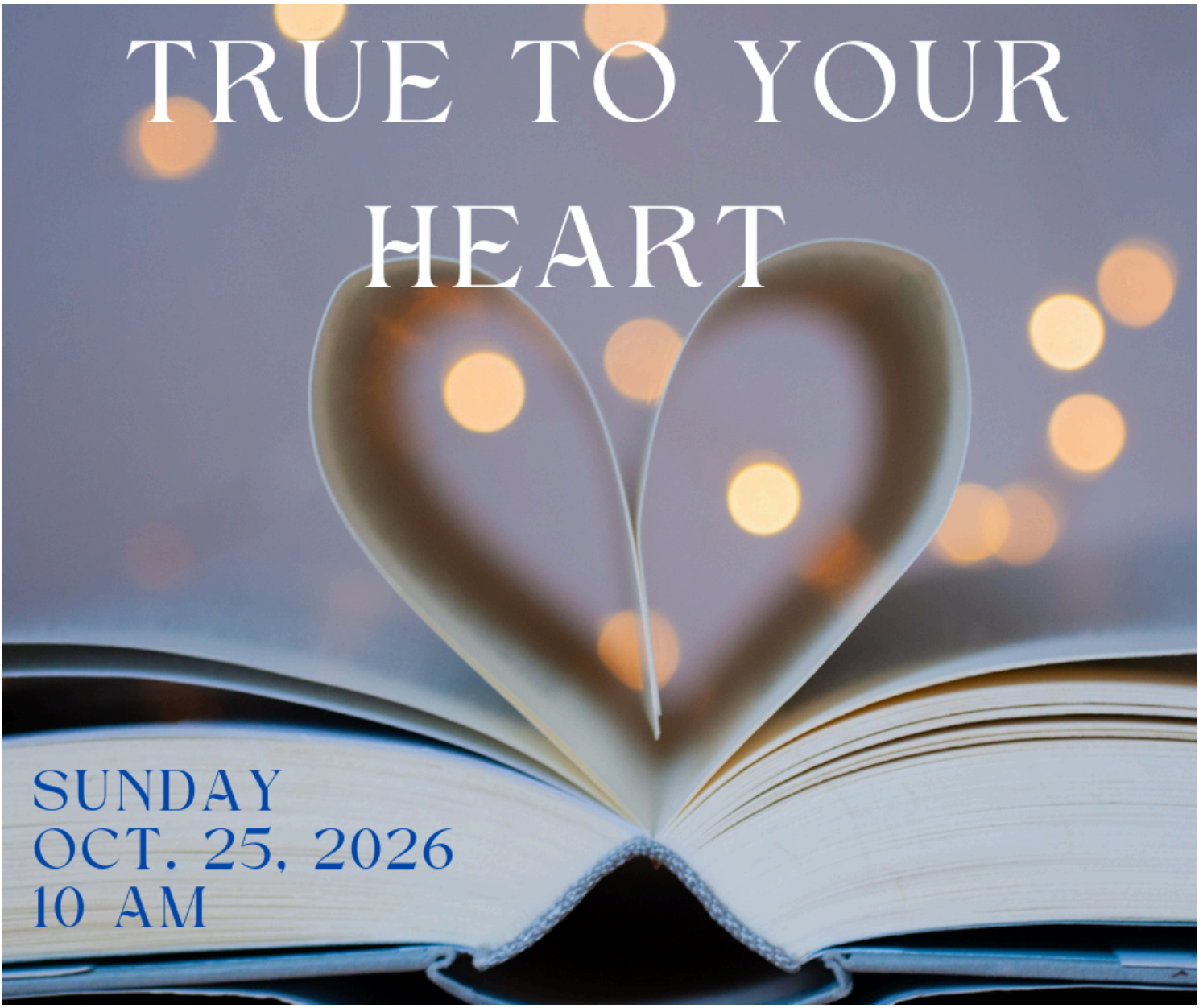
First Parish of Sudbury

Ignite your spirit
Nurture your values
Join our community

A Welcoming Unitarian Universalist Congregation



Aiden McMahon, Minister In Residence

Many Different Beliefs.

