

The Gospel According to Elvis

January 14, 2018

Prelude

Amazing Grace Jera Cox
arr. by Mark Hayes Danny Groh, percussionist

Welcome

Rev. Benjamin Maucere

Doxology

*From hand to hand the greeting flows,
From eye to eye the signals run,
From heart to heart the bright hope glows;
The seekers of the light are one.*

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn

v.1 *This little light of mine*
v.2 *Everywhere I go*
v.3 *Building up a world*
v.4 *Hide it under a bushel?*

Chalice Lighting

Owen Uhl

Blessed is the fire of our faith and the chalice of our community.
Blessed is the living tradition that we carry forward in our work and in our love.
Blessed is the transient flame we kindle here,
Blessed is the illuminated moment of our gathering.
Blessed is the light of the eternal;
Blessed is the sacred call of life to which we give ourselves in answer.

Time for All Ages

Children's Recessional

*You bring us hope and help to see our future world that's yet to be.
You teach us much as years go by. You are our strength, our joy, our pride.*

Pastoral Hymn

#60 *Just as Long as I Have Breath*

Candles of Joys and Sorrows

Vision Song

Shelley Jackson Denham

*We are a liberal religious haven, welcoming wonder, and spiritually free.
We're sustained by a loving tradition, moved and inspired by the future we see.
Boldly seeking and working for justice,
gently transforming lives through deeds great and small.*

*Young and old, sharing meaning and mission,
we joyfully offer our vision to all!*

Meditation

Prayer

Musical Response

Invitation to Offering

Offertory *Love Me Tender*
Elvis Presley

Sermon *The Gospel According to Elvis*

Closing Hymn #116 *I'm On My Way*

Benediction

Postlude *Impossible Dream*
Mitch Leigh/Joe Darion



Next Sunday, Jan. 21 – The Rev. Benjamin Maucere – *Dream or Nightmare?* – Martin and Malcolm.

Sunday Morning Volunteer Program (MVP) Team Two is handling the duties of greeting, ushering, providing coffee service and clean-up today. Team Two is led by Katie Campbell. She is joined by Ray Sinclair, Mimi Gingold, Jane Hopson, Joe Rohling, Jean Rohling, Rebecca Algenio, Ellen Wathen, Molly Gillespie, Allen Fleury, Rebecca Schaefer, Phillip Schaefer, Michelle Ellis, Lisa Davis Roberts, Bret Davis Roberts.

The flowers today are given by Mary Mark and David Johnson to celebrate the coming spring season.

Sound Technician: Sallie Barringer

Assistive Listening Devices for people needing hearing enhancement are available at the rear of the sanctuary.

All are invited to write their **Joys and Sorrows** in the book at the back of the sanctuary.

ESPECIALLY FOR VISITORS

We're glad you're here! Please join us after the service for coffee, tea, and conversation. Stop by the Welcome Counter (as you entered the building) to sign up for our newsletter. You'll get a sense of the interesting events and efforts at First Church.

Have questions about Unitarian Universalism or First

Church? Come to a casual information session to get your questions answered. **The next Visitor Orientation is TODAY**, following the service in the Fisher Room (just beyond the coffee). Childcare is provided; we'll be finished by noon, and no need to RSVP.

Ready to join? If you've been visiting for a while and have participated in an orientation, it may be time to officially join First Church. **Our next opportunity to join First Church is next Sun., Jan. 21**, right after the service and before the Congregational Meeting. Please contact Carol Lloyd at calloyd1102@gmail.com or 513.515.6891.

TODAY

Today in Sunday School – Your Prekindergartener and Kindergartener will learn that “church is people.” Your first through third graders will revisit our fifth principle and learn about Ruby Bridges. And, your fourth and fifth graders will listen to the Buddhist story “The Mountains of Tibet.” Upstairs your Junior High will revisit UUville with new avatars, and the Senior High will engage in leadership training.

Today at 11:30 – First Church HUManinists meet in Room 207. Bart Campolo, a chaplain and Humanist at the University of Cincinnati will describe his spiritual journey from an evangelical church background to a lay humanist. Richard C. (Dick) Bozian, rcbozian@hotmail.com, [513.521.2391](tel:513.521.2391)

Today's Family Programming Volunteers: Jan Connelly (Infant/Toddler); Jeffrey Hildebrand (PreK – K); Lisa Littner and Laurie Rivers (1st to 3rd); Rose Conley and Jack Copley (4th and 5th); Denys Steele (Junior High) and Jamie Moore (Senior High).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sun, Jan. 21, 11:15 a.m. - First Unitarian Church **congregational meeting** will be held following the worship service. If you are a member of First Church, but have not yet attended a congregational meeting, you may establish your voting rights for voting at future congregational meetings by attending this meeting. This will be your last chance to establish voting rights prior to the spring meeting at which we will vote to call our new minister. Childcare will be provided for this meeting. RSVP to Dan Schneider for childcare, danschneider1227@yahoo.com or 513.561.0849.

Sat., Jan. 27, 9 a.m. to noon – Communications Skills for Life - Building on the behavioral covenant developed last month, we need to learn how to communicate our beliefs and feelings without being adversarial – in our homes, our workplaces, our church, our country. Join the Transition Team led by Jayson Zoller and Jack Copley as we explore strategies to make this happen. An optional potluck lunch will follow. Make reservations with Linda Miltner (513.661.6993 or miltner.linda@gmail.com).

Sun., Jan. 28, 11:20 a.m., in the Ellen Hall Room. The **First Church Peace Committee** presents another Open Forum. The agenda is an update and discussion regarding recent ICE events in Northern Kentucky. We will focus on the conditions in Central and South America that are driving the present exodus. All are welcome, come and bring friends. Ann Black – 513.563.8467, <mailto:annblack@cinci.rr.com>

YOU are the heart of the annual Heart & Hand auction scheduled Feb. 3 from 6 to 9 p.m. at church. Please visit the Heart & Hand table after the service to lend your hand (volunteer); give from the heart (donate an auction item); or purchase restaurant raffle tickets.

Thank you, generous First Church friends for your gifts to the two refugee families, the Destani's and the Komi-Osman's. We gave each mom a Kroger gift card for \$150 and there will be some money left in the refugee account in case of emergencies or school supplies they might need in mid-year. Each child got four gifts and will be writing a thank you card to the church. Please check out the bulletin board in the Ellen Hall Room after next week. Jan Smith

Wonder Questions

1. Who are the people who have influenced you? How? Why?
2. How do you feel when everything around you is quiet?
3. Can you think of a time when something small or quiet that you did made a big difference for someone else?