

United First Parish Church

Order of Service

PRELUDE *Prelude and Fugue* Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

WELCOME AND OPENING WORDS Rev. Rebecca Froom

CHALICE LIGHTING *Tune in to the Equinox* Nan Moore

*COVENANT

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

*HYMN # 347 *Gather the Spirit*

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES *Spend, Save, Share* 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 program)

JOYS AND SORROWS

MEDITATION AND PRAYER McKayla Hoffman

REFLECTIVE HYMN #1031 *Filled with Loving Kindness*

READING Rev. Rebecca Froom and McKayla Hoffman
Because Church by Sean Neil Barron

CHORAL ANTHAM Geoffrey Shaw (1879-1943)
The Lord My Pasture Shall Prepare

SERMON *Loving Our Church* Rev. Rebecca Froom

*Please Stand as you are able.

"Church of the Presidents"

Sunday, March 26, 2023

*HYMN # 131 *Love Will Guide Us*

v.1 Love will guide us, peace has tried us,
hope inside us will lead the way
on the road from greed to giving.
Love will guide us through the hard night.

v.2 If you cannot sing like angels,
if you cannot speak before thousands,
you can give from deep within you.
You can change the world with your love.

v.3 You are like no other being
What you can give, no other can give
To the future of our precious children
To the future of the world where we live

v. 4 Hear the song of peace within you
Heed the song of peace in your heart
Spring's new beginning will lead to the harvest
Love will guide us on our way

OFFERING INVITATION AND STEWARDSHIP TESTIMONIAL

Karl DeBisschop

Donations can be placed in the offering plates or can be made online at ufpc.org

OFFERTORY *Miniature*

Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Rebecca Froom

*EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE By Patricia Yates and Harold Brown
Carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.

POSTLUDE *Miniature*

Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Music Director: Norman Corey

Choir Members: Clyde Cortright, David Downs, Jane Lyu, Pat Sullivan

Usher: Bill Westland

Livestream: Jordan Waterworth, Elizabeth Black

Childcare is available.

Hospitality: Leslie Simpson
Flowers: Claire Fitzmaurice, Pat Artis

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 Parris; 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>.

Board of Governors: Jim Petosa (President), Juan Ramos (Vice-President), Clyde Cortright (Treasurer), Erwin Schaareman (Assistant Treasurer), April Bargout (Clerk), Kim Dangora and Karl DeBisschop (Stewardship), Claire Fitzmaurice (Social Justice Action), Elizabeth Black (Communications), Marie-Louise Jackson-Miller (Congregational Life), Peter Kovach and Kendra Dupiton (Religious Education)

Staff: Rev. Rebecca Froom (Lead Minister), Rev. Dr. Sheldon Bennett (Minister Emeritus), Nan Moore (Affiliated Lay Community Minister and Director of Family Ministry), McKayla Hoffman (Ministerial Intern), David Bousquin (Office and Property Manager), Norman Corey (Music Director)



United First Parish Church Unitarian Universalist



“Loving Our Church”

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