

## October's Worship Theme: Gift of Heritage

Sunday, October 29, 2023

**Speaker:** Liz Kipp "Banished From Boston: The Life of Anne Hutchinson"

**Worship Associate:** Diane Dobitz

**Preservice Music:** Joshua Bell - Violin -Vivaldi - "The Four Seasons" -  
"Autumn" #7, 8, 9

### Welcome:

Welcome members, friends, guests and visitors to the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Mankato where all are welcome. Here love is love, how each expresses their identity is honored, learning is connected with what life experience teaches, and commitment to giving life the shape of justice with all its questions and hopes are welcome.

I am Diane Dobitz, and am honored and humbled to serve as worship associate this morning. The October theme for reflection is Heritage. This morning, our speaker, Elizabeth Kipp, a longtime member of UU FM congregation will help us learn about Anne Hutchinson, who we may consider to be one of our UU ancestors.

We thank others serving this morning; greeter, \_\_\_\_\_, tech personnel, Kat Clements and Andy Roberts, serving hospitality after the service in the social hall, Alicia Bayer, hearing assistance, \_\_\_\_\_ and in the nursery, Alex Cienciwa (sin-sah-wah) and Linden Anthony. Children's Chapel providers are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. We are grateful to Nancy Cramblit for accompanying us on piano. And for Macey Forsyth, director of Children's Faith Development

We welcome anyone who would like to learn more about UUFM to fill out a slip of paper from in the pew and leave it on the back table.

### **Greeting Your Neighbor:**

Now let's turn to greet each other in the sanctuary and also those with us on Zoom.

### **Bell Chime:**

### **Call to Worship and Land Acknowledgement:**

We begin our worship service acknowledging that the land on which we meet is the traditional homeland of the Dakota peoples. Seeking to be good relatives, our congregation has committed to ongoing and intentional work with Indigenous peoples to restore relationships and accept responsibility for the work of reparations.

### **Chalice Lighting:**

The words to the Chalice Lighting can be found on the pew cards. Let us say together the Chalice Lighting, our UUFM Mission Statement, as the chalice is lit here in the sanctuary and by those attending on Zoom. Please write in the Zoom chat that a chalice is lit on your street.

**We are a welcoming people of diverse beliefs who commit to nourish the spirit, broaden the mind, nurture the earth, and build community. May this flame we kindle remind us to strive, today and every day, to love beyond belief.**

**Introduction:**

Our UU heritage of religious freedom comes from the lives of those who came before us. Anne Hutchinson is considered one of our UU ancestors, though she was an English Puritan. A highly educated, religiously confident woman she was banished by the leaders of the Boston, Massachusetts' colony for holding different religious beliefs, contrary to the Puritan religious and government leaders. Exiled, in the 17<sup>th</sup> century for dissenting beliefs, four centuries later, a few steps from UUA headquarters in Boston, a statue of Anne Hutchinson stands on the statehouse lawn of Massachusetts.

**Reading: Honoring Our Ancestors: Elandria Williams**

The history and legacy of Unitarian Universalism are shaped by the ancestors in our congregations.

I came as a fourth grader to my congregation, the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church in Knoxville, Tennessee (TVUUC). That community helped bring me into social justice struggles in the world around me and inside the UUA. My church opened so many doors because they held young people in high esteem and encouraged our leadership in the church and community.

My religious education teachers, friends' parents, and spirit aunts and uncles were and still are community leaders in everything from nuclear disarmament to antiracism/anti-oppression issues. They have been my inspiration as I work to support others who are called by their faith to change hearts, minds, and communities.

My church changed forever on July 27, 2008, when an armed man came into the sanctuary and killed two UU leaders, one a member of TVUUC and the other a member of Westside Church. This rocked our church to its core.

When I first heard about it, I didn't know who had been killed—my mom, my friends and their parents, or others who had nurtured me my entire life.

I realized something that day that has stayed with me ever since: No matter what issues I have with other Unitarian Universalists regarding our visions of God/Spirit, justice, race, and age—at the root of everything is community, love, and faith. That day, something larger than our individual beliefs rose up in my mind. I thought of the principles, values, and family that are the connective tissue of our faith community and that held us weeks after the shooting, six months later on our sixtieth anniversary, and still today.

We are part of the connective tissue that holds the legacy and future of our faith.

We are the children of freedom fighters, visionaries, and radical liberal theologians.

We are the phoenix rising out of the ashes of the McCarthy era and the civil rights, women's, and queer liberation movements...

We wear our faith as tattoos on our bodies and in our hearts as testaments to the blood, tears, dreams, and inspirations of our community ancestors and elders.

### **Hymn: #1002 "Comfort Me"**

... might be a song that a banished/exiled person could find strength from singing. May we also be strengthened to face life's challenges as we sing ...

### **Joys and Concerns:**

We celebrate with and support each other by sharing our joys and concerns.

### **Concerns:**

Others.....

Together let us hold in our hearts and minds awareness of the enormity of planet Earth's suffering and all who live, especially because of climate change and people suffering from war.

May all suffering be held in compassion.  
 May sorrow and pain and be eased.  
 May hearts be opened and know peace.

**Joys:**

Others....

Again, together let us hold in our hearts and minds awareness of the blessings of family and friends, nature's beauty, our UU heritage and all the goodness that our world also holds.

**Singing Meditation:**

Let us join together in the singing meditation holding all that is unspoken in our hearts and minds

2X

Comfort me, Share my joy

Comfort me, O my soul

**Children's Story:** Macey Forsyth Speak Up

Author: Miranda Paul

Illustrator: Ebony Glenn

**Offering:**

We support the work of UUFM together through the generosity of sharing our time, talents and treasure to create a better world.

There are different ways to give treasure with the QR code on the pew card, as the baskets are passed or going to the UUFM website.

**Offertory Instrumental:** Nancy's choice

Elizabeth Kipp

## "Banished From Boston: The Life of Anne Hutchinson"

### **Hymn:**

We sang this hymn last Sunday after hearing from our UU ancestor Thomas Jefferson who would have been familiar with this German folk song. Anne Hutchinson would probably have enjoyed singing it too if she had known of it.

#291 "Die Gedanken Sind Frei" (Thoughts Are Free)

Practice the pronunciation of the German phrase sung in the first verse 3X

[dee-gay-**dahnk**-en-sind-fry]

**Extinguishing the Chalice:** The words for extinguishing the chalice are also found on the pew cards.

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.

### **Blessing:**

Our blessing is from Albert Schweitzer, another UU ancestor

"At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by the spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.

**Singing Benediction:** "Longtime Sun" Sung 2X

May the longtime sun shine upon you  
All love surround you  
And the pure, pure light that's within you  
Guide your way home  
Born July 20, 1591 Died August 20, 1643

In 1634 the entire family, including servants, spinster cousins, and several in-laws sailed for America on the *Griffin*, arriving in Boston ten weeks later.

Anne Hutchinson was forty-six years old when the general court put her on trial in November 1637. She was in the early stages of her sixteenth pregnancy; she had given birth to her fifteenth child, Zuriel, in Boston in a year and a half earlier. There is no particular passage from the trial transcript that fully illuminates what was going on. It was shadow-boxing with Bible verses over the issues of pre-destination, which I promised I would not belabor with you all! But Anne was assertive in her own defense. She claimed many Biblical passages authorizing the teaching of women and defending the revelations she claimed to have received from God. After two days, the trial ended with these words; first from Governor Winthrop “Mrs. Hutchinson, the sentence of the court you hear is that you are banished from out of our jurisdiction as being a woman not fit for our society, and are to be imprisoned till the court shall send you away.”