

**“Keep a little fire burning; however small, however hidden.”**

—Cormac McCarthy from *The Road*

**Order of Service for August 21, 2022: Life Calls Us On**

Rev. Rita Capezzi, Preaching  
Sue Chambers, Worship Associate  
Nancy Cramblit, Pianist  
Bob and Gail Finley, Greeters  
Jeff Lowry and Todd Schweim, Tech Squad  
Dennis Cramblit, Hearing Assist  
Diane Dobitz, Hospitality

**Opening Slideshow:** To an instrumental version of “Happy” by Pharrell Williams (b. 1973), a Black American musician, rapper, singer, songwriter, and record producer. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P2GXzTC5aKg>

**Greetings from the Whole Congregation** (everyone on Zoom is invited to unmute)  
Let’s all make a joyful noise!

**Bell Chime**

**Gathering:** “Welcome to This Place” by the Rev. Cathy Rion Starr, co-minister with her spouse, the Rev. Heather Rion Starr, of the Unitarian Society of Hartford.

**Welcome and Special Announcements**

**Chalice Lighting:** For those attending by Zoom, please type into the 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.*

**Centering Music:** “That Funny Feeling” by Bo Burnham (b. 1990), a White American comedian, musician, writer, actor, and director. Helen Lowry, vocals & David Goddard, guitar, both courtesy of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo (NY) and the Bitter Nasties. Our own Jeff Lowry joins in on vocals. For the words, see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=THVCH9CatSQ>

**Reading:** “The Thing Is” by Ellen Bass (b. 1947), a White American poet.

**Story:** *The Mountain Who Loved a Bird* (1985) by Alice McLarren (1933-2019), a White American anthropologist and author. Adapted by Rev. Rita and read by Sue Chambers.

**Meditation/Prayer:** Words by Rev. Rita

**Sorrows and Joys**

**Singing Prayer:** To the tune of #1002 (teal hymnal) by Mimi Borstein  
*Comfort me, share my joy/ Comfort me, Oh my soul. (2x)*

**Giving:** To *Silent Noon* (1903) by Ralph Vaughn Williams (1872-1958), a White English composer, from a poem by Dante Gabriel Rossetti (1828-1882), a White English poet, illustrator, painter, and translator, and co-founder of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood. Helen Lowry, vocals & Charlie DeRose, piano, both courtesy of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo (NY). For the words, see <https://www.oxfordlieder.co.uk/song/2476>

**Sermon:** Life Calls Us On

**Music for Reflection:** *Beautiful Day* (2000) by U2, a White Irish rock band from Dublin active since 1976.

Helen Lowry, vocals & Charlie DeRose, piano. For the words, see

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TLBk6Bj2Ja4>

**Hymn:** “Life Calls Us On” by Kendyl Gibbons and Jason Sheldon. For the words, see

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U9r9B2KMwfo>

**Chalice Extinguishing**

*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.*

**Singing Benediction:** “Longtime Sun,” the final three minutes of “A Very Cellular Song” written by Mike

Heron and performed by The Incredible String Band on their 1968 album *The Hangman’s*

*Beautiful Daughter*.

*May the long time sun shine upon you/All love surround you*

*And the pure, pure light that’s within you/ Guide your way home (2x)*

**In-person hospitality in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level of the Fellowship building**

**Zoom Break Out Rooms:** A time for gathering to meet, talk, and connect. Please accept the invitation to join a room.