



First Parish of Sudbury

*Ignite your spirit
Nurture your values
Join our community*

A Welcoming Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Stillness



Rev. Dr. Marjorie Matty

December 6, 2020

GATHERING TONE

PRELUDE

Now Light is Less

Rev. Debra Morris-Bennett, organ

Transylvanian hymn tune

Now light is less; moon skies are wide and deep;
The ravages of wind and rain are healed.
The haze of harvest drifts along the field
Until clear eyes put on the look of sleep.

WELCOME & OPENING WORDS

Rev. Dr. Marjorie Matty

CHALICE LIGHTING

Rev. Marjorie

To all that is chaotic in you,
let there come silence.
Let there be a calming
of the clamoring, a stilling
of the voices that
have laid their claim
on you,
that have made their
home in you...
We ignite this chalice
with the eternal spark that thrives within.

HYMN

Find a Stillness

Find a stillness, hold a stillness, let the stillness carry me.
Find the silence, hold the silence, let the silence carry me.
In the spirit, by the spirit, with the spirit giving power,
I will find true harmony.

Seek the essence, hold the essence, let the essence carry me.
Let me flower, help me flower, watch me flower, carry me.
In the spirit, by the spirit, with the spirit giving power,
I will find true harmony.

READING

Stillness of the Heart

Rev. Marjorie

Howard Thurman

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Sure On This Shining Night
Morten Lauridsen, music
James Agee, words

First Parish Choir
Noriko Yasuda, piano

Sure on this shining night
Of star made shadows round,
Kindness must watch for me
This side the ground.
The late year lies down the north.
All is healed, all is health.
High summer holds the earth.
Hearts all whole.
Sure on this shining night I weep for wonder wand'ring far
alone
Of shadows on the stars.

SERMON

Rev. Marjorie

SILENT MEDITATION

OFFERING

Find the Stillness
Clif Hardin

Rev. Debra, piano

CHALICE EXTINGUISHING

Rev. Marjorie

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.

CLOSING WORDS

Rev. Marjorie

POSTLUDE

Dark of Winter
Shelley Jackson Deham, words & music

Rev. Debra, organ

Dark of winter soft and still, your quiet calm surrounds me.
Let my thoughts go where they will;
Ease my mind profoundly.
And then my soul will sing a song'
A blessed song of love eternal.
Gentle darkness, soft and still,
Bring your quiet to me.

Today's coffee hour can be accessed via [this link](#). If you are prompted for a password, enter 12345.

Milestones, announcements, and Q&A will be offered during our online social hour. Please remain in the Zoom meeting after the postlude ends to join us.

Thank you to those assisting today!

Music: Rev. Debra Morris-Bennett and Michael Tyo

Remote Offering

We offer two options for giving remotely.

Online: [Click here](#) to be taken to our online payments portal. If this is your first time using the portal, you will need to create an account using the link in the top-right corner of your screen. Then, select the fund you would like to donate to, whether the gift is one-time or recurring, and put in the amount you would like to give.

By text message: Simply text 833-448-6403 with the amount you would like to give in the body of your text (over \$3). The first time you give this way, you will be directed to fill in your personal and credit card info. Submit, and receive a receipt by email and text!

We thank you for your generosity!

As FPS is charged 2.75% of each credit card transaction, we ask you to consider adding this percentage to your total gift.

Notes on Today's Music

ONE LICENSE #A-736559

Welcome

First Parish of Sudbury Unitarian Universalist is a community of seekers that recognizes the dignity and worth of every human being, affirms each person's search for truth and meaning, asserts our commitment to freedom, and espouses the democratic process. We embrace diversity and include all who share the principles and goals of our community. We are a Welcoming Congregation; we have made the commitment to be intentional about welcoming the presence and participation of gay, lesbian, transgender, and bisexual persons in all aspects of our congregational life. Together we celebrate the interdependent web of existence of which we are all apart.

If you are new to the area or to First Parish, we invite you to sign our guest book. If you have questions, would like to enroll your child in our religious education program, or would like to speak to our minister, please ask an usher for assistance.

Every program at First Parish is funded by voluntary contributions. Members and friends make pledges during our annual canvass. To find out how to make a pledge at another time, please speak to the Assistant Treasurer or to a greeter.

Board of Trustees

Valerie Tratnyek, Chair

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Co-Treasurers: Tom & Deborah Kruskal

Moderator: Sherri Cline

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Staff

Senior Minister: Rev. Dr. Marjorie Matty (revmjmatty@gmail.com)

Minister of Music: Rev. Debra Morris-Bennett (musicdir@fpsudbury.org)

Parish Administrator: Thomas Stirlen (office@fpsudbury.org)

For up-to-date information, please refer to our website, fpsudbury.org, and our online calendar, available at fpsudbury.org/calendar.