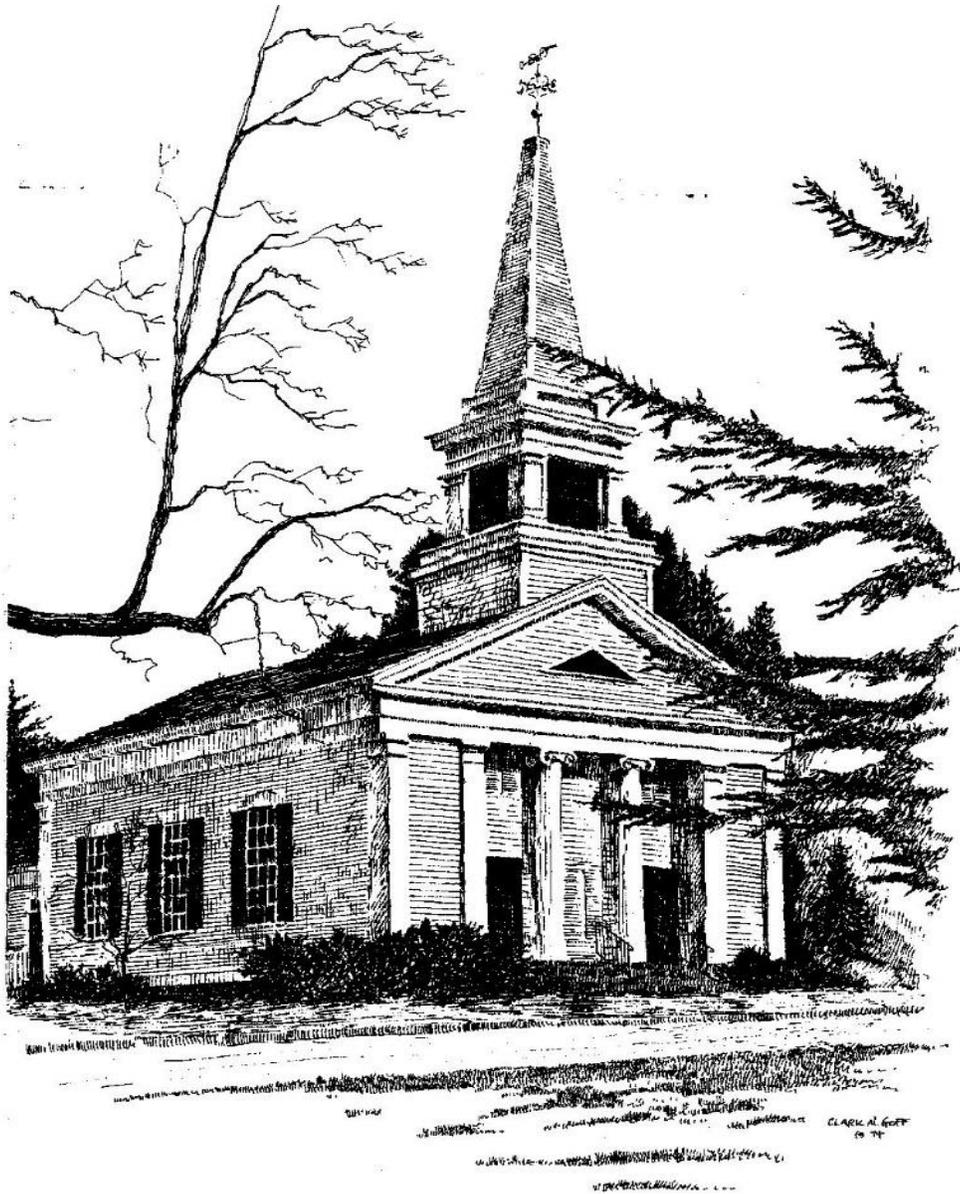


# THE FIRST PARISH IN LINCOLN

*An Open and Welcoming Church*



**Sunday, May 29, 2022 ❖ 10 a.m.**

# The First Parish in Lincoln

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**PRELUDE** Impromptu in Gb, opus 90 - Franz Schubert

