999 7077 0266; Passcode: 01775

Join Worship by Phone: (929) 205-6099 (toll call)



FPC Summer Announcements

Parish Jazz Band Performance Sat. 7/29, 6-9 pm, Hudson Town Hall
78 Main St. in Hudson.

Assabet Craft Beer and Food Truck Festival Sat. 9/2, 12–4 pm in front
of the church

Rev. Cindy’s Summer Schedule:

Week	Where is Cindy?	Lay Minister Coverage
7/24-7/30	Study Leave - home	Ann
7/31-8/6	At FPC; leading joint summer service 8/6	Susie
8/7-8/13	Study Leave - staff	Ingrid
8/14-8/20	At FPC; preaching 8/20	Ann
8/21-8/27	Study Leave - staff	Hector
8/28-9/3	Vacation – college?	Susie



Thank you to today’s volunteers:
Ingrid Holcomb, Zoom Helper
Hector Constantzos, Tech Helper
Lisa Rydin and June McKnight, Ushers
and our staff and leadership



ONLINE SUPPLEMENT PAGE

This page contains information specifically 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 is **Ingrid Holcomb**.

3. Hymn lyrics are below.

Hymn #118 *This Little Light of Mine*

1. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
2. Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
3. Building up a world, I'm gonna let it shine.
Building up a world, I'm gonna let it shine.
Building up a world, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Hymn #21 *For the Beauty of the Earth*

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)

Sharing Our Gifts

If you're mailing a pledge or a donation, here is the information:

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Attn: Pledge Secretary
PO Box 215
Stow, MA 01775

Donations:

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353 Great Rd
Stow, MA 01775