Life is a process of becoming, a combination of states we have to go through. Where people fail is that they wish to elect a state and remain in it. This is a kind of death.

-French-Cuban-American diarist, essayist, novelist, and writer of short stories and erotica Anais Nin (1903-1977)

Order of Service for April 4, 2021: What New Day Dawns for Us Today? Rev. Rita Capezzi preaching Zoom Support from Macey Forsyth, Diane Langland, and Treselia Greiner

Welcome, Congregation of Michael Servetus Unitarian Universalist Society!

We Gather and Invite

Still to Come... After Worship to "Prepare Ye" from Godspell; sung by mezzo-soprano Helen Lowry, accompanied by Jonathan Vogtle, both courtesy of UU Church of Buffalo (NY)
Announcements to "Beautiful City" from Godspell; sung by bass Michael Harris and mezzo-soprano Helen Lowry, accompanied by Jonathan Vogtle, all courtesy of UU Church of Buffalo (NY). Godspell, is a long running off-Broadway production with words and music composed in 1971 by American musical theater lyricist and composer Stephen Schwartz (b. 1948), based on the Gospel of Matthew, including the Passion of Christ. The composition reflects gendered language, and you are invited to substitute more inclusive language as you listen. March 31, 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

We Center Ourselves to Worship/Shape Worth

Chalice Lighting with Deb Fitzloff

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: "Where You Go" (2018) by Shoshona Jedwab; sung by soprano Jessie Downs and mezzo-soprano Helen Lowry, accompanied by Jonathan Vogtle, all courtesy of the UU Church of Buffalo (NY). Based on a verse from the *Book of Ruth* in the Hebrew Bible, the song was released on the one-year anniversary of the Muslim Travel Ban. The daughter of a Holocaust survivor, Shoshana Jedwab is a Jewish educator, singer-songwriter, prayer leader, and hand drummer with more than 27 years of experience bringing sacred Jewish texts to life for a wide variety of audiences. <u>Shoshana Jedwab</u>

- **Story:** Maybe Something Beautiful: How Art Transformed a Neighborhood (2016) by F. Isabel Campoy and Theresa Howell, illustrated by Rafael López. Read on video by Director of Children's Faith Development Macey Forsyth. https://youtu.be/x8ugJNru8WQ
- **Reading:** "Litany for Becoming" by the Worship Collective enfleshed: spiritual nourishment for collective liberation <u>enfleshed</u>. Reading drawn from the UUA Worship Web <u>Litany for Becoming</u> <u>WorshipWeb | UUA.org</u>

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 <u>https://youtu.be/k7a0Lei2OCA</u>
- **Meditation and Prayer:** "In the Silence" by the Rev Sara LaWall, Unitarian Universalist minister with the Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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: What New Day Dawns for Us Today?

Hymn: #38 "Morning Has Broken" (gray hymnal) by Cat Stevens; sung by Helen Lowry (UU Church of Buffalo) and Jeff Lowry; accompanied by Nancy Cramblit

We Move into the Larger World with Renewed Commitment

Chalice Extinguishing with Deb Fitzloff

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 is invited to unmute)

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