

“The only thing that makes life possible is permanent, intolerable uncertainty, is not knowing what comes next.”—Ursula K. LeGuin

Order of Service for March 21, 2021: When Nature Is You

The Rev. Rita Capezzi preaching

Linda Ganske, Elora Greiner, and Treselia Greiner Zoom support

We Gather and Invite

Still to Come. . . After Worship to “Waiting in Vain” (instrumental) by Black Jamaican singer, songwriter, musician, and tireless justice advocate Bob Marley (1945-81)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U0j7lu49-h4>

Announcements to “Earth Song” by American composer Franck Ticheli (b. 1958); sung by British a cappella ensemble (formed in 2003) VOCES8 [VOCES8: Earth Song - Frank Ticheli - YouTube](#)
[March 17, 2021 Weekly Update \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

Bell Chime

Singing: #188 (gray hymnal) “Come, Come, Whoever You Are” [words adapted from 13th Century Persian poet and Islamic mystic Rumi, with music by Unitarian Universalist minister the Rev. Lynn Ungar]. Vocals by soprano Jessie Downs and mezzo soprano Helen Lowry, accompanied by Jonathan Vogtle (all courtesy of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Buffalo, NY). We are reminded that the original poem includes the line “though we’ve broken our vows a thousand time,” a call to humility, forgiveness, and repair.

Welcome

Special Announcements

Ritual

We Center Ourselves to Worship/Shape Worth

Chalice Lighting with the Bohlmann-Little Family

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: “Mother Earth” by Karliene, an independent musician from Scotland living in Australia

[Karliene - Mother Earth - YouTube](#)

Story: *Wangari’s Trees of Peace* (2008) written and illustrated by Jeanette Winter, and read on video by Director of Children’s Faith Development Macey Forsyth. This is the story of Kenyan environmentalist Wangari Maathai, winner of the 2004 Nobel Peace

Prize. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JDJ-6QVHwF4>

Reading: For the Vernal Equinox, adapted from the Chinook Psalter (the Anglican *Book of Common Prayer* translated in the 19th Century into an Indigenous language of the Pacific Northwest and then re-translated into English)

We Build Community

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 Unitarian Universalist minister the Rev. Kristin Grassel Schmidt <https://youtu.be/k7a0Lei2OCA>)

Meditation and Prayer: Words from American writer, teacher, and activist Starhawk (b. 1951)

Bell Chime

Sorrows and Joys: Please type into the Chat, and Rev. Rita will read aloud

Singing: To the tune of #1002 (teal hymnal) by Mimi Borstein; accompanied by Jeff Lowry

We Take a Deeper Dive

Sermon: When Nature Is You

Hymn: #163 “For the Earth Forever Turning” words and music by Kim Oler; sung by Michael Tacy
[#163 For The Earth Forever Turning - YouTube](#)

We Move into the Larger World with Renewed Commitment

Chalice Extinguishing with the Bohlmann-Little Family

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*, sung by UUFM Choir and Congregation accompanied by Nancy Cramblit
May the longtime sun shine upon you/ All love surround you/And the pure pure light that’s within you/Guide your way home.

Congregational Greeting (everyone will be invited to unmute)

Break Out Rooms: A time for gathering to meet, talk, and connect.