



April 5, 2026
They Wouldn't Believe the Women

“(The women) related their story to the Apostles; but their story seemed nonsense to them, so they refused to believe the women.”
Luke 24:11

Worship Leader: Rev. Nannene Gowdy
Worship Musician: Liz Cardenas
Worship Assistant: Brita Learned

The First Parish Church in Billerica, Unitarian Universalist
On the Common - Billerica, Massachusetts

WELCOME

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHALICE LIGHTING

Life is a gift for which we are grateful.
We gather in community to celebrate the glories
And the mysteries of this great gift.

OPENING WORDS

Wild Geese
by Mary Oliver

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Love is the doctrine of this church. The quest of truth is its sacrament, and service is its prayer. To dwell together in peace, to seek knowledge in freedom, to serve humanity in fellowship, to the end that all souls shall grow into harmony with the Divine: thus do we covenant with each other and with God.

STORY FOR ALL AGES

Daffodowndilly
by A.A. Milne

SINGING OUT THE CHILDREN

Go Now In Peace
#413 in Singing the Living Tradition

CANDLES OF JOY AND CONCERN

PIANO INTERLUDE

READING

Mark 16:1-8 and Luke 24: 1-11

SERMON

They Didn't Believe the Women

*The church has a tradition of facing outward during the Closing Hymn
as a sign of going forth to live our religion.*

HYMN

We Laugh, We Cry
#354 in *Singing The Living Tradition*

EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

Words by Elizabeth Selle Jones

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

BENEDICTION

All Truth Passes Through 3 Stages
by Arthur Schopenhauer

POSTLUDE

*Please join us downstairs in the Parish Hall for our First Sunday monthly
potluck lunch and conversation immediately following the service.*

There will also be an Easter Egg hunt this morning after service.

**FIRST PARISH CHURCH
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST**

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As Unitarian Universalists, we covenant, congregation-to-congregation and through our Association, to support and assist one another in our ministries. We draw from our heritages of freedom, reason, hope, and courage, building on the foundation of love. Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values. We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love. Inseparable from one another, these shared values are: Interdependence, Equity, Transformation, Pluralism, Generosity, and Justice.