Each Challenger chose an item to represent themselves in today's cover art. Can you guess which object represents which Challenger?
Order of Service
Challenge Sunday

Introit

Well, I won't back down
No, I won't back down
You can stand me up at the gates of hell
But I won't back down

No, I'll stand my ground
Won't be turned around
And I'll keep this world from draggin' me down
Gonna stand my ground
And I won't back down

(I won't back down) Hey, baby
There ain't no easy way out
(I won't back down) Hey, I
Will stand my ground
And I won't back down

Well, I know what's right
I got just one life
In a world that keeps on pushin' me around
But I'll stand my ground
And I won't back down

(I won't back down) Hey, baby
There ain't no easy way out
(I won't back down) Hey, I
Will stand my ground
(I won't back down) And I won't back down

(I won't back down) Hey, baby
There ain't no easy way out
(I won't back down) Hey, I
Won't back down

(I won't back down) Hey, baby
There ain't no easy way out
(I won't back down) Hey, I
Will stand my ground
(I won't back down) And I won't back down
(I won't back down) No, I won't back down

Words of Welcome

Lincoln McHam
Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn: Fire of Commitment

Keith Kirchoff

From the light of days remembered burns a beacon bright and clear
Guiding hands and hearts and spirits Into faith set free from fear.

When the fire of commitment sets our mind and soul ablaze
When our hunger and our passion meet to call us on our way
When we live with deep assurance of the flame that burns within
Then our promise finds fulfillment and our future can begin.

From the stories of our living rings a song both brave and free
Calling pilgrims still to witness to the life of liberty.

When the fire of commitment sets our mind and soul ablaze
When our hunger and our passion meet to call us on our way
When we live with deep assurance of the flame that burns within
Then our promise finds fulfillment and our future can begin.

From the dreams of youthful vision comes a new, prophetic voice
Which demands a deeper justice built by our courageous choice.

When the fire of commitment sets our mind and soul ablaze
When our hunger and our passion meet to call us on our way
When we live with deep assurance of the flame that burns within
Then our promise finds fulfillment and our future can begin.

Unison Chalice Lighting

Rachel Harriet Mark

Nos entregamos y nos comprometemos a caminar juntos como congregación, prometiendo con mucha fe cuidarnos mutuamente y deleitarnos en el amor que permanecerá entre nosotros.

We give ourselves one unto another, covenanting to walk together as a congregation, promising faithfully to watch over one another, and to delight for love to abide in our midst. 1717 Covenant (adapted)

Candles of Peace and Hope

Alfred Brownell Jr & Ella James Grossman

Time for All Ages

Ella James Grossman & Ginny Moreman

Spoken Prayer and Silent Meditation

Jen Guillemin
Anthem 

*Hallelujah* (Leonard Cohen, arr. Pentatonix) Chamber Choir; video editing by Keith Kirchoff

Now I've heard there was a secret chord
That David played, and it pleased the Lord
But you don't really care for music, do you?
It goes like this, the fourth, the fifth
The minor fall, the major lift
The baffled king composing Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Your faith was strong but you needed proof
You saw her bathing on the roof
Her beauty and the moonlight overthrew you
She tied you to a kitchen chair
She broke your throne, and she cut your hair
And from your lips she drew the Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

You say I took the name in vain
I don't even know the name
But if I did—well, really—what's it to you?
There's a blaze of light in every word
It doesn't matter which you heard
The holy or the broken Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

I did my best, it wasn't much
I couldn't feel, so I tried to touch
I've told the truth, I didn't come to fool you
And even though it all went wrong
I'll stand before the Lord of Song
With nothing on my tongue but Hallelujah

Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah

*Instigating Hope - Challenger Conversation* Ginny, Lincoln & Rachel
Jane Hoey contributed her compassion, time, talent, and spirit to the Challenge Program for many years. This is in memory of a woman that we love and appreciate, and whose memory lives on.

Jane was a treasured friend of many at First Parish and served in numerous leadership positions here before her death in 2013. She served as Parish Committee Chair, led the initiative for First Parish becoming a Welcoming Congregation, and generally engaged us with her infectious laughter. She was smart, funny, charming, and totally devoted to First Parish. If something needed doing Jane was always there. One of the experiences she loved most was being a mentor in the Challenge Program.

After her death a fund was established by contributions from friends and family to preserve her memory within Jane’s beloved First Parish community. The Parish Committee voted to include this fund in a permanent part of the managed endowment fund of First Parish.

Proceeds are distributed annually to support programs at First Parish with an emphasis on youth in keeping with the guidelines of the fund’s charter approved by the Parish Committee.

It is hoped that this will inspire youth to follow Jane’s example of selfless service to others and to her community.

Today’s collection will support the Jane Hoey Fund and a cause selected by this year’s Challengers. You can write a check to First Parish in Brookline and put Jane Hoey Fund in the memo line or you can contribute by contacting the church office or either of the Trustees.

·     Jeff Cadow  jcadow@hotmail.com
·     Jack Smith  jclmsmith@hotmail.com

This year’s Challenge class chose to designate healthdisparity.org as the fund’s recipient.

Their Mission: The alleviation of health disparities in low income and minority communities must be led by students and youth. Education is a vital tool for eliminating disparities. Our non-profit harnesses the power of education by visiting schools in communities affected by disparities, and providing free education to students on health and disease in their neighborhoods.

