



FIRST PARISH IN LINCOLN

an open and welcoming community church



“Winter Solstice | Readings with Celtic Music”

December 21, 2025 at 4:30pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025

WINTER SOLSTICE

Give Online! Scan the QR code and select "Give to Special Offering - Christmas: PAIR" to contribute toward our Christmas Offering. This year the entirety of our Christmas Offering is dedicated to the **Political Asylum / Immigration Representative Project (PAIR)**. PAIR is the leading provider of pro bono immigration legal services to asylum-seekers and immigrants unjustly detained in Massachusetts.



WELCOME

Rev. Nate Klug

READINGS WITH CELTIC MUSIC

Nina MacLaughlin is the author of *Wake, Siren: Ovid Resung* (FSG Originals), as well as *Summer Solstice* and *Winter Solstice* (Black Sparrow), winner of the Massachusetts Book Award. Formerly an editor at the *Boston Phoenix*, she worked for nine years as a carpenter, and then as a books columnist for the *Boston Globe*, and her column on New England Literary News continues in newsletter form. She lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Erin Shea Hogan possesses an angelic and soulful soprano suited to devotional music, ensemble singing, cross-genre collaboration, and folk song. She looks forward to a lifetime of exploring the depths of her creative voice as a musician and community builder, working with Vivid Oblivion, an interdisciplinary arts venue and space for emerging spiritualities in Cambridge, MA to curate Kindred (@k.i.n.d.r.e.d), a gathering experience for people to engage with the divine at the intersection of mindfulness and the arts. She performs regularly with Celtic guitarist, multi-instrumentalist and composer Adam Hendeby and the new four-woman group, Forsyth.

Adam Hendeby is a multi-instrumentalist, vocalist, and composer living in Boston, Massachusetts. Known for his sense and skill as a sought-after accompanist in the city's vibrant traditional music communities, Adam is available for private and group instruction, professional collaborations, and commissions for new music in Boston and beyond. Adam is a graduate of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, where he studied Traditional Music as a master's student, and the Robert D. Clark Honors College at the University of Oregon, where he finished with bachelor's degrees in music and philosophy.



INTRODUCTION TO RITUAL

Sarah Klockowski

CALLING IN THE DIRECTIONS

After each direction is called:

Bless our Circle this Solstice Eve!

OPENING CHANT

The Earth, the Air, the Fire, the Water

Libana

The earth, the air, the fire, the water
Return, return, return, return
aye, aye, aye, aye, ayo, ayo, ayo, ayo

ABBOTS BROMLEY HORN DANCE

After the dance, you are invited to follow the dancers and musicians outside and gather around the fire for the conclusion to our solstice ritual.

READING

“Winter Solstice” | James A. Pearson

Sarah Andrysiak

SILENCE & SHARING

BURNING OF THE YULE LOG

Winter Solstice Round

Libana

CLOSING CHANT

Rise Up O Flame

Christopher Praetorius, 16th c. Germany

1. Rise up O flame, 2. By thy Light glow - ing, 3. By thy Light glow - ing, 4. By thy Light glow - ing,
Bring to us beau - ty, vi - sion and joy.

BENEDICTION

Sarah Klockowski

*You are invited to join us for mulled cider and revelry in the Stearns Room! And come back on Wednesday for one of our **Christmas Eve** services at 4pm (Family Service), 8pm, or 10pm.*

Ushers: Barbara O'Neil

Yule Log: Nancy Henderson

Hospitality: Sarah Andrysiak, Jen Legg Gabel, Julie McVeigh, Jane O'Rourke

Values & Vision

NURTURING SPIRITUALITY

To be a spiritual home for individuals from diverse faith backgrounds where each person can find help and inspiration to foster personal growth on their own journey while in community with others.

BUILDING COMMUNITY

To be an open and inclusive community that learns to trust and work with each other as we celebrate, grieve, grow, support, and serve together.

PURSUING JUSTICE

To be a source of hope and positive impact in our communities, our region and beyond by affirming the dignity of all peoples and caring for the living earth.



Open & Welcoming

First Parish is an Open and Welcoming community church, affirming the dignity of all people. We welcome all persons to full participation and belonging regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, economic status, age, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

Having fulfilled the requirements to be recognized as an Open and Affirming Congregation (UCC) and Welcoming Congregation (UUA), First Parish is intentional about celebrating the presence and participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer persons in all aspects of congregational life, fully and without qualification.

Contact OandW-TF@fplincoln.org for more information.

FIRST PARISH IN LINCOLN

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