Order of Service

First Religious Society
Unitarian Universalist

26 Pleasant Street, Newburyport, MA







"Where love rules, there is no will to power;
and where power predominates, there love is lacking.
The one is the shadow of the other."

– Carl Jung

Sunday, February 14, 2021

Order of Service

February Ministry Theme: Love

GATHERING MUSIC Justin Murphy-Mancini
Pièces fugitives, Op.15
Clara Schumann

MINDFULNESS BELL

WELCOME TO THE SERVICE Justin Murphy-Mancini

CALL TO WORSHIP #610 The Journey of Love Rev. Stan Barrett

You are invited to respond with the italicized text.

Where in our hearts is that burning of desire?

It is true that we are made of dust and the world is also made of dust, but the dust has motes rising.

Whence comes that drive in us?

We look to the starry sky and love storms in our hearts.

Whence comes that storm?

The journey of love is a very long journey,

But sometimes with a sigh you can cross that vast desert.

Search and search again without losing hope;

You may find sometime a treasure on your way.

My heart and my eyes are all devoted to the vision.

CHALICE LIGHTING

We gather this hour as people of faith
With joys and sorrows, gifts and needs.
We light this beacon of hope,
Sign of our quest
For truth and meaning,
In celebration of the life we share together.

CANDLES OF PEACE *ALL* Peace, Salam, Shalom

CANDLE OF HOPE AND REMEMBRANCE

***HYMN** #95 There Is More Love Somewhere

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***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Love is the doctrine of this church,
The quest of truth is its sacrament,
And service is its prayer.
To dwell together in peace,
To seek knowledge in freedom,
To serve humankind in fellowship,
To the end that all souls shall grow into harmony with the Divine–
Thus do we covenant with each other and with God.

***DOXOLOGY**

From all that dwell below the skies
Let faith and hope with love arise;
Let beauty, truth and good be sung
Through every land, by every tongue.

OFFERTORY Adult Choir (video)

Many Waters
Daniel Pinkham

REFLECTION "The Honeymoon Effect" Lea Pearson (video)

COMMUNITY PRAYER OF SORROW AND JOY Rev. Barrett

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Barrett

READING Rev. Barrett

"Josie Robbins"
from *Love Is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times*
Bishop Michael Curry

MUSICAL INTERLUDE Justin Murphy-Mancini

Intermezzo
Betty Jackson King

SERMON "The Practice of Love" Rev. Barrett

Order of Service

***HYMN** #121 We'll Build a Land

***UNISON BENEDICTION**

May the Love which overcomes all differences,
Which heals all wounds,
Which puts to flight all fears,
Which reconciles all who are separated,
Be in us and among us now and always.

BLESSING Rev. Barrett

POSTLUDE Justin Murphy-Mancini

In dir ist Freude, BWV 615

This Week's Questions to Ponder, Discuss, and Hold...

1. What does it feel like to love? To be loved? Be as descriptive as you can in each case.
2. Think of a person whose love for you made you feel that way. Now think of a person (same or different person) you loved, and it made you feel that way. Let's say that love is not just feeling, but action: how did the loved one – you or the other – know they were loved?
3. Think of two or three activities, practices, causes, or values for which your feelings are such that you could call it "love." In each case, what does that love look like in action? How does each of these loves change your life?

Notes on today's music

This morning, the Adult Choir presents its first virtual anthem of 2021: a setting of a biblical text by UU composer **Daniel Pinkham** (1923-2006). Pinkham, a native of Lynn, MA, was a prolific composer, teacher, and director of music at King's Chapel in Boston for many years. This piece presents the words "Many waters cannot quench love," as a pungent and passionate canon for choir and piano. **Betty Jackson King** (1928-94) was a prominent Black teacher and composer; today's selection was originally written as a part of King's ***Nuptial Suite*** for organ, but can be used separately from its originally matrimonial context. **Clara Schumann** (1819-96) and her husband Robert had one of Classical music's great romances that was nonetheless full of trials and tribulations. Clara supported not only Robert during his mental decline and death but also her seven children by concertizing all over Europe. She was also a talented composer, as evidenced by today's excerpts from her **Vier flüchtige Stücke**, published in 1845. **Johann Sebastian Bach's** (1685-1750) set of chorale preludes *Das Orgelbüchlein* demonstrates many of the styles both of organ composition employed by Baroque composers. **In dir ist Freude**, BWV 615, expressed the joy of the hymn text through the use of excited leaping gestures in the pedal part.

