

LOVE IS THE SPIRIT OF THIS CHURCH



12 March 2023

Rev. Steven Protzman

Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent

Love is the Spirit of this Church!

Order of Service

March 12, 2023

We affirm that love is our greatest purpose.
We pledge our hearts, minds and hands:
To challenge injustice with courage; To find hope in times of fear;
And to live out our Unitarian Universalist values
every day as a beloved community.

—Jay E. Abernathy Jr.

Gathering

Music for Gathering *Whoever You Are*
words by the Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church
music by Katie Grigg-Miller

Welcome Rev. Steven Protzman, Minister

Chime

Prelude *Sanctuary*, by Randy Scruggs & John Thompson
adapted; new lyrics by Dave Ruffin

Words of Gathering Elaine Bowen, Worship Associate

Chalice Lighting adapted from 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,
to help one another, and to bring about the Beloved Community.

Opening Hymn *#131 Love Will Guide Us*

Time for All Ages Colleen Thoele, Director of Religious Education

Singing our Children, Caregivers, and Teachers to Their Classes

Go On Your Way in Peace
by Hal Walker

*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.

Reflecting

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

Hymn of Community

#1012 *When I Am Frightened*

Readings

an excerpt from *A Home for Your Soul*
by Rev. Victoria Safford

an excerpt from *First Corinthians 13*, by St. Paul

Choral Interlude

Love is the Spirit of This Church
words by Tony Larsen and Elizabeth Alexander;
music by Elisha Hoffman; arr. Elizabeth Alexander
The Okay Chorale

Sermon

Love is the Spirit of This Church
Rev. Steven Protzman

Returning

Offering

Dream, by Robert Schumann
performed by Don Easterling, French horn
and David Smeltzer, clarinet

A Ritual of Receiving and Honoring our Commitments to UUCK

Responsive Reading (insert)

The Home That Love Made
by Rev. Amanda Poppei

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 (insert)

Life Calls Us On
by Jason Shelton

Benediction



Next Sunday March 19, 2023

Daring to be Vulnerable

Led by Rev. Steven Protzman with Worship Associate Randy Bish

Activities & Events: March 12 - 19, 2023

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

March 12 Sunday

10:00 AM Sunday Worship
11:00 AM Social Hour
11:15 AM Environmental Justice Meeting
12:30 AM Euchre Group
5:00 PM Fessenden Hall Reserved
5:30 PM Choir Dinner – Hobbs Hall
7:30 PM Community Sing – Hobbs Hall

March 13 Monday

6:00 PM OWL

March 14 Tuesday

10:00 AM Staff Meeting
7:00 PM Build Your Own Theology
7:00 PM RE Committee

March 15 Wednesday

7:00 PM Annex Reserved

March 16 Thursday

6:30 PM Committee on Shared Ministry
7:00 PM Thursday Covenant Group

March 17 Friday

6:30 PM All-Church Potluck Dinner

March 18 Saturday

8:00 AM Hobbs Hall Reserved

March 19 Sunday

10:00 AM Sunday Worship
11:00 AM Social Hour
11:30 AM Shared Ministries Council
6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

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

Office – 330.673.4247

Email – churchoffice@kentuu.org

On the web – <https://kentuu.org>

Facebook - www.facebook.com/uuchurchofkent

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

Visit our website.



CHURCH STAFF

Minister	Rev. Steven Protzman	revsteven@kentuu.org
Accompanist	Vanessa Vesely	
Congregational Administrator	MaryBeth Hannan	churchoffice@kentuu.org
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Affiliated Community Minister	Rev. Renee Ruchotzke	rruchotzke@uua.org
Affiliated Community Minister	Rev. Christie Anderson	
Commissioned Lay Minister (CLM)	Lori Mirkin-McGee	
Commissioned Lay Minister (CLM)	Kathy Kerns	

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Love Will Guide Us

Love will guide us, peace has tried us,
hope inside us will lead the way
on the road from greed to giving.
Love will guide us through the hard night.

If you cannot sing like angels,
if you cannot speak before thousands,
you can give from deep within you.
You can change the world with your love.

Love will guide us, peace has tried us,
hope inside us will lead the way
on the road from greed to giving.
Love will guide us through the hard night.

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.

Responsive Reading
The Home That Love Made
by Rev. Amanda Poppei

This is the home that love made.

It is full of the love that the founders felt, when they planned out these walls and raised these beams above us.

This is the home that love made.

It is full of the love of all who have worshiped here; those who have celebrated and grieved here; the babies dedicated, couples married, and family members mourned here.

This is the home that love made.

It is full of the love of our children, as they learn and laugh together, and our youth, as they grow into their own sense of purpose and meaning.

This is the home that love made.

It is full of the love of the staff who have served it, full of their hopes for this congregation, their hard work and their acts of dedication.

This is the home that love made.

It is full of the love of the choir, the love made so clear in the voices lifted here on Sunday morning.

This is the home that love made.

It is full of our love: the love of this community, despite our differences and our disagreements; the love that holds us together as a people.

This is the home that love made.

Can you feel it? May the love be with us always.

Life Calls Us On

by Jason Shelton

Here in rev'ence now we gather
For the blessings we have known,
With a pledge to one another
That we journey not alone.
Joy and sorrow make us wise,
Kin to all that lives and dies;
Love calls us on, Love calls us on.

Words and deeds of those before us
Waken here to keep us strong;
Blend our voices in the chorus
Of creation's living song.
Courage bids us lift our eyes
Upward to the shining skies;
Hope calls us on; Hope calls us on.

Loyal guides in love and duty
Lead us with a trusted light;
Blest are they whose inward beauty
Shows the path of truth and right.
Honor is their earthly prize;
By their work we realize;
Faith calls us on; Faith calls us on.

We have shared a radiant hour
When the truth has made us free;
And the spirit's gracious power
Dreamed of good that yet shall be.
Bright the path before us lies
Joyful pilgrims now we rise;
Life calls us on; Life calls us on!