

Order of Service October 20, 2024

Beyond the Vote: Democracy as a Sacred Relationship

Officiating: Meleah Houseknecht

Worship Associate: Diane Langland

Children's Faith Development Director: Macey Forsyth

The UUFM Choir with Mark Brekke, Director

Pianist: Justin Ganske

Prelude/Opening Slideshow

Welcome and Announcements

Singing Bowl

Chalice Lighting

If you are viewing through Zoom, please type into the Chat that a chalice is lit on [your street], and join in saying these words:

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.

Call to Worship

from *Healing the Heart of Democracy* by Parker J. Palmer

Hymn #1023, "Building Bridges"

The women of Greenham Common peace occupation in England, 1983

Story

What Can a Citizen Do?, written by Dave Eggers, illustrated by Shawn Harris

Singing the Children Out

Joys and Sorrows

Singing Prayer: To the tune of #1002

Words and music: Mimi Bornstein-Doble (adapted)

Offertory

Reading: from Terry Tempest Williams's essay, "Engagement," the conclusion of the author's triptych on the open space of democracy

Sermon: Beyond the Vote: Democracy as a Sacred Relationship

Hymn #1028, "The Fire of Commitment"

Words: Mary Katherine Morn & Jason Shelton

Music: Jason Shelton

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. (Elizabeth Selle Jones)

Benediction

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 longtime sun shine upon you
All love surround you
And the pure pure light that's within you
Guide your way home.*

Zoom participants: Please feel free to stay online for a time of gathering to meet, talk, and connect. (If the group online is large enough, we will invite you to join breakout rooms for small group connection.)

In-person participants: Please stay for refreshments and conversation in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level following the worship service.