

THE FIRST PARISH IN LINCOLN

An Open and Welcoming Church



*Jyoti Sahi (Indian, 1944–), Holding the Flame of Fire, 2005. Oil on canvas, 36 × 36 in.
Painted as a design for a stained-glass window for the entrance of Paripurnata Halfway Home in Kolkata, India.*

Sunday, May 28, 2023 ❖ 10 a.m.

“A Fire in My Bones”

The First Parish in Lincoln

Spring Worship Theme: Sacred Nature

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

PRELUDE

Komm, Heiliger Geist, BWV 651

J.S. Bach

Welcome! Please enjoy the prelude in a spirit of meditation.

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

Sarah Klockowski

***OPENING WORDS**

One: Divine Teacher, whirl around us with your wisdom!

Many: Divine Comforter, encircle us with your peace.

One: As the Holy Winds fill our lives with dreams,
empower us to live God's hope in this world.

**Many: As the Holy Fire fills our hearts with visions,
empower us to create a world of justice and peace.**

One: May the Spirit ever move us closer to the love of God.

All: Come, Holy Spirit. Renew us once again.

***OPENING HYMN**

O Spirit of the Living God, vs. 1-3

pages 4-5

INVOCATION & CANDLE LIGHTING

Sarah Klockowski

COVENANT

Dwight Gertz

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

SHARING OF THE PEACE

SUNG RESPONSE

This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine...

Everywhere I go...

FIRST READING

"Cædmon" by Denise Levertov

All others talked as if
talk were a dance.
Clodhopper I, with clumsy feet
would break the gliding ring.
Early I learned to
hunch myself
close by the door:

then when the talk began
I'd wipe my
mouth and wend
unnoticed back to the barn
to be with the warm beasts,
dumb among body sounds
of the simple ones.

I'd see by a twist
of lit rush the motes
of gold moving
from shadow to shadow
slow in the wake
of deep untroubled sighs.
The cows
munched or stirred or were still. I
was at home and lonely,
both in good measure. Until
the sudden angel affrighted me —
light effacing

my feeble beam,
a forest of torches, feathers of
flame, sparks upflying:
but the cows as before
were calm, and nothing was
burning,
nothing but I, as that hand of fire
touched my lips and scorched my
tongue
and pulled my voice
into the ring of the dance.

INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER

PRAYER HYMN She Is the Spirit

pages 5-6

SILENCE

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Dwight Gertz

UNISON PRAYER Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love, where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled, as to console, to be understood, as to understand,
to be loved, as to love; for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. *Amen.*

OFFERTORY Variations on Veni Creator Spiritus Maurice Duruflé

***DOXOLOGY**

From all that dwell below the skies let the Creator's praise arise.
Let the Redeemers' names be sung through every land by every tongue. Amen.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

We give thanks for both these gifts and the givers, and we ask that we may
use these gifts wisely and well, both to nurture the life of this congregation
and to further the goals of justice and peace throughout the world.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Sing We and Chaunt It

Robert Pearsall

SECOND READING

Acts 2:1-4

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

SERMON

A Fire in My Bones

Sarah Klockowski

***CLOSING HYMN**

Come Down, O Love Divine

Gray #271

***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** You Shall Go Out with Joy

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace
The mountains and the hills will break forth before you
There'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field
Will clap, will clap their hands
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands
The trees of the field will clap their hands
The trees of the field will clap their hands
While you go out with joy

ANNOUNCEMENTS**POSTLUDE**

Finale (Veni Creator Spiritus)

Maurice Duruflé

**Feel free to depart or remain seated during our postlude.*



We thank today's ushers, Gus Browne, Corey Flint, and Ginny Welles.


This week's flowers are given by Laura Protzman, in loving memory of her nephew, Brian Gallagher.

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


O Spirit of the Living God

Acts 2:1-4, 17-21


Henry Hallam Tweedy, 1933; alt.




1 O Spir - it of the liv - ing God, pure Light and Fire Di -
 2 Blow, Wind of God! With wis - dom blow, dis - perse and put to
 3 Teach us to ut - ter liv - ing words of truth which all may
 4 So shall we know the power of Christ, the strength of love to



vine: burn bright - ly in your church once more, its life and
 flight the mists of er - ror, clouds of doubt which hide you
 hear, the lan - guage all can un - der - stand when love speaks
 save, so shall we rise with Christ to life which soars be -



faith re - fine, Fill it with love and joy and power, with
 from our sight. Burn, Wing - ed Fire! In - spire our lips, re -
 loud and clear; Till ev - ery na - tion, age, and race shall
 yond the grave; And earth shall win true ho - li - ness, which



rig - teous - ness and peace, till Christ shall dwell in
 new in us your call to preach with zeal your
 blend their creeds in one, and all to - geth - er
 makes your chil - dren whole, and draws us on by

hu - man hearts, and sin and sor - row cease.
 great good news: God's love ex - tends to all.
 use their gifts to see your will is done.
 grace to reach cre - a - tion's glo - rious goal!



