

“The earth laughs in flowers.”

—from “Hamatreya” by Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882), white American Transcendentalist and Unitarian Minister

Order of Service for June 5, 2022: Flower Communion

Rev. Rita Capezzi, officiating
Sue Chambers, Worship Associate
Deb Fitzloff, Greeter
Jeff Lowry, Hearing Assist
Treselia Greiner and Mark Spangler, Tech Squad
Penny Herickhoff, Zoom Host

We Gather and Invite

Opening Slideshow: To “A Compilation of Songs about Flowers” (2014)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xrt5-tz3Coc> See the current Weekly Update for all the Fellowship News: <https://mailchi.mp/12f19e2898d0/june-1-2022-weekly-update?e=7c056a9674>

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

Let’s all make a joyful noise!

Bell Chime

Call to Worship: #723 “Flower Communion Prayer” (gray hymnal) by Norbert F. Čapek

Welcome

Special Announcements

We Worship by Deepening and Shaping-Worth

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.

Reading: Origins of the Flower Communion, words adapted by Rev. Rita

Story: “Palestinian Women Plants Flowers,” adapted by Director of Children’s Faith Development Macey Forsyth from a 2015 story in *The Daily Mail* <https://youtu.be/IRf9Udr8984>

Homily: Planting

Flower Communion Ritual to the music of Yiruma (b. 1978), a South Korean pianist and composer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wDk59eIT6zl>

Hymn: #78 “Color and Fragrance” (gray hymnal), words and music by Norbert F. Čapek <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-whY4rpmo3A&t=53s>

With Generosity, We Build Our Community Larger

Meditation/Prayer: Poem by Jan Richardson (b. 1967), a White American artist, writer, and ordained minister in the United Methodist Church

Sorrows and Joys

Singing Prayer: To the tune of #1002 (teal hymnal) by Mimi Borstein

Giving: With offertory #402 (gray hymnal) “From You I Receive” by Joseph and Nathan Segal (brothers and both rabbis who wrote and sang together in the 1960s-1980s; sung by white Unitarian Universalist minister the Rev. Kristin Grassel Schmidt <https://youtu.be/k7a0Lei2OCA>)

New Member Ceremony

Hymn: #305 “De Colores” (gray hymnal) sung by Helen Lowry, accompanied by Jon Vogtle, both courtesy of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo (NY). This hymn is a Mexican folk song originally written in Spanish. We can read more about its origins and the history of UU use at [STLT#305, De Colores – Notes from the Far Fringe](#)

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*.

In-person hospitality, thanks to Sarah Sifers, 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.