**WELCOME** Gus Browne

**OPENING WORDS** In Troubled Times - Stephen Shick Gus Browne

Leader: From the loneliness of troubled times, we come  
*People: To discover that we are not alone.*  
Leader: Into the dwelling place of togetherness, we come  
*People: To collect remnants of hope.*  
Leader: From fear that all is lost, we come  
*People: To discover what will save us.*  
Leader: Into the comfort of each other's arms, we come  
*People: To feel the strength that has not yet vanished.*  
Leader: From darkness, we come  
*People: To wait until our eyes begin to see.*  
Leader: Into the refuge of fading dreams, we come  
*People: To remove illusions and focus new visions.*  
Leader: From despair that walks alone, we come  
*People: To travel together.*  
Leader: Into the dwelling place of generations, we come  
*All: To pledge allegiance to being peace and doing justice.*

**OPENING HYMN** "This Is My Song" (Grey 129)

**INVOCATION** Gus Browne

**COVENANT** Heather Ring

In the love of truth and in the spirit of Jesus  
We unite for the worship of God and the service of all

**FIRST READING** "Peace In The Heart" - Lao Tse Heather Ring

If there is to be peace in the world,  
There must be peace in the nations.  
If there is to be peace in the nations,  
There must be peace in the cities.

If there is to be peace in the cities,  
There must be peace between neighbors.  
If there is to be peace between neighbors,  
There must be peace in the home.  
If there is to be peace in the home,  
There must be peace in the heart

--Taoist philosopher, Lao-Tse, sixth century BCE.

**INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER**

Gus Browne

**PRAYER HYMN**

“Abide With Me” (Grey 101)

**SILENCE**

**COMMUNITY PRAYERS**

Gus Browne, Heather Ring, & James DeNormandie

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Heather Ring

**UNISON PRAYER**

A Network of Mutuality by Rev. M.L. King, Jr.

Heather Ring

We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied to a single garment of destiny.

Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.

There are some things in our social system to which all of us ought to be maladjusted.

Hatred and bitterness can never cure the disease of fear, only love can do that.

We must evolve for all human conflict a method which rejects revenge, aggression, and retaliation.

The foundation of such a method is love.

Before it is too late, we must narrow the gaping chasm between our proclamations of peace and our lowly deeds which precipitate and perpetuate war.

One day we must come to see that peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek but a means by which we arrive at that goal.

We must pursue peaceful ends through peaceful means.

We shall hew out of a mountain of despair, a stone of hope.

**OFFERTORY**

Gus Browne

**DOXOLOGY**

From all that dwell below the skies

Let the Creator’s praise arise

Let the Redeemer’s names be sung

Through every land by every tongue

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Gus Browne

**CHORAL ANTHEM** There's a Wideness in God's Mercy - Sarah Andrysiak, flute  
Calvin Hampton

**SECOND READING** "The Young Dead Soldiers: - Archibald MacLeish Gus Browne

Nevertheless they are heard in the still houses: who has not heard them?  
They have a silence that speaks for them at night and when the clock counts.  
They say, We were young. We have died. Remember us.

They say, We have done what we could but until it is finished it is not done.

They say, We have given our lives but until it is finished no one can know  
what our lives gave.

They say, Our deaths are not ours: they are yours: they will mean what you  
make them.

They say, Whether our lives and our deaths were for peace and a new hope or  
for nothing we cannot say: it is you who must say this.

They say, We leave you our deaths: give them their meaning: give them an  
end to the war and a true peace: give them a victory that ends the war and a  
peace afterwards: give them their meaning.

We were young, they say. We have died. Remember us.

**HOMILY**

"A Thought Experiment"

Dwight Gertz

**CLOSING HYMN**

"Eternal Father Strong To Save" (Red 429)

**OUR CALL TO MINISTRY**

Heather Ring

We go forth from the worship of God  
To be faithful to the vision of Jesus  
To affirm each person's dignity  
And to cherish the living earth.

**BENEDICTION**

Gus Browne

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Gus Browne

**POSTLUDE**

Enigma Variation #9 (Nimrod) - Edward Elgar



*We are an open and welcoming community church formed in 1942 by the union of the Congregational (1746) and Unitarian (1842) churches in Lincoln.*



Technology Team: Paris Parks  
Deacon: Gus Browne



*The First Parish in Lincoln*  
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