About This Week's Guest Minister

The Rev. Stan Barrett, an Affiliate Minister of FRSUU, retired in 2018 after 15 years as a hospice chaplain with Care Dimensions (formerly Hospice of the North Shore). Before that, following his ordination in 1979, he spent a few years as a local church minister, then was a pastoral counselor in private practice for over a decade. Now he enjoys reading, study, making music, doing housework (believe it or not), and having more time for spiritual practices. He and his wife Leslie have one dog, Emma, an adorable (of course!) Welsh Springer Spaniel.

Notes on today's service

We use the **mindfulness bell** at the start of each service as an invitation to center ourselves and open our minds and hearts to worship. The bell is rung three times.

Candles of Peace

Each week we light these candles to represent two places on earth that especially need peace this week.

Candle Lighting for Joys and Concerns

Please feel free to light a candle of joy and concern before the service.

Today's Dedications

Today's flowers are given by Linda, Bob, and Will Fuller in loving memory of Bob's grandmother, Frances Bryant Fuller, and Linda's grandmother, Gladys Gammon Lindquist.

This week's steeple lighting is sponsored by the Fairweathers in loving memory of Oliver Fairweather, one of the sweetest beings who ever lived.

Shared Collection for February:

Half of this month's unpledged cash collection will go to the Massachusetts Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence. The Coalition brings together over 90 organizations across the state, including First Religious Society, to end the epidemic of gun violence by advocating for improved policies around gun safety and partnering with community organizations working to end violence in their neighborhoods.

THE JEAN C. WILSON MUSIC SERIES

SECOND OF FOUR VIRTUAL CONCERTS IN 2021 / 43rd SEASON

Gwen Krosnick

cello

Baroque Suite for unaccompanied cello (1965)
Dorothy Rudd Moore

Figment No. 1 for cello alone (1994)
Elliott Carter

Étude No. 15 for Unaccompanied Cello (1806)
Jean-Louis Duport

from Sonata No. 3 in C major, BWV 1005 for Solo Violin (1720)
J.S. Bach / Largo (transcr. Werner Icking)

amid fleeting pockets of billowing radiance (1990)
Jeffrey Mumford

from Partita No. 2 in D minor, BWV 1004 for Solo Violin (1720)
J.S. Bach / *Ciaccona* (transcr. Gwen Krosnick)



A VIRTUAL CONCERT

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021

4:00 P.M.

SUGGESTED DONATION $15.00 - Reserve a place at **bit.ly/WilsonSeries-2**

Connect & Engage: Here's What's Going On

Today:

Coffee Hour on Zoom following the service:

Join Zoom Meeting
https://zoom.us/j/81721801499?pwd=QU0zSW4vRUdDM29HZWM-5Z1AzY2pJUT09

Meeting ID: 817 2180 1499 / *Passcode:* 668856

Dial by phone: +1 929 205 6099

Wilson Music Series Concert: Gwen Krosnick, cello, 4pm

Livestream on YouTube from the sanctuary

This will be Gwen Krosnick's third appearance at the series. Her program will feature works by Bach, Duport, Servais, Piatti, and American composers Dorothy Rudd Moore, Elliott Carter, and Jeffrey Mumford.

To sign up for tickets: https://bit.ly/WilsonSeries-2

Thursday, February 18, Exploring Elderhood Together, 1-2:30pm, "Being Mortal"
Dr. Atul Gawande, a surgeon, writer, and public health leader known for his best-selling book *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End* says his own deep questions about doctoring at the end of life led him to write the book. We will watch and then break into small groups to discuss Gawande's rich and enlightening video about his quest for answers. Continue reading here.

