

United First Parish Church

Order of Service

Prelude Joe Stoddard
"Kol Nidre" – traditional Jewish melody

Welcome and Opening Words Ann Gillette Parsley

Chalice Lighting Leslie Simpson

*Covenant Elizabeth Foster
As a free fellowship of this historic church,
We unite to lift our hearts and open our minds to a larger reality;
To accept, support, and encourage one another;
To seek the wisdom in all religions;
To cherish and sustain the web of life;
And to strive for justice, compassion, and peace.

*Greet Your Neighbors Elizabeth Foster

*Hymn #392 "Hinch Mah Tov"

Message for All Ages Rev. Rebecca Froom

*CHILDREN'S RECESSIONAL *As You Go* By John Ruben Piirainen
As you go, may joy surround you,
As you go, go in peace.
Know our love is with you always,
as you go, as you go.
(Children are invited to leave for their Spirit Circle programs)

JOYS AND SORROWS Rev. Rebecca Froom
You are welcome to fill out a Joys and Sorrows Card before the service, or share a spoken joy or sorrow during service.

Meditation and Prayer Ann Gillette Parsley

Hymn #1011 "Return Again" Sharon Gamache

Reading excerpt from "This is Real and You are Completely Unprepared:
The Days of Awe as a Journey of Transformation" by Rabbi Alan Lew

*Please Stand as you are able.

"Church of the Presidents"

Sunday, September 20, 2026

Musical Interlude "Mi Sheberach" Debbie Friedman

Sermon "Journey of Transformation" Rev. Rebecca Froom

*Hymn "Rededication" by Shana Aisenberg

Offering Invitation Ann Gillette Parsley
Donations can be placed in the offering plates or can be made online at ufpc.org.

Offertory *Sh'ma Kolenu* Debbie Friedman

Announcements Rev. Rebecca Froom

Benediction Rev. Rebecca Froom

*Sung Benediction By Patricia Yates and Harold Brown
Carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.

Postlude "Kaddish Titkabeil" traditional Jewish melody

*We invite you to join us for social hour following the service.
Social hour conversation starter: What are you (re)turning towards or turning away from.*

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Musicians: Joe Stoddard, organ and piano
Sharon Gamache, voice and guitar
Greeters: Albert Vaughn
Ushers: David Bousquin
Livestream Team: Noel Palatas
Social Hour: Marie-Louise Jackson-Miller, Leslie Simpson
Flowers: Pat Artis, Claire Fitzmaurice, Kate Hurley, Alicia Woolbrite

Childcare is provided.

ABOUT UNITED FIRST PARISH CHURCH (UFPC)

We are a Unitarian Universalist congregation where thoughtful and caring people from many faith backgrounds gather for spiritual growth and learning, to build community, and to live our values of love and compassion in the wider world. Here you will find companions for the journey. Bring your questions, your hopes, and your ideals.

Sunday worship is at 10:30 am in-person and over zoom, followed by an in-person social hour for continued conversation. Children participate in worship and in our Spirit Circle religious education program where they learn about mindfulness, the arts, and caring for the earth.

United First Parish Church has roots in two congregations who merged in 1958: First Parish Church founded in 1639 and Wollaston Unitarian Society founded in 1888. This magnificent building was designed by Alexander Parrish; it is the fourth meeting house of the Church and was completed in 1828. John Adams and John Quincy Adams, the second and sixth Presidents of the United States, were life-long members of the Church and are entombed along with their wives First Ladies Abigail Adams and Louisa Catherine Adams in the Church's crypt. The church operates a History and Visitors Program from mid-April to mid-November, giving tours of the Presidential Crypt and our historic sanctuary.

UFPC provides a home for The Prison Book Program, a social justice literacy program in residence. You can learn more about them and their meaningful work at <https://prisonbookprogram.org>.

Elected Leaders: Marie-Louise Jackson-Miller (President), Jim Petosa (Vice-President), Erwin Schaareman (Treasurer), Ryan Ruel (Clerk), Peter Kovach (Stewardship), Beverly Garcia, Heather Byrnes (Social Justice Action), Patricia Desmond (Communications), Ann Marie and Lee (Congregational Life), Dan Volpe (Religious Education), G. Frederick Shepard (Worship), Donna Ekstrand (Committee on Ministry), Susan Curran (Nominating Committee).

Staff: Rev. Rebecca Froom (Lead Minister), Rev. Dr. Sheldon Bennett (Minister Emeritus), Ann Parsley (Ministerial Intern), Nan Moore (Affiliate Lay Community Minister), Elizabeth Foster (Director of Religious Education and Family Ministry), David Bousquin (Office and Property Manager), Sean Glennon (Director of Music).



United First Parish Church Unitarian Universalist



“Journey of Transformation”

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