



*The Premise
and
the Promise*



2 May 2021
Rev. Steven Protzman
Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent

The Premise and the Promise

Order of Service

May 2, 2021

...here together on this night of Consolidation, conscious of the presence of the past, and of our urgent tasks, we dedicate ourselves anew to the free and universal fellowship of all humankind that is the church to be. We declare our allegiance to the new Unitarian Universalist Association, and pledge our lives, our fortunes and our faith to its high purposes and sure upbuilding.

—From the Service of Celebration and Consolidation

Gathering

Music for Gathering Hal Walker, Music Director

Welcome Steven Protzman, Minister

Chime

Prelude *Ain't it Great to be UU*
by Hal Walker

Call to Worship Randy Bish, Worship Associate

Opening Hymn #67 *We Sing Now Together*

Chalice Lighting

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.

Chalice Lighting Response Hymn #389 *Gathered Here*

Reflecting

Holding One Another in Care and Compassion

A time of silence

Sharing our sorrows and concerns

Pastoral prayer

Sharing our joys

Music Meditation	<i>Improvisation</i> Hal Walker, Handpan and Vanessa Vesely, Piano
Time For All Ages	Colleen Thoele, Director of Religious Education
Reading	<i>Why Unitarians and Universalists Belong Together</i> by Marilyn Sewell
Hymn of Community	<i>Ours Is a Simple Faith</i>
Sermon	<i>The Promise and the Promise</i> Rev. Steven Protzman

Returning

Offering	<i>Step by Step</i> written and sung by Katie Grigg
Responsive Reading	from the <i>Service of Consolidation</i> May 23, 1960

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	#145 <i>As Tranquil Streams</i>
Benediction	
Song of Blessing and Sending (video)	<i>Go On Your Way in Peace</i> by Hal Walker Golden Tones Junior Choir

Virtual Coffee Hour



Next Sunday, May 9, 2021
The Day the Flowers Rebelled
Led by Rev. Steven Protzman and Worship Associate Rev. Christie Anderson

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), 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 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



CHURCH STAFF

Minister

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

Colleen Thoele

MaryBeth Hannan

Michelle Bores

Brian Mulloy

Rev. Renee Ruchotzke

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Responsive Reading

Standing today at a great moment and historic milestone in our long journey, deeply aware of the past that is present in us, and confronted by arduous tasks which command all that we have and are,

we, Unitarians and Universalists, the spiritual free people of this hour, pause now to praise the forebears of freedom's cause. We honor those who by their courage and prophetic vision gave us our goodly heritage and laid the foundations of our new found faith.

Seeing that we are compassed round by so great a cloud of witnesses, the great of past and present and all the humble heroes who worked and sacrificed beside them, who, indeed, held up their hands and made strong their voices,

let us now, in our own day, lay aside every weight of selfishness and fear and take up with faith and joy the urgent tasks to which this historic hour has summoned us. Let us together build the free and universal church of tomorrow.

We, Unitarians and Universalists, children of the Judeo-Christian heritage, inheritors of the wisdom of the universal prophets, eager to experience the insights of the great faiths of the world, open to all Sources of inspiration ancient and Modern, determined to explore the boundless ocean of truth which lies about on every hand and on before, and welcoming into fellowship all people of whatever background of faith,

here together on this night of Consolidation, conscious of the presence of the past, and of our urgent tasks, dedicate ourselves anew to the free and universal fellowship of all humankind that is the church to be.

We declare our allegiance to the new Unitarian Universalist Association, and pledge our lives, our fortunes and our faith to its high purposes and sure upbuilding.

We Sing Now Together

By Edwin T. Buehrer

We sing now together our song of thanksgiving,
rejoicing in goods which the ages have wrought,
for Life that enfolds us, and helps and heals and holds us,
and leads beyond the goals which our forebears once sought.

We sing of the freedoms which martyrs and heroes
have won by their labor, their sorrow, their pain;
the oppressed befriending, our ampler hopes defending,
their death becomes a triumph, they died not in vain.

We sing of the prophets, the teachers, the dreamers,
designers, creators, and workers, and seers;
our own lives expanding, our gratitude commanding,
their deeds have made immortal their days and their years.

We sing of community now in the making
in every far continent, region, and land;
with those of all races, all times and names and places,
we pledge ourselves in covenant firmly to stand.

Gathered Here

By Philip A. Porter

Gathered here in the mystery of the hour.
Gathered here in one strong body.
Gathered here in the struggle and the power.
Spirit, draw near.

Ours is a Simple Faith

by David Tamulevich

Chorus: Ours is a simple faith
Life is a short embrace
Heaven is in this place every day
Hope is the ground we till.
Make each day what you will.
Thankful for dreams fulfilled. every day.

There is no Hell to fear. No judgment day drawing near.
Trust that inner voice you hear, every day...
Life's not a goal or race. It's about heart and faith,
And living a life of grace, every day.

Chorus

Trust is an open hand, making an honest stand.
Rooted in the land, every day...
Live in the mystery, seeking the harmony,
Here between you and me, every day.

Chorus

As Tranquil Streams

By Marion Franklin Ham

As tranquil streams that meet and merge
and flow as one to see the sea,
our kindred hearts and minds unite
to build a church that shall be free—

Free from the bonds that bind the mind
to narrow thought and lifeless creed;
free from a social code that fails
to serve the cause of human need:

A freedom that reveres the past,
but trusts the dawning future more;
and bids the soul, in search of truth,
adventure boldly and explore.

Prophetic church, the future waits
your liberating ministry;
go forward in the power of love,
proclaim the truth that makes us free.