



# First Parish of Sudbury

*Ignite your spirit  
Nurture your values  
Join our community*

A Welcoming Unitarian Universalist Congregation

## Place of Peace



Rev. Dr. Marjorie Matty

January 3, 2021

GATHERING TONE

PRELUDE

*Minuet I & II*  
from Cello Suite No. 1 – J.S. Bach

Hunter Bennett, bass clarinet

WELCOME & OPENING WORDS

Rev. Dr. Marjorie Matty

CHALICE LIGHTING

Rev. Marjorie

Let us light this chalice to symbolize our future:  
for a brighter future for every person on earth;  
for a sustaining faith that carries us through even the darkest of times.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

*A Flower Remembered*  
Trans. Takako Helbig  
John Rutter, music

First Parish Virtual Choir  
Recorded December 2020

A flower remembered can never wither:  
Forever blooming as bright as day,  
Its fragrance lingering like music softly playing,  
A gentle voice that's saying, 'I'll never fade away.'

I hear the echoes of many voices;  
Sometimes they're distant, sometimes so clear;  
Through all the sounds of life they seem to whisper,  
'Will you remember, will you remember, will you remember?'

The birds fly homeward across my valley  
Toward the mountains all white with snow;  
The birds are gone now, the mountain snows have melted,  
But still I see their beauty, these scenes of long ago.

The birds still fly in other valleys;  
The snows have turned to flowing streams:  
All things must pass, but memories are lasting:  
We will remember, we will remember, we will remember.

**ENDINGS** - We honor those who died in 2020

Reading of Names

Calling out of Names

Moment of Silence

Responsive Reading #557 – A Common Destiny

**A Common Destiny**

All living substance, all substance  
Of energy, being, and purpose,  
are united and share the same  
destiny.

*All people*

*Those we love and those we*

*We know not of, are united and  
share the same destiny.*

Birth-to-death

We share this unity with

The sun, earth

*Our brothers and sisters,*

*Strangers,*

Flowers of the field,

snowflakes,

volcanoes and moon beams.

*Birth-Life-Death*

*Unknown-Known-Unknown*

Our destiny: from unknown to

Unknown.

*May we have the faith to*

*Accept this mystery and build*

*Upon its everlasting truth.*

RINGING OF THE BELL

**BEGINNINGS** - We celebrate those born in 2020

Reading of Names

Calling out of Names

Responsive Reading #530 – Out of the Stars

**Out of the Stars**

Out of the stars in their flight, out  
of the dust of eternity, here  
have we come,  
Stardust and sunlight, mingling  
through time and through space

*Out of the stars have we come,  
up from time;  
out of stars have we come.*

Time out of time before time in  
the vastness of space, earth  
Spun to orbit the sun,  
Earth with the thunder of  
mountains newborn, the  
boiling of seas.

*Earth warmed by the sun, lit by  
sunlight:  
This is our home;  
Out of the stars have we come.*

Mystery hidden in mystery, back  
through all time;  
Mystery rising from rocks in the  
storm and sea.

*Out of the stars, rising from  
rocks and the sea.  
kindled by sunlight on earth,  
arose life.*

Ponder this thing in your heart;  
Ponder with awe:  
out of the sea to the land, out of  
the shallows came ferns.

*Out of the sea to the land, up  
from darkness to light,  
Rising to walk and to fly,  
out of the sea trembled life.*

Ponder this thing in your heart,  
life up from sea:  
Eyes to behold, throats to sing,  
mates to love.

*Life from the sea, warmed by  
sun, washed by rain,  
life from within, giving birth,  
rose to love.*

This is the wonder of time; this is  
the marvel of space; out of the  
stars swung the earth; life upon  
earth rose to love.

*This is the marvel of life, rising  
to see and to know;  
Out of your heart, cry wonder:  
sing that we live.*

## RINGING OF THE BELL

HYMN #409

*Sleep, My Child*

SERMON

Rev. Marjorie

SILENT MEDITATION

## OFFERING

*Gigue*  
from Cello Suite No. 1 – J.S. Bach

Hunter Bennett, bass clarinet

## 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

*Ode to Joy*  
Ludwig van Beethoven

Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra

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Today's service 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.*

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## Notes on Today's Music

### **A Flower Remembered**

John Rutter, music

Trans. Takako Helbig

This virtual choir recording was lovingly created in Dec 2020 with individual recordings submitted by the following First Parish of Sudbury Choir members:

Joy Aldrich, soprano

Celia Hinrichs, soprano & alto

Maya Bloom, soprano & alto

Kelsey Thompson, soprano & alto

Colin Warwick, tenor

Saul Bloom, tenor

Tom Kruskal, tenor

Ben Reiner, baritone

Terry Lockhart, bass 1

This piece was commissioned by Harmony for Japan in memory of the victims of the Tohoku area earthquake and tsunami, March 2011. The words are hauntingly beautiful and sensitively set by composer John Rutter. The message in this music seems especially appropriate at this time while we mourn so many lost this past year in the COVID-19 pandemic. It is our fervent hope that our musical collaboration on this recording will bring peace to all who hear it.

### **Ode to Joy**

Ludwig van Beethoven

Performed by the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra

The Rotterdam Philharmonic teamed up with a Dutch healthcare provider to film the finale of Beethoven's 9th with all the musicians playing their parts by video from their homes.

<https://slippedisc.com/2020/03/believe-it-orchestra-plays-beethoven-9th-from-their-homes/>

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

Dave Andrews, Deborah Kruskal, Steve Smith, Mark Trone

## Officers

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](http://fpsudbury.org), and our online calendar, available at [fpsudbury.org/calendar](http://fpsudbury.org/calendar).