

FIRST PARISH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST



Reimagining the Possible – UUSC and Global Solidarity

October 20, 2024

Order of Service

Reimagining the Possible – UUSC and Global Solidarity
Led by Rev. Laura Randall, UUSC Guest Speaker
October 20, 2024

Gathering Music James Chubet

Centering Bell Rev. Michelle

Prelude *Invention in E Major (J.S. Bach)* James Chubet

Welcome & Announcements Rev. Michelle

Shared Call to Worship Rev. Laura
Written by Rev. Megan Visser

We enter this sanctuary for kindness and comfort.
May rough-worn hands and aching backs be healed.
We enter this sanctuary of hope for equality.
May those who labor to survive live to know justice.
We enter this sanctuary of love and vocation.
May our bonds of solidarity be strengthened.
We enter this sanctuary of courage and friendship.
May we proceed hand-in-hand toward freedom

Unison Chalice Lighting Rev. Laura
Written by Rev. Michael Tino

The flaming chalice was first used by the Unitarian Service
Committee as a symbol of life-saving refuge for people fleeing
persecution in Europe.
As we light this chalice, we invoke the love that called people to put
their lives at risk to save others. May we be vessels of life-saving
welcome.

Covenant

Rev. Michelle

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 humankind 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**

#131 – Love Will Guide Us
First Parish Choir & Congregation

World Wisdom Story

UUSC and the Flaming Chalice
as told by Rev. Laura Randall

Invitation to the Offering

Rev. Michelle

Offertory

I Know I Can (Hamilton-Gagne)
First Parish Choir

Joys & Sorrows

Rev. Michelle

Meditation and Prayer

Rev. Michelle

Musical Interlude

Come Drink Deep (Carolyn McDade)
First Parish Choir

Sermon

Reimagining the Possible – UUSC and Global Solidarity
Rev. Laura Randall

***Closing Hymn**

#108 – My Life Flows On in Endless Song
First Parish Choir & Congregation

***Shared Benediction**

Rev. Laura

Written by Rev. Laura Randall

May we find abundant opportunities to be in service to wholeness.
May we follow the leadership of those so often pushed to the
margins.

And may we continue to seek out the ways, large and small, of
building the beloved community together.

***Unison Chalice Extinguishing**

Rev. Laura

Written by Rev. Elizabeth Selle-Jones, SLT #456

We extinguish this flame,
but not the light of truth,
the warmth of community,
or the fire of commitment.

These we carry in our hearts until we are together again

Postlude

What the World Needs Now is Love
(Bacharach, arr. Caligaris)
James Chubet

***Please rise in body and/or in spirit**
Please join us for coffee hour after the Service

HYMN #131 --- LOVE WILL GUIDE US

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.

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.

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

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

Neponset River Mind-Body-Spirit Center

Exploring Your Spirituality: First Thursday of the month – November 7 from 1pm to 2pm in the Chapel. November Soul Matters Theme: “Repair.”

Zen Buddhist Meditation Group: Second Thursday of the month – November 14 from 1 to 2pm in the Chapel. [Rev. Michelle also will host a special additional one on Tuesday, November 5, 1-2PM for grounding and centering on Election Day!]

Get Your Body Groove On!: Fourth Thursday of the month – October 24 from 1pm to 2pm in the Chapel. (This will be the last one for 2024 due to November and December holidays!)

Ongoing Events at FPUU

Exploring Your Spirituality/Soul Matters: Third Sunday of the month – October 20 from 12:15pm to 1:15pm. [Theme: “Deep Listening,” Today after the service!]

CDEI/FPUU Speaker Forum: Saturday, October 26 from noon to 2pm. "Columbus Day vs. Indigenous Peoples Day: What's the Point?". Join us for a learning experience exploring myths of both Columbus and Thanksgiving, led by Thomas Green, Vice President of the Massachusetts-Ponkapoag Tribal Council. Healthy snacks will be provided.

New to Unitarian Universalism? Come for a beginning conversation with Rev. Michelle on Sunday, October 27, 12:15PM in the Chapel. More opportunities to be scheduled!

