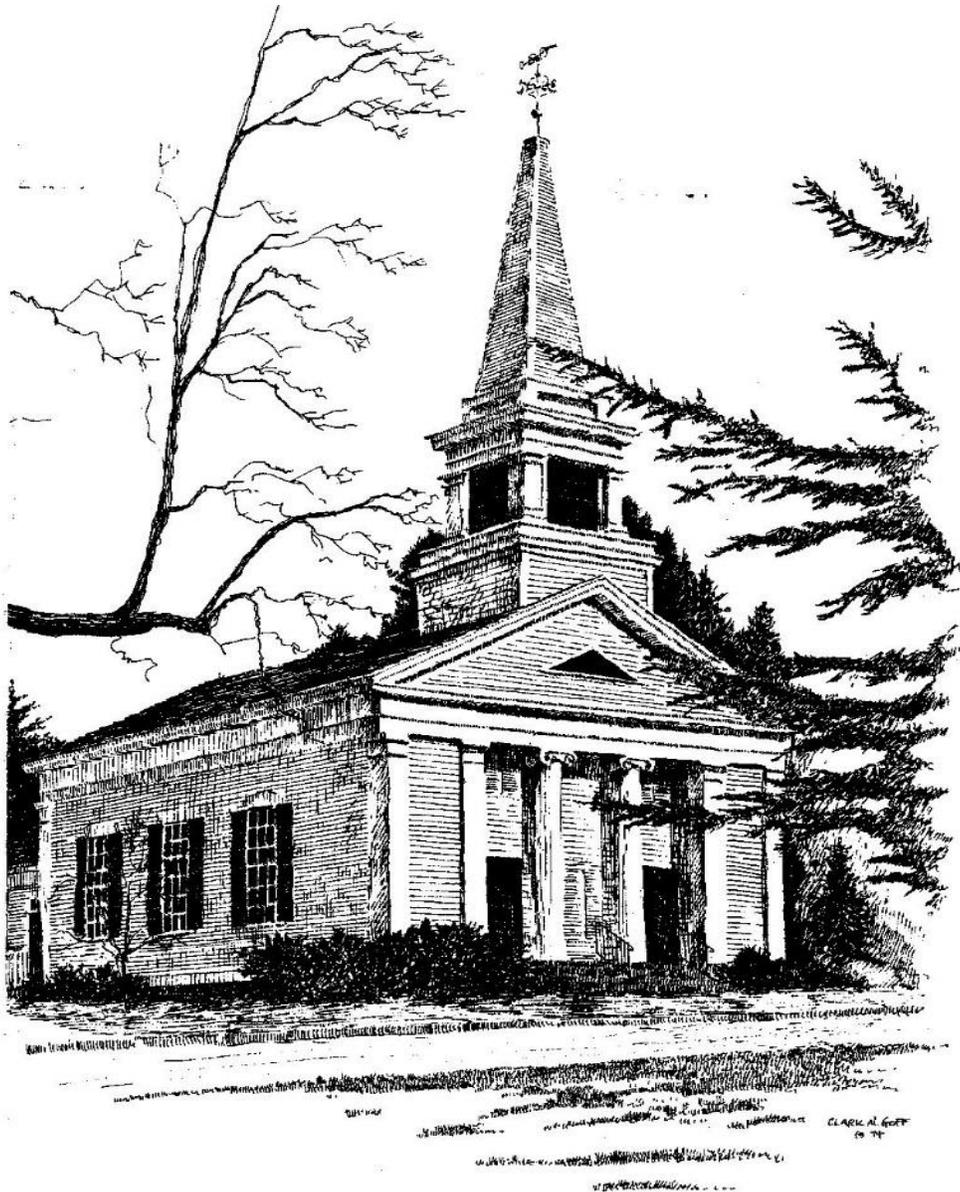


# THE FIRST PARISH IN LINCOLN

*An Open and Welcoming Church*



**Sunday, October 23, 2022 ❖ 10 a.m.**

**October's Worship Theme: The Fullness of Time**

# The First Parish in Lincoln

Sunday, October 23 ❖ 10 a.m.

