

FIRST PARISH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST



Canton
MASSACHUSETTS



“What We Value: The Prairie Dogs Bark”

Order of Service

May 5, 2024

What We Value: The Prairie Dogs Bark
With Rev. Dr. Clyde Grubbs
May 5, 2024

Gathering Music

Jim Chubet

Prelude

Earth Spins Around (Madge Strong)
First Parish Choir

Welcome & Announcements

John Donovan

Shared Call to Worship & Unison Chalice Lighting

Elizabeth Foster & Congregation

Come into this celebration of relationship, remembering these

words by Rev. Dr. Sarah Lenz:

"We are not alone, though sometimes we forget that truth. We are woven into one cloth, one gorgeous blanket, designed for use, for comfort, to sustain and to love..."

We light this chalice, which is the symbol of our liberating faith.

May it remind us always of our commitment to justice making, peacemaking, and beloved community.

What We Value: The Prairie Dogs Bark
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Covenant Elizabeth Foster & Congregation
Love is the doctrine of this congregation. The quest for truth is its sacrament, and service is its prayer. To dwell together in peace with respect and understanding; to seek knowledge in freedom; to serve our fellows and human kind to the end that all souls shall grow together in harmony: thus do we covenant with each other and with our God, by whatsoever name we worship.

***Opening Hymn** Hymn #38 – *Morning Has Broken*
First Parish Choir & Congregation

Stewardship Testimonial Gary Fox

Invitation to the Offering John Donovan

Offertory *Open Your Heart (Mary Grigola, arr. Jim Scott)*
First Parish Choir

Responsive Reading #646 – *The Larger Circle*
Elizabeth Foster & Congregation

Joys & Sorrows Rev. Michelle & John Donovan

Meditation and Prayer Rev. Michelle

Musical Interlude Hymn #1073 – *The Earth is Our Mother, vs. 1-3*
First Parish Choir

May Faith in Action: Greater Boston Food Bank

Our mission is to End Hunger Here. The Greater Boston Food Bank works passionately to end hunger across Eastern Massachusetts by providing our neighbors in need the healthy food and resources they need to thrive. Please make checks or PayPal contributions payable to FPUU Canton and tell us in the memo line or note that your contribution is for Faith In Action (FIA). Please give as generously as you are able. Thank you!

May/June Events at FPUU

(See weekly email announcement and FPUU website for details on any of the below)

Soup's On: Thursday, May 16 at 12pm in Parish Hall

Soul Matters: Sunday, May 5 and Sunday, May 19 from 12:15pm to 1:15pm '*Pluralism*'; Sunday, June 2 from 12:15pm to 1:15pm '*Renewal*'

Spirituality and Social Justice Film Conversation: Saturday, June 8 from 1 to 3pm - "For the Bible Tells Me So" documentary

Upcoming in our Five Points Cluster

Murray Church Spring Fair: Saturday, May 11 from 10am to 4pm; 505 N. Main Street, Attleboro

Louis D. Brown Peace Institute's Annual Mother's Day Walk for Peace - Sunday, May 12 at 8:00am in Dorchester, MA. See 5 Points Cluster team captain John Donovan and your weekly announcements for more detailed information, including the donation link

Murray Church Craft and Social Group: Saturday, May 25 from 1:30pm to 3:30pm; 505 N. Main Street, Attleboro

Upcoming Canton Events

Trivia Night: Friday, May 10 at the Canton Public Library, doors open at 7pm. Space is limited; to purchase tickets: <https://library.canton.ma.us/581>

The Open Book Coffeehouse: Saturday, May 18 at the Canton Public Library, with singer/songwriter David Singley. Doors open at 6:45pm, music starts at 7:30pm

Land and Labor Acknowledgement

The First Parish Unitarian Universalist-Canton, MA

[Working draft for discussion with the Neponset Band of the Massachusetts Tribe and vote by the congregation]

The First Parish Unitarian Universalist-Canton is proud to be a major historical church of Canton, representing a consolidation of two of the oldest churches within Canton – the First Parish Unitarian, founded in the 18th century and the First Universalist Church, founded in the 19th century. We also recognize that our church's history is complicated by the combined legacies of colonialism and slavery in the United States context. We acknowledge the history of Indigenous peoples and the dispossession of their lands, including that these original lands were named Ponkapoag by indigenous peoples. We pay our respects to the Neponset Band, among other bands, of the Massachusetts Tribe, who have stewarded this land throughout generations and honor their continued presence here and throughout their diaspora. We also acknowledge that we here in Canton do not exist independently from centuries of forced labor and economic extraction from enslaved and indentured Black Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) as well as poor white immigrants. And we want to affirm that while we cannot change history, we can work for justice, and that justice begins with recognition and acknowledgment of our shared history and experiences in relationship first. We celebrate and work in solidarity with BIPOC organizations leading the movement for our collective liberation in line with our 8th Principle commitment.

Our Vision and Purpose

FPUU Canton is a welcoming, caring, and diverse faith community that seeks to nurture and inspire each person's spiritual journey while serving others in our commitment to peace and justice.

Minister & Staff

The Rev. Dr. Clyde Grubbs, *Co-Lead Minister*

The Rev. Dr. Michelle Walsh, *Co-Lead Minister*

The Rev. Dr. Anita Farber-Robertson, *Minister Emerita*

Jim Chubet, *Music Director*

Elizabeth Foster, *Ministerial Intern*

Carol Smith, *Office Administrator*

Parish Committee 2023-2024

Kitty McGregor, *President*

Dave Williams, *Vice President, Administration*

Felisa White, *Vice President, Member Services*

Jonette Nagai, *Treasurer*

Barbara Casaly, *Clerk*

Bette Wells, *Member-at-Large*

Don Seaman, *Member-at-Large*

Contact Us

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<https://fpuucanton.org>