The Jean C. Wilson Music Series 2021
The Jean C. Wilson Music Series will be virtual this year. We have single-concert sign-ups in place of our door contributions, using Eventbrite to manage donations at a suggested level of $15.00 plus a $3.00 Eventbrite charge. All concerts will be livestreamed on YouTube from the FRS sanctuary.

There are three remaining virtual concerts of soloists this year:

February 14, 4pm - Gwen Krosnick, cello

Sign up for tickets: https://bit.ly/WilsonSeries-2

February 28, 4pm - Raymond Hawkins, organ

Sign up for tickets: https://bit.ly/WilsonSeries-3

March 14, 4pm - Sylvia Berry, harpsichord

Sign up for tickets: https://bit.ly/WilsonSeries-4

Connect & Engage (cont.)

Vespers Readers Wanted
Do you like amusing or inspirational readings? Do you have some favorite essays or poetry to share? Consider being a reader at Jazz Vespers. Your participation would involve about four minutes of readings, followed by an invitation for the virtualaudience to join in silent meditation.

Jazz Vespers meets the first Wednesday of the month at 8 pm, not including summer break. The show is live in the sanctuary with the musical guests and guest reader as the only people (other than the film crew) present on site.

For more information contact: Cynthia Raschke at 978-807-4709.

Parish Friends now available to assist with making appointments for COVID-19 vaccinations

The process can be overwhelming if you are trying to accomplish it on your own, have no computer, have difficulty hearing, or are confused. You might simply need a little coaching to get you started or a partner for the whole application process. It is OK to seek support and our assembled team hopes you will. We are all learning together.
To request: Contact Susan Ricker at parishfriendsfrs@gmail.com or 978- 465-5235. You can also reach out to Julie Parker Amery at julie.amery@frsuu.org or 978- 465-0602, X403.

Parish Friends also continues to be available to drop off meals, run errands, assist with light chores, deliver a few groceries, provide short-term emergency pet care, and send cards.

More volunteers are welcome, from all ages and towns in our church community.

Weekday Programming on Zoom

Monday Night Meditation
When: Mondays, 6:30pm

Spiritual Practice with Julie Parker Amery
When: Tuesdays, 11am

Online Tuesday Short Story Group
When: First and Tuesdays, noon

Guided Relaxation with Susan Cooper
When: Wednesdays, 10am

Online Friday Book Group
When: Fridays, 10am

For more information about our programming and for meeting access details, see the latest Steeple newsletter.

First Religious Society
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

LGBTQ
Welcoming Congregation

Welcome to First Religious Society, Unitarian Universalist! We've been in the center of Newburyport since 1725. Our denomination has its roots in the Reformation of the 1500s; today we welcome all religious seekers. We invite you and your family to our virtual services at 10:30am on Sundays; children are welcome in our lively Young Church program.

Connect with Us!

Our website: www.frsuu.org

Our public Facebook page: facebook.com/frsuu/

Members/Friends Facebook page: facebook.com/groups/frsuu

Join our email list: www.frsuu.org/contact or info@frsuu.org

For information about Young Church: mara.flynn@frsuu.org

We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

DONATE TO FRSUU

Our Staff

Minister
Reverend Rebecca M. Bryan

Religious Education Assistant
Sharon Broll

Office Administrator
Diane Carroll

Youth Group Coordinator
Becky Dill

Director of Children's Ministry
Mara Flynn

Interim Director of Finance and Operations
Tom Himmel

Youth Music Director
Kristen Miller

Director of Church Music
Justin Murphy-Mancini

Director of Faith Formation and Spiritual Exploration
Julie Parker Amery

Sexton
Donny Rogers

Director of Congregational and Community Engagement
Cynthia Walsh

Affiliated Ministers

Reverend Stanton Barrett
Reverend Helen Murgida

Minister Emeritus

Reverend Harold Babcock

Other Staff

A/V Coordinator: Rob Close
Head Usher: John Mercer