



A Service of Remembrance and Gratitude

for the life of

Kevin Kerns

September 12, 1960 – November 28, 2023

Order of Service
Wednesday, December 20, 2023
4:00 pm
Hobbs Hall at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent
Kent, Ohio

Prelude Vanessa Vesely
Accompanist, the UU Church of Kent

Gathering

Words of Gathering Rev. Steven Protzman
Minister, the UU Church of Kent

Opening Hymn #159 *This is My Song*
Emily Hall
Music Director, the UU Church of Kent

Remembering

Readings *A Garment of a Life Examined*
written and read by Rev. Renee Ruchotzke

The Peace of Wild Things
by Wendell Berry
read by Thomas Jackson

Music Interlude *Hard Times in Babylon* by Eliza Gilkyson
sung by Emily Hall

Remembering Kevin

Rev. Steven Protzman
William Kerns
Alan and Noah Kerns
David Yaniglos

Music *Nada de Turbe (Nothing Can Trouble)*
words by St. Theresa of Jesus; music by Jacques Berthier
sung by the UU Peace Choir

Collage of memories

*A time to share your stories, memories,
and thoughts about Kevin*

Time of Silence and Reflection

Music Interlude *Prelude in G Major, Op. 32, No. 5*
by Sergei Rachmaninoff

Commendation

The Candle of Memory

Returning

Responsive Reading (insert) *The Gates of Prayer*
adapted from Roland B. Gittelsohn

Closing Hymn *#163 For the Earth Forever Turning*

Closing Words

Song for Sending *Walk On*
by U2
sung by Emily Hall

*You are cordially invited to a reception
here in Hobbs Hall after this service
to greet Kevin's family*

The Peace of Wild Things
by Wendell Berry

*When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,*

*I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.*

*I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief.*

*I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars waiting with their light.*

For a time I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.



Gifts in memory of Kevin may be given to

Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park's
Trails Now or Environmental Education Fund
1403 West Hines Hill Road, Peninsula, Ohio 44264
<https://www.conservancyforcvnp.org/donate>

or

Next Man Foundation
Checks can be sent in care of
Jason Daron, 13720 Duncan Run Road
Galena, OH 43021

or

Bill Dodge via email at wedodge1977@gmail.com
to use a credit card.



#159 *This is My Song*

This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;
but other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
O hear my song, thou God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

#163 *For the Earth Forever Turning*

For the earth forever turning;
for the skies, for ev'ry sea;
for our lives, for all we cherish,
sing we our joyful song of peace.

For the mountains, hills and pastures
in their silent majesty;
for the stars, for all the heavens,
sing we our joyful song of peace.

For the sun, for rain and thunder,
for the seasons' harmony,
for our lives, for all creation,
sing we our joyful praise to thee.

For the world we raise our voices,
for the home that gives us birth;
in our joy we sing returning
home to our blue green hills of earth.

The Gates of Prayer

by Roland B. Gittelsohn

Please respond with the words in italics

In the rising of the sun and in its going down,
we remember him.

In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,
we remember him.

In the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring,
we remember him.

In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer,
we remember him.

In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn,
we remember him.

When we are weary and in need of strength,
we remember him.

When we have joys we yearn to share,
we remember him.

*So long as we live, he too shall live,
for he is now a part of us, as we remember him.*