



First Parish of
Sudbury

*Ignite your spirit
Nurture your values
Join our community*

A Welcoming Unitarian Universalist Congregation

What We Can Do for Religion Today

Sunday, March 29, 2026, 10 am

David Andrews

Many Different Beliefs.
One Welcoming Community.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michael Tyo

CENTERING TONE

PRELUDE

Rev. Debra Morris-Bennett

CALL TO WORSHIP

David Andrews

CHALICE LIGHTING

David Andrews

It's a good thing there are so many religions,
because there are so many different kinds of people.
– *The Dalai Lama*

HYMN #188

Come Come, Whoever You Are

Words: adapted from Rumi, Music: Lynn Adair Ungar

Come, come, whoever you are,
wanderer, worshiper, lover of leaving.
Ours is no caravan of despair.
Come, yet again come.

MILESTONES

Fran Sharp

MEDITATION/PRAYER

INTERLUDE

Come, Gather 'Round
by Hap Palmer

Rev. Debra and
Celia Hinrichs, soloist

Come gather 'round, come join us now,
Guided in freedom by reason and choice.
Come gather 'round, come join us now,
To value each person and hear every voice.

Come ye Pagans and Christians,
Hindus and Buddhists, Muslims and Jews,
And welcome, all nonbelievers:
Join in this colorful bouquet of views.

Come gather 'round, come join us now,
Respecting all life we stand unified.
Come enter now this sacred place,
Where freedom of thought will not be denied.

Come ye rebels and mavericks,
Questioning views you were long ago taught.
Welcome mystics and skeptics,
Wanderers, searchers, explorers of thought.

Come ye dreamers and doubters,
Seekers and searchers of beauty and grace.
Come ye evolving and changing:
If you're still growing you've found the right place.

Come gather 'round, come join us now,
Each guided in freedom by reason and choice.
Come gather 'round, come join us now,
To value each person and hear every voice. Hear every voice.

READING *

* Reading excerpted from "To the Officers of the First Brigade of the Third
Division of the Militia of Massachusetts" by John Adams, Oct. 1798

HYMN #1008

When Our Heart is in a Holy Place

Words & music: Joyce Poley, keyboard arr. by Lorne Kellett

Chorus:

When our heart is in a holy place,
When our heart is in a holy place,
We are bless'd with love and amazing grace,
When our heart is in a holy place.

When we trust the wisdom in each of us,
Ev'ry color ev'ry creed and kind,
And we see our faces in each other's eyes,
Then our heart is in a holy place.

Chorus

When we tell our story from deep inside,
And we listen with a loving mind,
And we hear our voices in each other's words,
Then our heart is in a holy place.

Chorus

When we share the silence of sacred space,
And the God of our Heart stirs within,
And we feel the power of each other's faith,
Then our heart is in a holy place.

Chorus

SERMON *What Can We Do for Religion Today?* David Anderson
Centered on a sermon by Rev. Holly Anne Lux-Sullivan

HYMN #159 *This Is My Song*
Words: Lloyd Stone, Music: Jean Sibelius, Tune: Finlandia

This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine,
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on clover-leaf and pine;
but other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
O hear my song, thou God of all the nations,
A song of peace for their land and for mine.

SHARE THE PLATE

*DMSN**

Sherri Cline

* fbo Domestic Violence Services Network

OFFERTORY

Be Ours a Religion

Words: Theodore Parker, Music: Thomas Benjamin

Rev. Debra and Celia Hinrichs, soloist

Be ours a religion
which like sunshine goes everywhere,
its temple all space,
its shrine the good heart,
its creed all truth,
its ritual works of love.

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

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 (office@fpsudbury.org) for assistance.

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Kristy Gish, Emarie Pope, Fred Pryor, Fran Sharp, Steve Smith

Thanks to today's Musicians

Milestones: Fran Sharp

Usher/Greeters: Tim Brainerd, Devik Wyman

Social hour: Martha Goodsill and Sheila Davison

Flowers:

RE/Nursery assistants: Nathan Marble, Martina Harutunian

Tech Help: Dave Andrews, Terry Lockhart, Michael Tyo

***Offering**

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