

The First Parish in Portland, Maine

*Living our mission to Nurture the Spirit,
Grow in Community, and Help Heal the World*

January 6, 2019 10:00 AM

Ingathering Music *Improvisation* Terje Tuttle, Organ

Ring the Bell Moe Blanchard

Welcome Rev. Christina Sillari

Prelude *If Music Be the Food of Love* Christie Paul,
H. Purcell Soprano

Opening Words Rev. Christina Sillari

****Opening Hymn #18** *What Wondrous Love*

Chalice Lighting & Covenant

*Love is the doctrine of this church
The quest for truth is our sacrament
And service is our prayer
This is our great covenant,
To dwell together in peace,
To seek truth in love,
And to help one another
To the end that all souls shall grow
Into harmony with the divine.*

Membership Ceremony Janet Robinson and Dee Pecoraro

*We welcome and affirm you with joy into the life of this
congregation.
We promise you our support and our prayers as we share
In the hopes and labors of this liberal church.
In the bonds of friendship and love, we unite
To cultivate reverence,
To promote spiritual growth and ethical commitment,
To minister to each other's needs and to those of humanity,
To celebrate the sacred moments of life's passage,
And to honor the holiness at the heart of being.
We welcome you to this community with all our hearts.*

Singing the Children Out

*We will keep a place for you wherever you may go.
We'll sustain this home of faith and love you've come to know.
Go in peace! Bring hope to hearts that yearn.
We will keep a place for you 'till you return.*

Contemplation Rev. Christina Sillari

Centering Hymn #123 *Spirit of Life*

Sermon *The Struggle of Love* Rev. Christina Sillari

****Closing Hymn #346** *Come, Sing a Song With Me*

Offertory *The Gift of Love* First Parish Choir
arr. by H. Hopson

****Congregational Response (Sing 'Twice)**

*From you I receive, to you I give,
Together we share, and from this we live.*

****Closing Words** Rev. Christina Sillari

**** Unison Benediction & Extinguishing the Chalice**

*We extinguish this Flame, but not the Light of Truth,
the Warmth of Community, or the Fire of Commitment.
These we carry in our hearts, until we are together again.*

Announcements Sarah Collins

Postlude *Improvisation on Love Divine* Terje Tuttle, Organ

****Standing in body and/or spirit.**

*We invite you to light a candle of Joy or Sorrow
on either side of the Meeting House during any of the hymns.
Please turn off cell phones and refrain from taking photographs
and wearing fragrance during service.
Thank you.*

Church Staff and Board Members

Minister

The Reverend Christina M. Sillari

Minister Emeritus

The Reverend Fred Lipp

Congregational Administrator

Sheila Sullivan

Director of Religious Exploration

Toben Cooney-Callnan

Membership Coordinator

Dee Pecoraro

Music Director

Scott Wheatley

Sexton

Moe Blanchard

Worship Committee

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Sarah Collins

Gary Desrochers

Laurie Hasty

Dirane Kelekyan

Cecily Merrill

Jenna Nunziato

Sally Waite

Irv Williams

Faith in Action Team

Chair: Marianne Hill

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Unitarian Universalist

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The Struggle of Love
Rev. Christina Sillari

Sarah Collins - Worship Weaver

