

Soul Matters Monthly Theme: What does it mean to be a Community of Finding Our Centers?

Not until we are lost do we begin to understand ourselves.

—Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862), a White American naturalist, essayist, poet, and philosopher.

Order of Service for January 8, 2023: Not Taking It Anymore

Diane Langland, Worship Leader
Macey Forsyth, Director of Children’s Faith Development, Storyteller
Nancy Cramblit, Musician
Kat Clements and Andy Roberts, Tech Squad
Linda Ganske, Greeter
Deb Fitzloff and Macey Forsyth, Children’s Chapel
Barb Franchino, Youth Group
Keri Johnson and Korinne Spicer, Nursery

Announcements Slideshow To “We’re Not Gonna Take it” by Twisted Sister

Greetings from the Whole Congregation (everyone on Zoom is invited to unmute)

Let’s all make a joyful noise!

Welcome and Announcements

Bell Chime

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.

Hymn: #1003 Where Do We Come From? (teal hymnal), words from Paul Gauguin and Brian Tate, with music by Brian Tate.

Reading: “For Five Thousand Years, Or More” by the Rev. Matthew Johnson, Unitarian Universalist minister serving our congregation in Rockford (IL)

<https://www.uua.org/worship/words/opening/for-five-thousand-years>

Story: *Ruby Finds a Worry* (2019), written and illustrated by Tom Percival, a White English writer and illustrator of children’s books.

Sending the Young Ones to Faith Development Activities

Prayer/Meditation: “Finding Your Center” by the Rev. Jone Johnson Lewis, Unitarian Universalist minister serving as Leader at the Riverdale-Yonkers Society (NY)

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/Offertory

Sermon

Hymn: #126 "Come, Now Fount of Many Blessings" (gray hymnal), words from Robert Robinson and Eugene B. Navias, with music from John Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*

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: Gathering in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level of the Fellowship building.

On Zoom: A time for gathering to meet, talk, and connect.