



First Parish of
Sudbury

*Ignite your spirit
Nurture your values
Join our community*

A Welcoming Unitarian Universalist Congregation

The Christianities that Weren't



Sunday, March 1, 2026, 10 am

Lauren Hannah-Murphy

Many Different Beliefs.
One Welcoming Community

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michael Tyo

CENTERING TONE

PRELUDE

Rev. Debra Morris-Bennett

CALL TO WORSHIP

by e e cummings

CHALICE LIGHTING

May this flame we light remind us that every one of us
can bring the light of love to the world.

May this clear flame be a symbol that every heart can burn bright
with joy, peace, and harmony.

May the wisdom of ages speak to us through this flame and stay in us.
Every one of us can be a blessing to the world.

HYMN #194

Faith Is a Forest

Words: Shelley Jackson Denham

Music: Chinese folk song, adapt. By I-toh Loh

Faith is a forest in which doubts play and hide;
insight can hear the still small voice deep inside.
Web of Life, may this thread I weave
strengthen commitment to all I believe.
Vision be my guide as I seek my way,
lead me into this tender day;
Speak through me in all I do and say.

Seeds of both meek and strong are scattered in air;
dignity shines undimmed by bigotry's glare.
Web of Life, may this thread I weave
Justice be my guide as I seek my way,
lead me into this tender day;
speak through me in all I do and say.

Fortune and famine ride the swift winds of chance;
sorrow and pleasure seem united in dance.
Web of Life, may this thread I weave
mingle compassion with all I believe.
Mercy be my guide as I seek my way,
lead me into this tender day;
speak through me in all I do and say.

READING

True God from True God

by Reza Aslan

MILESTONES

MEDITATION/PRAYER

INTERLUDE

God of Many Names

First Parish Choir

Words: Brian Wren, music: William P. Rowan

God of many names, gathered into one,
in your glory come and meet us, moving, endlessly becoming:
God of hovering wings, womb and birth of time,
joyfully we sing your praises, breath of life in every people,

(Chorus)

Hush, hush, halleluia, halleluia!
Shout, shout, halleluia, halleluia!
Sing, sing, halleluia, halleluia!
Sing God is love, God is love!

God of Jewish faith, Exodus and Law,
in your glory come and meet us, joy of Miriam and Moses:
God of Jesus Christ, rabbi of the poor,
joyfully we sing your praises, crucified, alive forever,

(Chorus)

God of wounded hands, web and loom of love,
in your glory come and meet us, Carpenter of new creation:
God of many names gathered into one,
joyfully we sing your praises, moving, endlessly becoming,

(Chorus)

SERMON The Christianities that Weren't Lauren Hannah-Murphy

HYMN #193 Our Faith Is but a Single Gem

Words: John Andrew Storey, music: The Southern Harmony, 1835

Our faith is but a single gem upon a rosary of beads;
the thread of truth which runs through them supports our varied human needs.

Confucian wisdom, Christian care, the Buddhist way of self-control,
the Muslim's daily call to prayer are proven pathways to the goal.

From many lips, in every age, the truth eternal is proclaimed
by Western saint, and Eastern sage, and all the good, however named.

Beside the noblest of our race our lives as yet cannot compare:
may we at length their truth embrace and in their sacred mission share.

OFFERTORY

Rev. Debra

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

Rev. Debra

Today's flowers are given by Valerie Tratnyek.

Please join us for coffee and conversation downstairs in the Parish Hall!

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!