One Welcoming Community.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS — Aiden McMahon

CENTERING TONE

PRELUDE — Rev. Debra Morris-Bennett

CALL TO WORSHIP — *Some Questions You Might Ask* By Mary Oliver — Aiden McMahon

HYMN #1028 — *The Fire of Commitment*

words: Mary Katherine Morn; music: Jason Shelton

From the light of days remembered burns a beacon bright and clear
Guiding hands and hearts and spirits into faith set free from fear

<u>Chorus:</u>

When the fire of commitment sets our mind and soul a blaze
When our hunger and our passion meet to call us on our way
When we live with deep assurance of the flame that burns within
Then our promise finds fulfillment and our future can begin

From the stories of our living rings a song both brave and free
calling pilgrims still to witness to the life of liberty

Chorus

From the dreams of youthful vision comes a new, prophetic voice
which demands a deeper justice built by our courageous choice

Chorus

CHALICE LIGHTING — *A True Story* by Li Kynvi — Aiden McMahon

MILESTONES — Steve Smith

MEDITATION — Aiden McMahon

INTERLUDE *Something Told the Wild Geese* First Parish Choir

words: Rachel Field; music: Sherri Porterfield

Something told the wild geese it was time to go.
Though the fields lay golden, something whispered, "Snow."

Leaves were green and stirring. Berries luster glossed.
But beneath warm feathers something cautioned, "Frost".

All the sagging orchards steamed with amber spice.
But each wild beast stiffened at remembered ice.

Something told the wild geese it was time to fly.
Summer sun was on their wings. Winter, in their cry.

READING *How Good to Center Down* by Howard Thurman

HYMN #331 *Life Is the Greatest Gift of All*

words: William E. Oliver, adapt. by Waldemar Hille;
music: James Leith McBeth Bain, arr. by David Dawson

Life is the greatest gift of all the riches on this earth;
life and its creatures, great and small, of high and lowly birth:
so treasure it and measure it with deeds of shining worth.

Mind is the brightest gift of all, its thought no barrier mars;
it seeks creation's hidden plan, its quest surmounts all bars;
it reins the wind, it chains the storm, it weighs the outmost stars.

We are of life, its shining gift, the measure of all things;
up from the dust our temples lift, our vision soars on wings;
for seed and root, for flower and fruit, our grateful spirit sings.

MINISTER'S WORDS Aiden McMahon

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

OFFERTORY Rev. Debra

EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE All

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.

BENEDICTION — Aiden McMahon

POSTLUDE — Rev. Debra

Today's flowers are donated by Ginny Doxsey and Bruce Wilson,
Celebrating the lives of our parents:
Jack and Dottie Doxsey, Jack and Shirley Wilson.

Please join us for coffee and conversation 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!

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 or would like to speak to our minister, please feel free to contact our office for assistance.

Board of Trustees

Bill Aldrich, Steve Baker, Allison Goldfarb, Deb Mackey, Colin Warwick

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Treasurer: Colin Warwick; **Moderator**: Fred Pryor
Clerk: Alex Andrews; **CORI Administrator**: Fran Sharp

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Minister of Music: Rev. Debra Morris-Bennett (musicdir@fpsudbury.org)
Office Administrator: Randal Divinski (office@fpsudbury.org)

Pastoral Associates: Kristy Gish, Emarie Pope, Fred Pryor, Fran Sharp, Steve Smith

Thanks to Today's Helpers

Milestones: Steve Smith
Ushers/Greeters: Ginny Doxsey, Martha Goodsill
Social Hour: Bettie Rose, AnnMarie Lanza
Flowers: Ginny Doxsey and Bruce Wilson
Nursery/Childcare assistants: Nathan Marble, Martina Harutunian

***Offering**

By text message: Simply text 833-448-6403 with the amount you would like to give in the body of your text (over $3). We thank you for your generosity!