

An abstract painting with a textured, painterly style. The background is a mix of blue and green, suggesting water. A large, dark brown, vertical shape in the center represents a swimmer, with a horizontal stroke at the top suggesting a head or a floating object. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

# *Swimming to the Other Side*

30 August 2020  
Rev. Steven Protzman  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent



# Swimming to the Other Side

Order of Service

August 30, 2020

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Out of the trust comes honest worshipping  
the opening arms of life  
bringing water and earth our only offering  
We know that our Love is the Truth we're livin' in.

-from *Look Around*  
by Hal Walker

Music for Gathering

Hal Walker  
Music Director

Welcome

Rev. Steven Protzman  
Minister

Chime

Prelude

*Look Around*  
by Hal Walker

Call to Worship

Evian Rome  
Worship Associate

Opening Hymn

*Gather the Spirit*

Chalice Lighting and Congregational Covenant

We affirm that each life has brilliance and, when joined with others  
in joyful community, has the power to transform.  
We pledge ourselves and our resources to this journey.  
This covenant inspires and challenges us  
to dwell together in right relationship.  
We promise to extend hospitality, nurture community for all ages,  
encourage spiritual growth, honor diversity, and practice kindness.

Covenant Response Hymn

*There's a River Flowin' in My Soul*

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Music Meditation

*The River*  
by Coco Love Alcorn  
The UU Church of Kent Virtual Peace Choir

Water Story

*Higgins, the Drop With a Dream*  
adapted from a story by Rev. Chris Buice  
Colleen Thoele, Director of Religious Education

Water Sharing Hymn

*I've Got Peace Like a River*

The Story of Water Communion

Water Sharing Ceremony

Pouring the Water of Community  
Pouring the Water of Healing  
Pouring the Water of Hope

Blending Our Water and Our Lives (video)

Blessing the Waters and the Community (responsive reading, insert)

Offering

*Swimming to the Other Side*  
by Pat Humphries  
Hal Walker

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

*Spirit, Make Us One*

Benediction

Song of Blessing and Sending (video)

Virtual Coffee Hour



*Next Sunday: Play Is Radical Resistance*  
Led by Elizabeth Reilly, CLM Candidate and Worship Associate Kathy Kerns

**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.

**OUR SUNDAY SERVICE is offered at 10 AM via Zoom. Visit [kentuu.org](http://kentuu.org) for information to join the service.**

**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.

**Church Address:** Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent  
228 Gougler Avenue, Kent, OH 44240.

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On the web – <https://kentuu.org>

Facebook - [www.facebook.com/uuchurchofkent](https://www.facebook.com/uuchurchofkent)

Visit our website.



## CHURCH STAFF

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Music Director  
Dir. of Religious Education  
Congregational Administrator  
Nursery Attendant  
Sexton  
Affiliated Community Minister  
Commissioned Lay Minister  
Commissioned Lay Minister

Rev. Steven Protzman  
Hal Walker  
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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board Moderator	Diana Watt
Board Asst. Moderator	Don Gregg
Board Secretary	David Smeltzer
Trustee	Liz Bright
Trustee	Diane Kloss
Trustee	Vivien Sandlund
Trustee	Blaine Vesely

## **Blessing the Waters and the Community Responsive Reading**

Leader: The waters are tranquil. . .  
When we affirm the interconnectedness of people everywhere;  
When we express our commitment to this community and  
to the earth in ways that call forth beauty and generate strength;  
And when we minister to each other with compassion.

*All: May our waters be peaceful and our sailing smooth.*

Leader: The waters rush. . .  
When we embrace our imagination and our creativity  
our power to unveil our old ways of thinking and to create new  
visions.

*All: May we ride the waves with a sense of joy, freedom and fun.*

Leader: The waters shine. . .  
When we use our powers wisely, and for the good.  
When we question and doubt...  
When we challenge ourselves to understand ourselves and  
the world around us.

*All: May our waters sparkle, inspire and illuminate.*

Leader: And when the waters storm . . .  
We consecrate our energy and loyalty, to signify that we place  
ourselves, hearts, minds, and hands at the service  
of something larger than ourselves.

*All: May the Spirit that is Love hold us and may this community nourish  
us as our journey together continues, and may we be renewed as  
a people who inspire love, seek justice, and grow in community.  
May it be so!*