

United First Parish Church

Order of Service

PRELUDE *Welcome* by Jon Fromer Joe Jencks

WELCOME AND OPENING WORDS Clyde Cortright

CHALICE LIGHTING Pat Artis, reader
Words by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

*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

*SONG *Love Will Guide My Way* Joe Jencks
I will greet the morning
I will greet the day
I will greet the evening
Love will guide my way

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES Joe Jencks
Let It Breathe (Love Has You Surrounded)

*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 Clyde Cortright

MEDITATION AND PRAYER Joe Jencks

*HYMN #108 *My Life Flows On*

READING *On Diplomacy* By Madeleine Albright

*Please Stand as you are able.

"Church of the Presidents"

Sunday, March 9, 2025

SERMON *The Middle Path* Joe Jencks

A spoken word and musical reflection

*SONG *I will Keep Singing* By Joe Jencks

Chorus:
I will keep singing, While the world turns
I will keep singing, As the human heart yearns
May there be dancing, every step of the way
I will keep singing, Till the end of my days

OFFERING INVITATION Clyde Cortright
Donations can be placed in the offering plates or can be made online at
ufpc.org.

OFFERTORY Instrumental Joe Jencks

ANNOUNCEMENTS Clyde Cortright

SUNG BENEDICTION *I Wish You Peace* By Joe Jencks (c.2008)
I wish you peace
And every blessing on your journey
As you learn to cherish each and every day
May your tears be those of healing
May your laughter bring you joy
And may true love be your companion on the way

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

CLOSING SONG *Get Together* by Chet Powers Joe Jencks

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS
Worship Associate: Clyde Cortright
Greeter: Jackie Rodriguez
Usher: Albert Vaughn
Livestream: Jordan Waterworth
Social Hour: Marie-Louise Jackson-Miller, Leslie Simpson
Flowers arranged by: Pat Artis, Claire Fitzmaurice

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: Fiona Sankey (President), Jacqueline Rodriguez (Vice-President), Clyde Cortright (Treasurer), Erwin Schaareman (Assistant Treasurer), Patricia Sullivan (Clerk), Karl DeBisschop (Stewardship), Claire Fitzmaurice (Social Justice Action), Juan Ramos (Communications), Marie-Louise Jackson-Miller (Congregational Life), Peter Kovach and Andrew Carleen (Religious Education), Jordan Waterworth (Worship), Ann David Fallon (Committee on Ministry), Sarah Belfort (Nominating Committee)

Staff: Rev. Rebecca Froom (Lead Minister), Rev. Dr. Sheldon Bennett (Minister Emeritus), Elizabeth Foster (Director of Religious Education and Family Ministry), David Bousquin (Office and Property Manager), Norman Corey (Music Director)



United First Parish Church

Unitarian Universalist



“The Middle Path”

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