

A close-up photograph of a hand pouring water from a small glass into a larger glass. The water is captured mid-pour, creating a dynamic splash. The glasses are placed on a white lace doily. The background is dark and textured, possibly a wall or a backdrop.

*Gathering  
the  
Waters*



28 August 2022  
Rev. Steven Protzman  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent

# ***Gathering the Waters***

Order of Service

August 28, 2022

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Now is the time of gathering.

From the scattered drops and rivulets of our individual lives  
we come together.

May we each be lifted up, may we pour ourselves out,  
receiving and sharing the blessings of this time and place.

—Tom Rhodes

## **Gathering**

Music for Gathering

*Whoever You Are*  
music by Katie Grigg-Miller

Welcome

Rev. Steven Protzman, Minister

Chime

Prelude (video)

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

Words of Gathering

Colleen Thoele,  
Director of Religious Education

Opening Hymn

#347 *Gather the Spirit*

## **Nurturing Community**

Chalice Procession

Chalice Lighting

adapted from Katie Gelfand

We gather together to celebrate our fountains of joy;  
to hold each other through storms of grief;  
to guide one another through rapids of transformation;  
to rest together on ponds of stillness.

As we light our chalice, symbol of our reunion,  
we honor the spirit of water,  
its many forms, and its life-giving essence.

Rededication of the Sanctuary

Dedication Hymn

#1 *May Nothing Evil Cross This Door*

## Holding One Another in Care and Compassion

A time of silence, sharing our sorrows and losses,  
pastoral prayer, and sharing our joys, wonder and awe

Music Meditation

*Air on the G String*

by J. S. Bach

Rebekah Swango, flute; Julie Swango, guitar

## The Water Communion

Story

*The Rivers*

adapted from a story by Rev. Christopher Buice

Water Communion Hymn

#1007 *There's a River Flowin in My Soul*

Introduction

Pouring the Waters of the East  
Pouring the Waters of the South  
Pouring the Waters of the West  
Pouring the Waters of the North

Water Communion Music

*Holy Waters*, by Jason Shelton

Katie Grigg-Miller, Lee Brooker, Saunis Parsons

Vanessa Vesely, piano

Responsive Reading (insert)

*Blessing of the Waters*

## Returning

Offering

*The Water Remembers*, by Jason Shelton

Katie Grigg-Miller, Lee Brooker, Saunis Parsons

Vanessa Vesely, piano

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

#100 *I've Got Peace Like a River*

Benediction



*Next Sunday: Community Sunday: Chalk Art Festival  
Hosted by Jennifer and Don Gregg*

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## Activities & Events: August 28- September 4, 2022

<https://kentuu.org/calendar/>

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### Aug. 28 Sunday

11:00 AM Sunday Worship

### Aug. 29 Monday

### Aug. 30 Tuesday

10:00 AM Staff Meeting

### Aug. 31 Wednesday

12:00 PM Retirees Group

### Sept. 1 Thursday

### Sept. 2 Friday

### Sept. 3 Saturday

### Sept. 4 Sunday

11:00 AM Community Sunday

2:00 PM Board Retreat

For more information, read the e-nUUs.

<https://kentuu.org/news/announcements-events/>

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

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Email – [churchoffice@kentuu.org](mailto:churchoffice@kentuu.org)

On the web – <https://kentuu.org>

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

**Church Office:** The church office is located in the Eldredge Annex  
(yellow house) next to the church building



### CHURCH STAFF

Minister  
Accompanist  
Congregational Administrator  
Campus Use Manager  
Dir. of Religious Education  
Music Director Pro Tempore  
Nursery Staff  
Sexton  
Tech Manager  
Affiliated Community Minister  
Affiliated Community Minister  
Commissioned Lay Minister (CLM)  
Commissioned Lay Minister (CLM)

Rev. Steven Protzman  
Vanessa Vesely  
MaryBeth Hannan  
Katie Kuras  
Colleen Thoel  
Katie Grigg-Miller  
Michelle Bores  
Brian Mulloy  
Julie Swango  
Rev. Renee Ruchotzke  
Rev. Christie Anderson  
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### BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2021 – 2022

Board Moderator  
Board Asst. Moderator  
Board Co-Secretary  
Board Co-Secretary  
Trustee  
Trustee  
Trustee

Don Gregg  
Kara Kramer  
Susanna Smart  
Carol Weigand  
Liz Bright  
Heidi Shaffer Bish  
Diane Kloss

[board@kentuu.org](mailto:board@kentuu.org)

### **#347 *Gather the Spirit***

Gather the spirit, harvest the power.  
Our sep'rate fires will kindle one flame.  
Witness the mystery of this hour.  
Our trials in this light appear all the same.

Refrain: Gather in peace, gather in thanks.  
Gather in sympathy now and then.  
Gather in hope, compassion and strength.  
Gather to celebrate once again,

Gather the spirit of heart and mind.  
Seeds for the sowing are laid in store.  
Nurtured in love, and conscience refined,  
with body and spirit united once more.

Refrain

Gather the spirit growing in all,  
drawn by the moon and fed by the sun.  
Winter to spring, and summer to fall,  
the chorus of life resounding as one.

Refrain

### **#1 *May Nothing Evil Cross This Door***

May nothing evil cross this door,  
and may ill fortune never pry  
about these windows; may the roar and rain go by.

By faith made strong, the rafters will  
withstand the battering of the storm.  
This hearth, though all the world grow chill, will keep you warm.

Peace shall walk softly through these rooms,  
touching our lips with holy wine,  
till ev'ry casual corner blooms into a shrine.

With laughter drown the raucous shout,  
and, though these sheltering walls are thin,  
may they be strong to keep hate out and hold love in.

## **#1007 *There's a River Flowin' in My Soul***

There's a river flowin' in my soul.  
There's a river flowin' in my soul.  
And it's tellin' me that I'm somebody  
There's a river flowin' in my soul.

There's a river flowin' in my heart.  
There's a river flowin' in my heart.  
And it's tellin' me that I'm somebody  
There's a river flowin' in my heart.

There's a river flowin' in my mind.  
There's a river flowin' in my mind.  
And it's tellin' me that I'm somebody  
There's a river flowin' in my mind.

## **#100 *I've Got Peace Like a River***

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river  
in my soul. (Repeat)

I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain  
in my soul. (Repeat)

I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean  
in my soul. (Repeat)

I've got pain like an arrow, I've got pain like an arrow,  
I've got pain like an arrow  
in my soul. (Repeat)

I've got tears like the raindrops, I've got tears like the raindrops,  
I've got tears like the raindrops  
in my soul. (Repeat)

I've got strength like a mountain, I've got strength like a mountain,  
I've got strength like a mountain  
in my soul. (Repeat)

## **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!*