

# Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
He leads me beside still waters.  
He restores my soul.  
He leads me in paths of righteousness  
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley  
of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord  
forever.

*A  
Timeless  
Wisdom*

15 March 2020  
Rev. Steven Protzman  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent



# ***A Timeless Wisdom***

Order of Service

March 15, 2020

***\* Please rise as the spirit moves you***

*Please see one of our greeters if you would like to use a set of headphones, a large-print order of service or hymnal.*



In the psalms we find all our human cries: hymns of wonderment at nature or human love; anguish in the face of suffering and death, oppression by society, rebellion against the absurdity of the world and the silence of God.

-Rev. Jo Lane

Music for Gathering

Hal Walker, Music Director

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Steven Protzman

Chime

Prelude

Hal Walker

Call to Worship

Kathy Kerns, Worship Associate

\*Opening Hymn (insert)

*Praise the Source of Faith and Learning*

\*Chalice Lighting and Covenant

by James Vila Blake

Love is the spirit of this church, and service its law.

This is our great covenant:

To dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love,  
and to help one another.

\*Covenant Response Hymn

*With Joy We Claim the Growing Light*  
(sung to Old Hundredth)

*With joy we claim the growing light,  
with fuller light, more truth receive;  
a larger knowledge, clearer sight,  
brings wisdom, deeper lives to live.*

Time For All Ages

Colleen Thoele  
Director of Religious Education

Musical Response

*You've got the light of Love inside you,  
Go on your way in Peace  
So, shine that light, this whole world now awaits you,  
Go on your way in peace. (2x)  
You know, we hold you, we hold you, yes, we hold you.*

A Time of Meditation and Reflection

Music Meditation #123 *Spirit of Life*  
words and music by Carolyn McDade, arr. by Clif Hardin

Reading *Psalm 23* from the King James Bible

Sermon: Part I *A Timeless Wisdom*  
Rev. Steven Protzman

Readings A Selection of Settings of the 23rd Psalm

Choral Reading *The 23rd Psalm*  
by Bobby McFerrin  
The Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent Peace Choir

Sermon: Part II *We Shall Not Fear*  
Steven Protzman

Unison Reading #642 *Psalm 23* (lectio divina style)

Silence for Reflection

Offering Vanessa Vesely

Extinguishing the Chalice

We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth, the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment. May we carry these in our hearts and minds until we are together again.

\*Closing Hymn #108 *My Life Flows On in Endless Song*

\*Benediction



*Next Sunday: Rising Green*  
*Led by Rev. Steven Protzman and DRE Colleen Thoele*

**VISITORS** - Welcome! We are glad you are here. Thank you for participating in worship with us today. We hope that you will find a spiritual home here and that you will be enriched in the liberal religious practice and heritage of Unitarian Universalism. This congregation is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association. The members of this church take pride in the fact that we embrace people of all races, ethnicities, ages, creeds, sexual orientations, and abilities. In addition, we are a "Welcoming Congregation," which means that we have taken part in a special program, designed by the UUA, for congregations that see a need to become more inclusive towards bisexual, gay, lesbian, and/or transgender people. The principles and purposes of the UUA, which we "covenant to affirm and promote," can be found in the front of the hymnal, on the UUA website ([www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org)), and on bookmarks available in the front entryway.

**We are concerned for everyone's safety.** If we need to evacuate the building for a fire, a drill or for any other reason, please follow the directions of the worship leader. Parents and guardians should look for their children on the grassy area behind the Annex and should not go to the classrooms. People with mobility concerns or other special needs should proceed to the entryway where evacuation assistance will be available.

**SUNDAY SERVICES** are offered at 9:45 and 11:30 AM with nursery care available.

**Church Office:** The church office is located in the Eldredge Annex (yellow house) next to the church building. Office hours are: Monday -Friday 10 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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Visit our website.



**CHURCH STAFF**

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Opening Hymn

**Praise the Source of Faith and Learning**

(Set to 'Hyfrydol')

1. Praise the source of faith and learning  
that has sparked and stoked the mind  
with a passion for discerning  
how the world has been designed.  
Let the sense of wonder flowing  
from the wonders we survey  
keep our faith forever growing  
and renew our need to pray.
2. Source of wisdom, we acknowledge  
that our science and our art  
and the breadth of human knowledge  
only partial truth impart.  
Far beyond our calculation  
lies a depth we cannot sound  
where the purpose for creation  
and the pulse of life are found.
3. May our faith redeem the blunder  
of believing that our thought  
has displaced the grounds for wonder  
which the ancient prophets taught.  
May our learning curb the error  
which unthinking faith can breed  
lest we justify some terror  
with an antiquated creed.
4. Praise for minds to probe the heavens,  
praise for strength to breathe the air.  
Praise for all that beauty leavens,  
praise silence, music, prayer.  
Praise for justice and compassion  
and for strangers, neighbors, friends.  
Praise for hearts and lips to fashion  
praise for love that never ends.

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