

# United First Parish Church

## Order of Service

PRELUDE Joe Stoddard  
*Prelude and Fugue in E Minor (BWV 533)* – Johann Sebastian Bach

WELCOME AND OPENING WORDS G.Fred Shepard

CHALICE LIGHTING Elizabeth Foster

\*COVENANT G.Fred Shepard  
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 G.Fred Shepard

\*HYMN #361 *Enter, Rejoice and Come In*

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES Ann Parsley

\*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 Ann Parsley

MEDITATION AND PRAYER Ann Parsley

HYMN #128 *For All That Is Our Life*

READING *Warning* by Jenny Joseph Ann Parsley

MUSICAL INTERLUDE *100 Years* by Five for Fighting Beverly Garcia

SERMON *The Joys of Aging* Ann Parsley

\*Please Stand as you are able.

# “Church of the Presidents”

Sunday, March 15, 2026

\*HYMN #1028 *The Fire of Commitment*

STEWARDSHIP TESTIMONIAL

Jim Petosa

OFFERING INVITATION

G. Fred Shepard

Donations can be placed in the offering plates or can be made online at [ufpc.org](http://ufpc.org).

OFFERTORY

Joe Stoddard

*Trumpet Fanfare* – Jean-Joseph Mouret, ed. and arr. by S. Drummond Wolf

ANNOUNCEMENTS

G. Fred Shepard

BENEDICTION

Ann Parsley

\*SUNG BENEDICTION

By Patricia Yates and Harold Brown

Carry the flame of peace and love until we meet again.

POSTLUDE

Joe Stoddard

*Trumpet Voluntary* – Henry Purcell, ed. E. Power Biggs

We invite you to join us for social hour following the service.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Organist: Joe Stoddard

Pianist: Beverly Garcia

Worship Associate: G. Fred Shepard

Greeter: Albert Vaughn

Ushers: Bill Westland, David Bousquin

Livestream: Jason Sharitt, Fiona Sankey

Flowers: Pat Artis, Claire Fitzmaurice, Allegra Taylor, Kate Hurley

Social Hour: Marie-Louise Jackson-Miller, Leslie Simpson

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 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>.

Elected Leaders: Marie-Louise Jackson-Miller (President), Jacqueline Rodriguez (Vice-President), Clyde Cortright (Treasurer), Erwin Schaareman (Assistant Treasurer), Ryan Ruel (Clerk), Karl DeBisschop and Peter Kovach (Stewardship), David Downs (Social Justice Action), Patricia Desmond (Communications), Nicole and Israel Smith (Congregational Life), Andrew Carleen (Religious Education), G. Frederick Shepard (Worship), David Fallon (Committee on Ministry), Sarah Belfort (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), Tony Winters (Acting Director of Music), Kendall Doty (Communications Coordinator).



# *United First Parish Church* Unitarian Universalist



## **“The Joys of Aging”**

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