

Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent

# LIVE IN THE MYSTERY



Rev. Steven Protzman  
10 December 2023

# ***Live in the Mystery***

Order of Service

December 10, 2023

You bring yourself before the sacred,  
before the holy,  
before what is ultimate and bigger than your lone life...  
You stand at the edge of mystery,  
at the edge of the deep...  
—Rev. Angela Herrera

## **Gathering**

Music for Gathering

Welcome and Chime

Rev. Steven Protzman, Minister

Prelude

*Gathered Here*  
by Philip A. Porter

Chalice Lighting

by Eric Heller-Wagner

Blessed is the fire that burns deep in the soul.  
It is the flame of the human spirit  
touched into being by the mystery of life.  
It is the fire of reason; the fire of compassion;  
the fire of community; the fire of justice; the fire of faith.  
It is the fire of love burning deep in the human heart;  
The divine glow in every life.

Opening Hymn (insert)

*Ours is a Simple Faith*  
by David Tamulevich

Time for All Ages

*Hide-and-Seek With God*  
by Mary Ann Moore  
Kevyn Breedon

Singing our Children, Caregivers, and Teachers to Their Classes

*Go On Your Way*, 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*

Music Meditation

*Stars*

by Namoli Brennet

Brad Bolton, guitar and vocals

Readings

an excerpt from *Sacred Mystery*

by Rev. Chris Jimmerson

*Mysteries, Yes*

by Mary Oliver

Reflection Hymn

*#123 Spirit of Life*

Sermon

*Live in the Mystery*

Rev. Steven Protzman

## Returning

Offering

*Mystery*

by Jeremy Geffen

Vanesaa Vesely, piano; Katie Grigg-Miller, 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 Hymn

*#21 For the Beauty of the Earth*

Benediction



*Wednesday, December 13, 2023*

*Blue Christmas 7 PM in the Sanctuary*

*Led by Rev. Steven Protzman, Rev. Renee Ruchotzke,*

*CLM Lori Mirkin-McGee and Emily Hall*

*Sunday, December 17, 2023*

*The Tree that was Meant to Be*

*Led by DRE Colleen Thoele and our UUCK Children and Youth*

**Activities & Events: Dec. 10 - 17, 2023**<https://kentuu.org/calendar>[kentuu.org/news/announcements-events](https://kentuu.org/news/announcements-events)**Dec. 10 Sunday**

10:00 AM Worship  
 11:00 AM Social Hour  
 11:30 PM Pageant Rehearsal

**Dec. 11 Monday**

Church Office Closed

**Dec. 12 Tuesday**

1:00 PM Staff Meeting  
 4:00 PM Finance Committee  
 6:00 PM Rental: Fessenden Reserved  
 6:00 PM Tone Chimes Rehearsal

**Dec. 13 Wednesday**

12:00 PM Rental – Hobbs Hall Reserved  
 4:30 PM Knitting, Crochet, Needle Point  
 4:30 PM Board Audit Team  
 5:30 PM Youth Music Group  
 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal  
 7:00 PM Blue Christmas Vespers

**Dec. 14 Thursday**

1:15 PM Hobbs Hall Reserved  
 7:00 PM Community Sing

**Dec. 15 Friday**

11:30 AM Rental – Hobbs Hall Reserved

**Dec. 16 Saturday**

8:00 AM Rental-Hobbs Hall Reserved  
 10:00 AM Pageant Rehearsal

**Dec. 17 Sunday**

10:00 AM Worship  
 11:00 AM Social Hour

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

Office – 330.673.4247

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

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  
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**BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2023 – 2024**

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](mailto:board@kentuu.org)

## ***Ours is a Simple Faith***

by David Tamulevich

Chorus: Ours is a simple faith  
Life is a short embrace  
Heaven is in this place every day  
Hope is the ground we till.  
Make each day what you will.  
Thankful for dreams fulfilled. every day.

*There is no Hell to fear. No judgment day drawing near.  
Trust that inner voice you hear, every day...  
Life's not a goal or race. It's about heart and faith,  
And living a life of grace, every day.*

Chorus

*Trust is an open hand, making an honest stand.  
Rooted in the land, every day...  
Live in the mystery, seeking the harmony,  
Here between you and me, every day.*

Chorus

## ***#123 Spirit of Life***

Spirit of Life, come unto me.  
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.  
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;  
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.  
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;  
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

## **#21 For the Beauty of the Earth**

For the beauty of the earth, for the splendor of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:  
Source of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:  
Source of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light:  
Source of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human care, sister, brother, parent, child,  
for the kinship we all share, for all gentle thoughts and mild:  
Source of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.