

The Social Dilemma

Order of Service October 24, 2021

And so I appeal to a voice, to something shadowy, a remote important region in all who talk: though we could fool each other, we should consider—lest the parade of our mutual life get lost in the dark.

—William Stafford

Gathering

Music for Gathering

Welcome Rev. Steven Protzman, Minister

Chime

Prelude Moment Musical, Op. 94, No. 3

by Franz Schubert

Shirley Kiernan, violin and Vanessa Vesely, piano

Call to Worship Kathy Kerns, Worship Associate

Opening Hymn #346 Come, Sing a Song with Me

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

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 sorrows and losses, pastoral prayer, and sharing joys

Music Meditation Air, Suite No. 3 in D by J.S. Bach

Shirley Kiernan, violin and Vanessa Vesely, piano

Time for All Ages Telephone

Colleen Thoele, Director of Religious Education

Readings How Social Media Divides Us

by Rajiv Vinnakota

A Ritual to Read to Each Other

by William Stafford

Hymn of Community #1012 When I Am Frightened

Sermon The Social Dilemma
Rev. Steven Protzman

Responsive Reading UUCK 2021 Covenant of Right Relations

Returning

Offering Early October
by 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 #318 We Would Be One

Benediction

Song of Blessing and Sending Go On Your Way in Peace

by Hal Walker

Golden Tones Junior Choir

Virtual Coffee Hour



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

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Facebook - www.facebook.com/uuchurchofkent



CHURCH STAFF

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Nursery Staff Sexton

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Come, Sing a Song with Me

Come, sing a song with me, come, sing a song with me, come, sing a song with me, that I might know your mind.

Refrain: And I'll bring you hope, when hope is hard to find, and I'll bring a song of love and a rose in the wintertime.

Come, dream a dream with me, come, dream a dream with me, come, dream a dream with me, that I might know your mind.

Refrain

Come, walk in rain with me, come, walk in rain with me, come, walk in rain with me, that I might know your mind.

Refrain

Come, share a rose with me, come, share a rose with me, come, share a rose with me, that I might know your mind.

Refrain

Gathered Here

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.

When I Am Frightened

When I am frightened, will you reassure me?
When I'm uncertain, will you hold my hand?
Will you be strong for me? sing to me quietly?
Will you share some of your stories with me?
If you will show me compassion, then I may learn to care as you do, then I may learn to care.

When I am angry, will you still embrace me?
When I am thoughtless, will you understand?
Will you believe in me, stand by me willingly?
Will you share some of your questions with me?
If you will show me acceptance, then I may learn to give as you do, then I may learn to give.

When I am troubled, will you listen to me?
When I am lonely, will you be my friend?
Will you be there for me, comfort me tenderly?
Will you share some of your feelings with me?
If you will show me commitment, then I may learn to love as you do, then I may learn to love.

UUCK Covenant of Right Relations Responsive Reading

Leader: In order to live out our UU principles and respect the inherent worth and dignity of all people, we covenant to welcome discomfort:

Congregation: We will learn to welcome discomfort as a source of spiritual and personal growth and an opportunity to reflect, ask, connect, expand.

Leader: We covenant to manage conflict:

Congregation: We will identify and adhere to established mechanisms, and available procedures and resources by which we approach and handle conflict with others, as well as leadership.

Leader: We covenant to make space for disagreement:

Congregation: We will hold space for dissenting opinions, and to design meetings and agendas to allow for conflict and disagreement.

Leader: We covenant to take responsibility:

Congregation: We will speak for ourselves and take responsibility for our own actions.

Leader: We covenant to value diversity:

Congregation: We will believe our community is strong enough for different perspectives. We will look with curiosity for truths in minority views. We promise to listen thoughtfully to ideas from others, and to be conscious of and fully acknowledge others' emotions and interests, especially if we don't agree.

Leader: We covenant to move forward together:

Congregation: We will forgive the mistakes that others make and that we make ourselves as we learn to address conflict and disagreement. These things we promise, these things we covenant in love and mutual trust.

We Would Be One

We would be one as now we join in singing our hymn of love, to pledge ourselves anew to that high cause of greater understanding of who we are, and what in us is true. We would be one in living for each other to show to all a new community.

We would be one in building for tomorrow a nobler world than we have known today. We would be one in searching for that meaning which binds our hearts and points us on our way. As one, we pledge ourselves to greater service, with love and justice, strive to make us free.