*\*All are invited to rise in body or spirit.*

**PRELUDE** Fantasia Super: Komm, Heiliger Geist BWV 651 J.S. Bach

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**WELCOME** Rev. Nate Klug

**\*OPENING WORDS** Adapted from “The Four Quartets,” T.S. Eliot

Minister: What we call the beginning is often the end.

*People: And to make an end is to make a new beginning.*

Minister: We shall not cease from exploration.

*People: And the end of all our exploring...*

Minister: Will be to arrive where we started...

*All: And know the place for the first time.*

**\*OPENING HYMN** “Immortal, Invisible” (Gray #273)

**COVENANT**

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

**TIME FOR ALL AGES** Revs. Kit Novotny and Nate Klug

**SUNG RESPONSE** “This Little Light of Mine”

This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine...  
Everywhere I go, I’m gonna let it shine...

**FIRST READING** From Psalm 139

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.  
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.  
You search out my path and my lying down  
and are acquainted with all my ways.  
Even before a word is on my tongue,  
O Lord, you know it completely.  
You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.  
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain it.  
Where can I go from your spirit?

Or where can I flee from your presence?  
If I ascend to heaven, you are there;  
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.  
If I take the wings of the morning  
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,  
even there your hand shall lead me,  
and your right hand shall hold me fast.

...

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works;  
that I know very well.

My frame was not hidden from you,  
when I was being made in secret,  
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.

In your book were written  
all the days that were formed for me,  
when none of them as yet existed.

How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!

How vast is the sum of them!

I try to count them—they are more than the sand;

I come to the end—I am still with you.

**INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER**

Jane O'Rourke

**PRAYER HYMN** "When Our Heart Is in a Holy Place" (insert)

**SILENCE**

**COMMUNITY PRAYERS**

Rev. Nate Klug and Sarah Klockowski

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

Jane O'Rourke

**UNISON PRAYER** Adapted from "Becoming," by Qiyamah Rahman

It is that time and place to remember those  
who came through the long night to witness another sunrise.  
Time to hold to the steadfast hands and hearts and prayers  
of the ancestors that have brought us this far.  
Did you not know that this day would come?  
Did you not know that we would have to change places?  
Did you not know that just as our ancestors were delivered  
that you would also be delivered?  
Have you not seen the greatness and power  
of the Creative Energy in the Universe called God

that moves and has its being through human agency?  
Have you not seen God in your neighbors' faces?  
In the homeless? The trafficked child?  
The undocumented worker? The dispossessed?  
It is that time and that place to know that it is our turn,  
that we must leave a legacy for our children.  
And all the children. Amen.

**OFFERTORY** Dr. Who Theme - Rob Grainer

**\*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. Amen.

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**CHORAL ANTHEM** The Love of God Comes Close John Bell

**SECOND READING** From Human Liberation, by Letty Russell

In Jesus Christ, God has chosen to partner with us in our world and lives. That choice is known to us in "a memory of the future." We remember the story of God's love and live out that story, moving with hope in the promised future of New Creation. The other end of the story draws us into God's future and illuminates our present journey.

**SERMON** "Wibbly Wobbly, Timey Wimey Stuff" Rev. Nate Klug

**\*CLOSING HYMN** "Sing Out Praises for the Journey" (Gray #295)

**\*OUR CALL TO MINISTRY**

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**

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE** Go Lifted Up

**POSTLUDE** Prelude, Fugue and Chaconne Dietrich Buxtehude

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**RINGING OF THE BELL**



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



Today's Flowers are given by the Lemire Family in Loving Memory of Bob Lemire.



Livestream Coordinator: Paris Parks

We thank today's ushers for their service:

Rich Saffran, Gus Browne, and Paula Waterman.



First Parish is very excited to have completed the set up for Live streaming of worship services. We will stream and record in-person services going forward. We want to take this moment to advise our congregation that these recordings will be archived on YouTube.

Please speak to an usher should you have any concerns in this regard.



**If you are visiting**, we invite you to sign up for our weekly news brief and monthly newsletter to learn more about classes and events in our community. Sign up on our website – [www.fplincn.org](http://www.fplincn.org). You can also fill out a Virtual Connect Card using the QR Code to the right. We are glad you are here.





