

Loved for Who You Are



15 October 2023
Rev. Steven Protzman
Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent

Loved for Who You Are

Order of Service

October 15, 2023

Don't come out unless you want to. Don't come out for anyone else's sake. Don't come out because you think society expects you to.

Come out for yourself. Come out to yourself.
Shout, sing it. Correct those who say they knew before you did.
That's not how sexuality works, it's yours to define.

—Dean Atta, in *The Black Flamingo*

Gathering

Music for Gathering

Welcome

Rev. Steven Protzman, Minister

Chime

Prelude

Just As You Are, by Lea Morris
led by UU Youth Singers

Chalice Lighting

adapted from the Religious Institute
Lori Mirkin-McGee

Worship Associate and Commissioned Lay Minister

Leader: We are grateful for the gift of our lives and the gift of other people in our lives.

All: Each of us is created with dignity and worth.

Leader: We are called to love one another and to do nothing to others that we would find hateful to ourselves.

All: We honor the many ways that people live and love.

Leader: May we work to build a world where all people are celebrated and loved.

All: Love does not exclude. We are all worthy. We celebrate sexual and gender diversity as a blessing that enriches us all.

Leader: And so we light this flame

All: to celebrate our diversity and to work, love, and live on the side of love.

Opening Hymn

#1014 Answering the Call of Love
Lee Brooker, Hymn Leader

Reflecting

- Reflection *Akron Pride*
Lo Thoele and Raylynn Rome
- Music Interlude *You Will Be Found*
by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul
Lo Thoele
- Reflection *The First of Many Doors*
Lori Mirkin-McGee
- Reflection Hymn *#1053 How Could Anyone* (sung 2x)
Saunis Parsons, Hymn Leader
- Reading *We Need to Move Beyond Coming Out and Begin Inviting In*
by David Johns
- Reflection *Loved for Who You Are*
Rev. Steven Protzman
- Holding One Another in Care and Compassion
*A time of silence, sharing our sorrows and losses,
and sharing our joys, awe, and wonder*
- Honoring LGBTQIA+ People Colleen Thoele
Director of Religious Education
A candle lighting ritual and pastoral prayer

Returning

- Offering *Everything Possible*, by Fred Small
Vanessa Vesely, piano Emily Hall, vocals
- 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 Song (insert) *I Belong*, by Namoli Brennet
- Benediction



Sunday, October 22, 2023
Our Purposeful Potluck
Led by Rev. Christie Anderson and Worship Associate Randy Bish

Activities & Events: October 15-22, 2023

<https://kentuu.org/calendar>

kentuu.org/news/announcements-events

Oct. 15 Sunday

10:00 AM Worship
11:00 AM Social Hour
11:15 AM Haunted Church Planning
3:00 PM Staff Retreat

Oct. 16 Monday

Church Office Closed

Oct. 17 Tuesday

10:00 AM Endowment Committee
4:30 PM Finance Committee
6:00 PM Rental: Fessenden Reserved
6:00 PM Tone Chimes Rehearsal
6:30 PM Committee on Shared Ministry
7:00 PM RE Committee

Oct. 18 Wednesday

4:30 PM Knitting, Crochet, Needle Point
5:30 PM Youth Music Group
6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Oct. 19 Thursday

1:45 PM Hobbs Hall Reserved
6:45 PM Board of Trustees
7:00 PM Thursday Covenant Group
7:00 PM Sacred Song Circle

Oct. 20 Friday

Oct. 21 Saturday

Oct. 22 Sunday

10:00 AM Worship
11:00 AM Social Hour
11:15 AM Haunted Church Planning
11:30 AM UUA Common Read Book Discussion Group

Church Address: Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent
228 Gouglar 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
Congregational Administrator
Dir. of Religious Education
Transitional Music Director
Accompanist
Campus Use Manager
Nursery Staff
Sexton
Tech Manager
Affiliated Community Minister
Affiliated Community Minister
Commissioned Lay Minister (CLM)
Commissioned Lay Minister (CLM)

Rev. Steven Protzman
MaryBeth Hannan
Colleen Thoele
Emily Hall
Vanessa Vesely
Katie Kuras
Michelle Bores
Brian Mulloy
Julie Swango
Rev. Renee Ruchotzke
Rev. Christie Anderson
Lori Mirkin-McGee
Kathy Kerns

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rruchotzke@uua.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2022 – 2023

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

Kara Kramer
Ginny Horvath
Susanna Smart
Carol Weigand
Heidi Shaffer Bish
Kay Eckman
David Weaver

board@kentuu.org

I Belong

by Namoli Brennet

To the North, South, East and West
Frozen in their sacred lines
To the cardinal directions of the mind

To the chorus of the day
Ringing out their sacred song
To the rock of ages, to the cornerstone
We're not alone here
It's only a short ride
And all I could ever want it
To be a part of this

Chorus:

I belong to fields and skies and plains
I belong, I belong, I belong
I belong to numbers without name
I belong, I belong, I belong

To the light and to the dark
To the players, to their parts
To forgiveness, may we find it in our hearts

And to those who would destroy
And to those who would divide
May we find our better angels in this life

We're never long here
It's only a short ride
And all I could ever want is
To be a part of this

(Chorus)

And to those who've come before
And to those still yet to be
May we all be happy, may we all be free
From suffering, cause
It's only a short ride
And all I could ever want is
To be a part of this

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