

**FIRST PARISH
CHURCH OF
STOW & ACTON**

*Unitarian
Universalist*

**Sunday, December 13,
2020
10:00 AM**

Gathering

Prelude

Hanukkah Song Medley arr. G. DeBenedetti

Sanghee Kim, organ

Welcome & Announcements

Ann Sadler

Call to Worship

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Chalice Lighting

Hanukkah Sharing

Hymn #55

Dark of Winter

Mike Pfitzer, voice

1. Dark of winter, soft and still, your quiet calm surrounds me.

Let my thoughts go where they will; ease my mind profoundly.

And then my soul will sing a song, a blessed song of love eternal.

Gentle darkness, soft and still, bring your quiet to me.

2. Darkness, soothe my weary eyes, that I may see more clearly.

When my heart with sorrow cries, comfort and caress me.

And then my soul may hear a voice, a still, small voice of love eternal.

Darkness, when my fears arise, let your peace flow through me.

Sharing

Covenant Ken Langer

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 Mike Pfitzer, Voice

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

Hector Constantzos, Lay Minister

Prayer or Meditation

Exploring

Sharing Our Gifts

May I Be Still B. Tate

FPC Driveway Choir

This month we share our weekly offering with Concord Prison Outreach

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>

Sermon

Stillness of Winter

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia L. Landrum

Returning

Hymn #221

Light One Candle

1. Light one candle for the Maccabee children with thanks
that their light didn't die.

Light one candle for the pain they endured when their right
to exist was denied.

Light one candle for the terrible sacrifice justice and
freedom demand.

But light one candle for the wisdom to know when the
peacemaker's time is at hand.

(Chorus) Don't let the light go out, it's lasted for so many
years.

Don't let the light go out, let it shine through our love
and our tears.

2. Light one candle for the strength that we need to never
become our own foe.

Light one candle for those who are suff'ring the pain we
learned so long ago.

Light one candle for all we believe in, that anger won't tear
us apart.

And light one candle to bring us together with peace as the
song in our heart. (Chorus)

3. What is the mem'ry that's valued so highly we keep it alive
in that flame?

What's the commitment to those who have died when we
cry out they've not died in vain?

Have we come this far always believing that justice would
somehow prevail?

This is the burden and this is the promise and this is why
we will not fail. (Chorus)

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

A Winter Story Yiruma

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 our helpers today: Katy Weeks & Sharon
Brownfield
and 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
Janet Beatrice, External Publicity

Katy Weeks, President
Sharon Brownfield, Vice President
Bill Froberg, Treasurer
Helen Ham, Clerk

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