Sunday Brunch Potluck! First Sunday of the month – November 3. We are holding a Brunch Potluck after Sunday service. A few food items, coffee and tea will be provided, and we are asking everyone attending to bring the rest! See Barbara Foley for more info.

The Bible – What Is It and Why?: Second Sunday of the month – November 10, 12:15pm to 1:15PM with Rev. Dr. Clyde Grubbs, Affiliate Community Minister. Read Genesis & Exodus.

Parish Committee Board Meetings: Second Wednesday of the month – November 13 at 7:15pm via Zoom. See Kitty McGregor, President during coffee social hours for more information.

Soup's On: Third Thursday of the month - November 21 from 12 to 1pm in Parish Hall.

Highlighted Neponset Region or Five Points Cluster Events

Connection Circles: All Souls Braintree invites all interested to join their weekly Wednesday Connection Circles on Zoom from 2:30-4PM. See FPUU newsletter or their website for more info or the Zoom link at <https://www.allsoulsbraintreechurch.org>.

October Faith in Action: Unitarian Universalist Service Committee

The Faith in Action collection for October is to support the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). The UUSC supports and works with Indigenous groups, and this is in recognition of Indigenous Peoples Day on October 14. They also support peace, justice and democracy globally.

Please make checks or PayPal contributions payable to FPUU Canton and indicate 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!

October 20 Service led by Guest Speaker Rev. Laura Randall, UUSC

“Reimagining the Possible – UUSC and Global Solidarity”



In the face of challenges and forces that undermine justice and equity, UUSC has, for more than eight decades, been resisting cynicism and refusing complacency. Through a model that embraces radical trust, UUSC advances human rights in partnership with communities impacted by oppression. Join the Rev. Laura Randall as we explore stories of faithful imagination and determined hope in the pursuit of liberation for all people. The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee also is our FPUU Faith in Action donation recipient for October!

Bio: As the Director for Congregation Relations at UUSC, the Reverend Laura Randall (she/her/hers) facilitates partnerships to strengthen the impact of the UU Service Committee (UUSC) and the social justice reach of UU communities. Prior to joining UUSC, Laura’s ministry included serving as the Legacy Campaign Director for the Unitarian Universalist Association and hospice chaplaincy. She lives in Medford, Massachusetts with her spouse and their two dogs.

SPECIAL ALERT FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27TH SERVICE!!

Canton Fall Classic Race is coming and will tie up Washington Street traffic that morning around 10AM! Come early or plan and alternate route that day! [Also BTW, Nov. 3rd is Daylight Savings!]

Land and Labor Acknowledgement

The First Parish Unitarian Universalist-Canton, MA
[Adopted at the FPUU Annual Meeting on 6/4/24]

The First Parish Unitarian Universalist-Canton is proud to be a major historical church of Canton, representing a consolidation of two of Canton's oldest churches – the First Parish Unitarian, founded in the 18th century and the First Universalist Church, founded in the 19th century. We 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 in Canton and neighboring towns 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. We honor their continued presence here and throughout their diaspora. We also acknowledge that we in Canton do not exist independently from centuries of forced labor and economic extraction from enslaved and indentured Black Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC), including children, as well as poor white immigrants/residents suffering abusive child labor and economic exploitation. And we want to affirm that although we cannot change history, we can and will work for justice, and that justice first begins in direct relationship with mutual recognition and acknowledgment of our shared history, experiences, and interactions. We celebrate and work in solidarity with BIPOC organizations leading the movement for our collective liberation, and we choose to build a diverse, multicultural Beloved Community casting out racism and oppression in ourselves and our institutions.

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. Michelle Walsh, *Lead Minister*
The Rev. Dr. Clyde Grubbs, *Affiliate Community Minister*
The Rev. Dr. Anita Farber-Robertson, *Minister Emerita*
Jim Chubet, *Music Director*
Carol Smith, *Office Administrator*

Parish Committee 2024-2025

Kitty McGregor, *President*
Dave Williams, *Vice President, Administration*
Debbie Radovsky, *Vice President, Member Services*
Larry Cotton, *Treasurer*
Jonette Nagai, *Clerk*
Bette Wells, *Member-at-Large*
Don Seaman, *Member-at-Large*

Contact Us

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<https://fpuucanton.org>