



First Parish of Sudbury

*Ignite your spirit
Nurture your values
Join our community*

A Welcoming Unitarian Universalist Congregation

The Buddha, The Christ, The Einstein, & The Tubman Discuss Life



**Sunday, January 12, 2025
10 am**

Rev. Kathleen Hepler

**Many Different Beliefs.
One Welcoming Community**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Kathleen

CENTERING TONE

PRELUDE

Rev. Debra

CALL TO WORSHIP

CHALICE LIGHTING

Rise up oh flame. By thy light glowing.
Show to us wisdom, beauty and joy.

HYMN #361

Enter, Rejoice, and Come In

Words & music: Louise Ruspini, arr. By Betty A. Wylder

Enter, rejoice, and come in.
Enter, rejoice, and come in.
Today will be a joyful day;
enter, rejoice, and come in.

Open your ears to the song...

Open your hearts ev'ryone...

Don't be afraid of some change...

Enter, rejoice, and come in...

TIME FOR ALL AGES

Michelle Cote, Director of
Religious Exploration

MILESTONES

Fran Sharp

MEDITATION/PRAYER

INTERLUDE

Ye Earthborn Children of a Star

First Parish Choir

Words: John G. MacKinnon, Music: Dede Duson

Ye earthborn children of a star amid the depths of space,
the cosmic wonder from afar within your minds embrace.

Look out, with awe, upon the art of countless living things;
the counterpoint of part with part, as nature's chorus sings.

Beyond the wonder you have wrought within your little time,
the knowledge won, the wisdom sought, the ornaments of rhyme.

Seek deeper still within your souls and sense the wonder there;
the ceaseless thrust to noble goals of life, more free and fair.

Ye earthborn children of a star who seek and long and strive,
take humble pride in what you are: be glad to be alive.

SERMON

OFFERING

Follow the Drinking Gourd

Words & Music: African American traditional

Terry Lockhart, soloist

(Chorus)

Follow the drinking gourd,
follow the drinking gourd,
for the old man is awaiting for to carry you to freedom,
follow the drinking gourd.

When the sun comes back and the first quail calls,
follow the drinking gourd.

The old man is awaiting for to carry you to freedom,
follow the drinking gourd.

(Chorus)

Now the river bank makes a mighty good road,
the dead trees will show you the way.
Left foot, peg foot, traveling on,
follow the drinking gourd.

(Chorus)

Now the river ends between two hills
follow the drinking gourd.
There's another river on the other side,
follow the drinking gourd.

(Chorus)

HYMN #318

We Would Be One

Words: Samuel Anthony Wright, Music: Jean Sibelius

We would be one as now we join in singing
our hymn of love, to pledge ourselves anew
to that high cause of greater understanding
of who we are, and what in us is true.

We would be one in living for each other
to show to all a new community.

We would be one in building for tomorrow
a nobler world than we have known today.

We would be one in searching for that meaning
which bends our hearts and points us on our way.

As one, we pledge ourselves to greater service,
with love and justice, strive to make us free.

EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

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

Rev. Debra

CLOSING WORDS

MUSIC FOR GOING FORTH

Today's flowers have been donated
by Emarie Pope

Welcome

We are a welcoming congregation and have committed to welcoming the presence and participation of all persons who share our values, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, skin color, immigration status, economic situation, education, political or religious ideology.

We hope you'll join our non-creedal beloved community!

If you are new to the area or to First Parish, we invite you to fill out a newcomer card to get our newsletter. If you have questions, would like to enroll your child in our religious exploration program, or would like to speak to our minister, please feel free to reach out to our Office Administrator, Tanja Fischer (office@fpsudbury.org) for assistance.

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