## This Week at First Parish

*The following programs are open to everyone. Drop in once or attend regularly. Come as you are and bring a friend if you'd like!*

*\*Details and Zoom links for our programs are available on our website and the News brief.*

### **Blessing of the Animals                      Sunday Oct 23, 4pm**

Rainbow Chairs in front of Church

Honoring the creatures in our care is one way we can cherish the living earth together. For the animal lovers among us, save the date for a short and sweet, family-friendly pet blessing service the afternoon of October 23rd. The service will be held outside on the front lawn, near the rainbow chairs, with guitar accompaniment by Bob Green. It is a great opportunity to invite your friends and neighbors! And if you've got a special animal you can't bring — maybe your pet doesn't play well with others, or you had a beloved pet you lost, or there's a wild bird you love to watch — please bring a photo to share! Stuffed animals also welcome.

### **Audre Lorde: Warrior Poet\* Monday, October 24th at 7pm**

Zoom only    Led by Sarah Klockowski

### **Weekly Meditation                      Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm**

Led by Joan Kimball and Ben Wells

If you would like up-to-date information, contact Joan Kimball at [selenejck@gmail.com](mailto:selenejck@gmail.com) to receive the weekly meditation emails.

### **Coffee & Compassion\* Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 9-10 am**

Join zoom meeting                      Led by Rev. Kit Novotny

Join Rev. Kit Novotny for a cup of coffee and a chance to connect heart-to-heart.

### **Sacred Texts\*                              Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 12-1pm**

Join zoom meeting                      Led by Sarah Klockowski

### **Quiet Walks                                      Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:30pm**

Led by Andy Falender and Jackie Lenth

### **Theology on Tap                              Friday Oct 28, 4:30-6pm**

Tack Room in Lincoln with Rev. Nate

Grab a soda or beer and join Nate as we talk about the idea of a saint. Just in time for Halloween (All Hallows Eve) and All Saints/All Souls Day, we'll review some of the wildly various notions of sainthood that different religions have put forward over time. What did Martin Luther mean when he said that everyone was "equally saint and sinner"? Who do you think of as a saint in your life – and why? No sainthood required to join the discussion, just a thirsty spirit!

## Upcoming Events

*Look ahead to some more events later this month*

### **Rally Rounds** (Fun, sociable, and important)

Sign up for a session online

In her inspired sermon on Rally Sunday, Rev. Kit referenced the etymology of the word “Rally”. In a nutshell, RALLY means to come together for a common act or effort.

As we come together and celebrate this exciting new chapter in the life of First Parish, the Launch Team will facilitate a series of small, informal group conversations designed to help us rally around our new co-ministers and our shared values.

The Rally (a) Rounds will be held in October and will take place outdoors and on ZOOM. We hope everyone will participate in this opportunity to connect with each other, widen our circles and rally (a)round FPL!

With gratitude from the Launch Team,  
Gina Halsted & Jane O’Rourke, Co-Chairs; Katy Hogue, Larry Buell, Gus Browne, and Sarah Andrysiak

### **RJA Conversation: How Racism Costs Everyone** Sunday, October 30, 11:15-12:30 Parish House with Heather McGee

Please join Racial Justice Advocates on Sunday October 30 after the service for a conversation: “How Racism Costs Everyone”, including a video interview with the author of The Sum of Us, Heather McGee, and a follow up conversation.

### **New Members Class** Sunday Nov 6, 11:15-12:30 Parish House Led by Rev. Kit & Rev. Nate

This is an exciting season for First Parish, and we’re planning to welcome a group of new members into our church family on November 20th in worship. If you would like to learn more about becoming a member, please join Kit and Nate for this informal class after worship on November 6th. We’ll hear a bit about each other’s spiritual journeys, learn about the unique history of First Parish, and talk about how the church works today. Those who joined the church last Easter, but may not have had a new members class, are also welcome!

*The First Parish in Lincoln*

[www.fplincn.org](http://www.fplincn.org)

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*Miranda Loud, Acting Music Director and Organist; [mirandaloud574@gmail.com](mailto:mirandaloud574@gmail.com)*

*Silvia Dieckow, Administrator; [silvia@fplincn.org](mailto:silvia@fplincn.org)*

❖ *Notes and Holy Doodles* ❖