



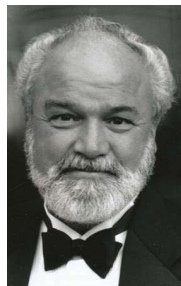
Jimmy Carter



Ella Jenkins



Pope Francis



George Latimer



Jules Feiffer



Bob Newhart



James Earl Jones



Dame Maggie Smith



Donald Sutherland



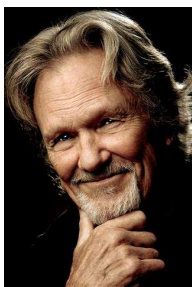
Phil Donohue



Ruth Buzzi



Roberta Flack



Kris Kristofferson



Peter Yarrow



Bernice Johnson Reagon



Judith Jamison



Willie Mays



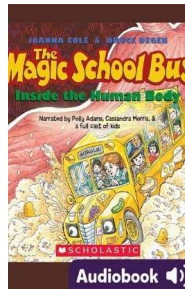
Jerry West



Sister Gladys Schmitz



Joe Selvaggio



Bruce Degan



George Foreman



Bill Walton



Syl Jones



Jean Peterson



Violet Dobitz



Synnove Grinnell



Diana Ruhl



Faye Mattison

In Memory 2025

Annual Service at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Mankato

Sunday, May 25, 2025—Tony Filipovitch Worship Leader

In Memory, 2025

Continuing a UUFM tradition, this is the 27th time we have devoted the Sunday before Memorial Day to remembering and reflecting on the lives of those who have died in the last year, from around the world, around the country, and from our community. As Walt Whitman put it, “And of these one and all I weave the song of myself.”

This tradition started in 1999, when Tony Filipovitch would read Rev. Sarah Oelberg’s sermon to our fellowship while she delivered it to the Hanska congregation. That was so long ago that we were still printing it out on computer “part-paper” (although we were both such techies that she sent the file by e-mail!). The Fellowship enjoyed the service so much that, after Sarah retired, Tony kept up the tradition.

Worship Leader: Tony Filipovitch

Opening Music: Samuel Barber, Adagio for Strings <https://youtu.be/Hc8gYoXkLZ4>
See the current Weekly Update for Fellowship News:

We Gather and Invite

Greetings from the Whole Congregation

Bell Chime

Call to Worship: “At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.”

Albert Schweitzer

Welcome:

Good morning, everyone, and welcome to the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Mankato. All you here today, you are all welcome in this time we make sacred together. All—all—are loved, worthy, and needed. Our human differences are sacred and make us strong. Here, you can bring your whole self. The Dakota people, who stewards of the land on which our Fellowship building sits, remind us that we are all related and should seek to be good relatives.

I am the Tony Filipovitch, a member of this congregation and honored and humbled to lead you in today’s worship, along with so many others who have come together as greeters and tech support and children’s programming and coffee hour to make this day happen.

We Center Ourselves to Worship/Shape Worth

Chalice Lighting:

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.

Sorrows & Joys: As we gather here today, we each come as we are, bringing with us into this space our own joys and sorrows. Some of those are so deeply felt that you wrote them down as you came into this place to share with all of us. This is what you wrote:

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

Comfort me. Share my joy.

Comfort me, oh my soul. (2x)

Giving: We are a religious community because we share meaning, identity, and purpose. We sustain our religious community because we share our financial resources. While the basket is being passed, let's listen to a song

Among those who died this year was **Ella Jenkins**, 100. "The First Lady of Children's Music," she performed for more than 70 years (including a visit to Children's House at MSU at Jean Peterson's invitation), recorded more than 39 albums, and earned a Grammy for lifetime achievement. Let's listen to her signature song, "You'll Sing a Song and I'll Sing a Song."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KTmoAobX5mY>

Reading: Jacques' Monologue, "The Seven Ages of Man," from Shakespeare's *As You Like It*

All the world's a stage, and
All the men and women merely players;
They have their exits and their entrances,
And one man in his time plays many parts,
His acts being seven ages. At first the infant,
Mewling and puking in the nurse's arms;
And then the whining schoolboy, with his satchel
And shining morning face, creeping like snail
Unwillingly to school. And then the lover,
Sighing like furnace, with a woeful ballad
Made to his mistress' eyebrow. Then a soldier,
Full of strange oaths, and bearded like the pard,
Jealous in honor, sudden and quick in quarrel,
Seeking the bubble reputation
Even in the cannon's mouth. And then the justice,
In fair round belly with good capon lined,
With eyes severe and beard of formal cut,
Full of wise saws and modern instances;
And so he plays his part. The sixth age shifts
Into the lean and slippered pantaloon,
With spectacles on nose and pouch on side;
His youthful hose, well saved, a world too wide
For his shrunk shank; and his big manly voice,
Turning again toward childish treble, pipes
And whistles in his sound. Last scene of all,
That ends this strange eventful history,
Is second childishness and mere oblivion,
Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything.

Meditation

In Memory 2024

We Turn to the Larger World with Renewed Commitment

Final Song: Finally, another who died this year was Bernice Johnson Reagon, 81. She was studying music at Albany College in Georgia when Dr. King came to lead a demonstration—but she couldn’t be there, she was already in jail. After Albany expelled her for getting arrested, she founded The Freedom Singers, an arm of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (music played a featured role in the civil rights movement). Later she founded the Harambee Singers in Atlanta and Sweet Honey in the Rock in DC. She eventually earned a PhD in History from Howard University, a MacArthur Fellowship, a Peabody award for her NPR documentary, “Wade in the Water,” and a Presidential Medal. Let’s listen to one of her signature songs, “Come and Go With Me to That Land.”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DS1dFmuD7-o&list=OLAK5uy_lgYWaMh28XGnQiUK-OMetkkodaiXUhl4&index=2

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.*

Benediction (from Oedipus at Colonus, Sophocles):

“Now let weeping cease. Let no one mourn again. For all these things are in the hands of god.” Go in peace, as we sing together our closing song.

Closing Song: “Longtime Sun”