Our flagship program is presenting a lecture to the student body on health disparities, called TALKS (Talking and Learning about Kommunity with Students). Following these lectures is a peer to peer conversation about the topic of healthy living and awareness of preventative measures.
Offertory

Laurie’s Song (Aaron Copland)  Elizabeth McIntire & Keith

Once I thought I’d never grow tall as this fence
Time dragged heavy and slow

But April came and August went
Before I knew just what they meant
And little by little I grew
And as I grew I came to know
How fast the time could go

Once I thought I’d never go outside this fence
This space was plenty for me

But I walked down the road one day
And just happened I can’t say
But little by little it came to be
That line between the earth and sky
Came beckoning to me

Now the time has grown short
The world has grown so wide

I’ll be graduated soon
Why am I strange inside?

What makes me think I’d like to try
To go down all those roads beyond that line
Above the earth and ‘neath the sky?

Tomorrow when I sit upon
The graduation platform stand
I know my hand will shake
When I reach out to take that paper
With the ribboned band

Now that all the learning’s done
O who knows what will now begin?

O it’s so strange
I’m strange inside

The time has grown so short
The world so wide
*Hymn of Preparation*  
*Happy (Pharell Williams)*  
Emily Wheeler

It might seem crazy what I'm about to say  
Sunshine she's here, you can take a break  
I'm a hot air balloon that could go to space  
With the air, like I don't care, baby, by the way

(Because I'm happy)  
Clap along if you feel like a room without a roof  
(Because I'm happy)  
Clap along if you feel like happiness is the truth  
(Because I'm happy)  
Clap along if you know what happiness is to you  
(Because I'm happy)  
Clap along if you feel like that's what you wanna do

Here come bad news, talking this and that (Yeah!)  
Well, give me all you got, don't hold it back (Yeah!)  
Well, I should probably warn you I'll be just fine (Yeah!)  
No offense to you  
Don't waste your time, here's why

Bring me down  
Can't nothing bring me down  
My level's too high to bring me down  
Can't nothing bring me down, I said

Sermon  
Laci Lee Adams, DRE

*Closing Hymn*  
*Blue Boat Home*  
Keith

Though below me I feel no motion  
Standing on these mountains and plains  
Far away from the rolling ocean  
Still my dry land heart can say  
I've been sailing all my life now  
Never harbor nor port have I known  
The wide universe is the ocean I travel  
And the Earth is my blue boat home

Sun, my sail and moon, my rudder  
As I ply the starry sea  
Leaning over the edge in wonder  
Casting questions into the deep  
Drifting here with my ship's companions  
All we kindred pilgrim souls  
Making our way by the lights of the heavens
In our beautiful blue boat home

I give thanks to the waves upholding me
Hail the great winds urging me on
Greet the infinite sea before me
Sing the sky my sailor’s song
I was born upon the fathoms
Never harbor or port have I known
The wide universe is the ocean I travel
And the Earth is my blue boat home
The wide universe is the ocean I travel
And the Earth is my blue boat home

Extinguishing the Chalice

Unison Affirmation
We extinguish this flame and not the light of truth,
The warmth of community or the fire of commitment.
These we carry with us and offer as gifts onto the world

Benediction

Postlude

* You are invited to stand, as you are able, at times in the service marked with an asterisk.

Announcements

Especially for Visitors and New Folks

Welcome to our virtual First Parish! We want to provide you with all the resources to take advantage of what technology allows us to offer. If you'd like, for example, our newsletter, event updates, or to talk to our minister, please share your contact information with us by emailing our administrator Alisa at alisa@firstparishinbrookline.org.

If you have children, please include that information so that our Director of Religious Exploration, Laci Adams at laci@firstparishinbrookline.org, can be in touch regarding gatherings for children and youth.

Eliza Blanchard, on behalf of the Welcoming and Membership Co.
Virtual Coffee Hour
Each Sunday immediately following Worship

Join us for Virtual Coffee Hour, immediately following the Worship Service on Zoom at https://zoom.us/j/524871087. You can also access this at our website www.firstparishinbrookline.org if you have any challenges.

RE Meet-Up
Sunday at 1:00pm

All children and youth are welcome and encouraged to join our Director of Religious Exploration, Laci, each Sunday afternoon at 1:00pm here: https://zoom.us/j/721964958

Book Club Meets June 7 to Discuss Stardust

Our book for June 7 is Neil Gaiman's Stardust, a short, graphic novel with fantastic (in the literal sense of the word) art by Charles Vess. The Times of London remarked that this is a book for fantasy-lovers and everybody else! Join us on ZOOM at 7pm: https://zoom.us/j/94187384300?pwd=WS8ydUMveiVmU1NOTElHWXF3cHRJUT09

Meeting ID: 941 8738 4300
Password: 858350
Racial and Immigration Justice: Take Action This Week -
Updated every Monday on our First Parish in Brookline website

With social distancing and staying inside, you might wonder what you can do for the world right now. The Racial Justice Action Committee offers ideas to help FPB members increase our collective impact in the critical work of racial and immigration justice and, at the same time, build supportive community. We encourage you to save this link and check it each week. This is still being updated regularly! For more information, contact Martha Leader or Almas Dossa.

https://medium.com/equality-includes-you/what-white-people-can-do-for-racial-justice-f2d18b0e0234