



**First Parish of
Sudbury**

*Ignite your spirit
Nurture your values
Join our community*

A Welcoming Unitarian Universalist Congregation

How to Make This a Love Story



Sunday, April 6, 2025, 10 am

Rev. Kathleen Hepler

**Many Different Beliefs.
One Welcoming Community**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Kathleen Hepler

CENTERING TONE

PRELUDE

Rev. Debra Morris-Bennett

CALL TO WORSHIP

CHALICE LIGHTING

We light this flame
to invite a world of peace
where we heal the wounds
where we share what we have with one another
where justice is another word for relationship
and we listen for what love has to say - Rachel Hayes

HYMN # 208

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

African American spiritual, adapt. and arr. by William Farley Smith

(Chorus)

Ev'ry time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.
Yes, ev'ry time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart, I will pray.

Upon the mountain, my God spoke,
o'er the mount came fire and smoke.
All around me looks so shine,
ask my God if all was mine.

(Chorus)

The River Jordan runs right cold,
chills the body, not the soul.
Ain't but one train on this track,
runs to heaven and right back.

(Chorus)

TIME FOR ALL AGES

Michelle Cote, Director of
Religious Exploration

LANTERN MUSIC *Now we bless you on your way*
Words and music by Jen Rathbun

Now we bless you on your way
May you feel love every day.

May your light, shining bright,
Transform the world...(repeat)
...with love.

MILESTONES

Emarie Pope

MEDITATION/PRAYER

READING

INTERLUDE

Oh Had I a Golden Thread

First Parish Choir

Words and music by Pete Seeger, arr. by Peter Amidon

Oh, had I a golden thread, and needle so fine:
I'd weave a magic strand of rainbow design.

In it I'd weave the bravery of a women giving birth.
I'd weave the innocence of children of this earth.

Far o'er the waters I'd stretch my rainbow band
To every human being, so they would understand.

Tell my brothers and my sisters of my rainbow design.
Bind up this sorry world with heart and hand and mind,

SERMON

OFFERING

Rev. Debra

HYMN

Heart Wide Open

Words & music by Lea Morris

Keep your heart wide open,
though the waves wanna push you around.
You've got to keep your heart wide open
'til your faith brings you back to solid ground.

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 are from the Flower Fund, endowed by Paul and Carolina Rhoades

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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