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She Is the Spirit

Unison

Em Bm7 Em Bm7 Em

1. She sits like a bird,
 (2. She) wings o - ver earth,
 (3. She) danc - es in fire,
 (4. For) she is the Spir-it,

Am B7 Em

brood-ing on the wa-ters. Hov'-ring on the cha-os of the
 rest-ing where she wish-es, light-ing close at hand or soar-ing
 start-ling those who see her, wak-ing tongues of ec-sta-sy where
 one with God in es-sence, gift-ed by the Sav-ior in e -

Am B7 Am7 D7

world's first day; she sighs and she sings,
 through the skies; she nests in the womb,
 dull-ness reigned; she weans and in-spires
 ter-nal love; she is the key



Gmaj7 Cmaj7 Fmaj7 Am7

moth-er - ing cre - a - tion, wait-ing to give birth to all the
wel - com - ing each won - der, nour-ish - ing po - ten - tial hid - den
all whose hearts are o - pen, nor can she be cap - tured, si - lenced
o - pen - ing the scrip - tures, en - e - my of ap - a - thy and

B7 Em Bm7 Em Bm7 Em Bm7 Em Bm7 E

1, 2, 3 4

Word will say. 2. She
to our eyes. 3. She
or re - strained. 4. For
heav'n - ly dove.



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. You can also fill out a Virtual Connect Card using the QR Code to the right. We are glad you are here.



We will be streaming this service and it will be archived on YouTube. Please speak to an usher should you have any concerns in this regard.



This Week at First Parish & Upcoming Events

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.*

20s/30s Brunch

The Tack Room, Lincoln

TODAY: Sunday, May 28th, after worship

All young adults (20s/30s-ish!) are invited to join Sarah K. and friends for brunch!

Weekly Meditation

Tuesday, May 30th, 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 to receive the weekly meditation emails.

Kids Game/Craft Night (& Parent BBQ)

Wednesday, May 31st, at 5 pm

Drop off kids ages 3+ up the hill in the Parish House at 5pm, & head down to the Stearns deck for some grown up time & BBQ! Kids will enjoy pizza and games & will head down the hill for popsicles at 6:45pm. This event is a celebration of our amazing community! It's free of charge, but please RSVP by 5/29.

Budget Presentation FY 2023/24

Wednesday, May 31st, at 7 pm

Zoom

Prior to the annual meeting, our Treasurer, John Krzywicki, will do an in-depth presentation of the proposed budget for fiscal year 2024. There will be ample time for questions after the presentation, so if you want a deep dive into next year's budget, join the Zoom meeting on Wednesday, May 31 at 7pm. Link in last week's News Brief.

Quiet Walks

Friday, June 2nd, at 1:30 pm

Led by Andy Falender and Jackie Lenth

The Forum | Transgender & Nonbinary Inclusion

Next Sunday, June 4th, after worship

Stearns Room

Join us for part two of a series led by Sarah Klockowski. Together we will seek to better understand what it means to be transgender and/or nonbinary, including what these terms mean. If this conversation is new to you, please know you are welcome! Watch part one on our website.

We will also begin to think about practical steps we as a church can take to welcome and affirm trans and nonbinary people into the full life of our congregation, including a potential amendment to strengthen the inclusion of our church's Open & Welcoming Statement.

Installation Service for the Revs. Kit Novotny and Nate Klug Sunday, June 11 at 4pm

After a full first year with us at FPL, Nate and Kit will be *formally* installed as our Co-Ministers in a ceremony that both affirms their call to our church and acknowledges the covenantal relationship between and among us all. Nate and Kit's friends, families, and colleagues are invited—and so is our entire congregation!

The Installation ceremony will take place in our Sanctuary on that last Sunday, June 11, at 4:00 p.m., and a reception will follow out on the lawn (weather permitting!). We hope **EVERYONE** will be able to attend this wonderful celebration! Save the date!

The First Parish in Lincoln

www.fplincn.org

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David Eric, Livestream Coordinator