

Let the Mystery Be

July 16, 2017

Rev. Jef Gamblee

Jera Cox, Director of Music

Nick Payne, Bob Boothe & Brian Rivers, Guest Musicians

Jorge Vila, Worship Associate

Ingathering

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!

Welcome

Prelude

Ave Verum

Nick Payne and Bob Boothe

Karl Jenkins

Call to Worship

Excerpted from Tim Hardin

Opening Hymn

#1028 *The Fire of Commitment*

Chalice Lighting

Chalice, chalice burning bright, help remind us with your light

Of how we'd like to live each day, with love and truth helping lead the way

Litany of Atonement

Response: I forgive you, I forgive myself, we begin again in love.

Amazing Grace

Pastoral Meditation

Pastoral Hymn

May We Shine a Light of Love

*May we shine a light of love,**

*May we shine a light of love**

*With every thought, with every step we take, May we shine a light of love**

**Peace, Hope, Faith*

Joyce Poley

Let the Mystery Be – The Music

Jera Cox and Brian Rivers

Joys and Sorrows of Personal Significance

Musical Interlude

Offertory

Simple Gifts
Traditional, Arr. Andy Beck

Sermon

Let the Mystery Be

Closing Hymn

#1064 *Blue Boat Home*

Benediction

Extinguishing the Chalice

Postlude

Benedictus
Brian Lewis



Next Sunday, July 23 – remember that the service is at 11 a.m. - We will join our friends at St. John's Unitarian Universalist Church at 320 Resor. To balance rugged independence with collaborative interdependence takes skill, faith and a lot of good-will. This week Rev. Mitra Jafarzadeh and Laura Gentry will explore the joy of deep collaboration through words and music. Special music, including the amazing Mike Wade, arranged through Jazz Alive.

The Flowers this Morning are given in recognition of Faith Maynard and her outstanding efforts with the Interfaith Hospitality Network at First Church.

Sunday Morning Volunteer Program (MVP) Team Three is handling the duties of greeting, ushering, providing coffee service and clean-up today. Team Three is led by Linda Miltner. She is joined by Sallie Barringer, Stephen Crandall, Barbara Homlar, Jack Niehaus, Denise Olden, Ann Retford, and our newest member **Kate Rosselot**. She is also joined by **Laura Bange and David Roth from St. John's**.

Sound Technician: David Johnson

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 and conversation and stop by the Welcome Counter to sign up for our newsletter so you can get a sense of what goes on at First Church.

Have questions about Unitarian Universalism or First Church?

Come to a casual orientation for visitors to get your questions answered. **The next orientation August 13, in the Fisher Room** (just beyond the coffee). Childcare is provided; we'll be finished by noon. Contact Carol Lloyd for more information.

Ready to join?

If you've been visiting for a while and have participated in an orientation, it may be time to officially join us. To do so, please contact Carol at calloyd1102@gmail.com or 513.515.6891.

TODAY

Today in Sunday School we welcome our friends from St. John's Unitarian Universalist Church. Your prekindergarten to fifth grader will hear a traditional tale from Israel and play the Israeli game Go-go-im! Junior High youth should plan on joining their parents for the service. The majority of our Junior High youth are at the Schneider's Lake House for their annual bonding trip!

Today - 11:30-12:30, Ellen Hall Room, following the worship service, members of First Church and St. John's UU who attended the 2017 Unitarian Universalist Association **General Assembly** will share reflections from their experiences. Questions and discussion are welcome. A light lunch will be provided. Dan Schneider, danschneider1227@yahoo.com or [513.561.0849](tel:513.561.0849)

Today – 11:15 in the Fisher Room – Join the Congregational Conversation on the proposed changes in the Constitution and Bylaws that will be voted on at the Annual Meeting in September.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon., July 17, 11:30 a.m. – Meditation

Upcoming Ministerial Search Committee Dates:

July 16 – Ministerial Search Surveys due.

Aug. 20 – Sept. 15 – Focus groups for First Church members related to the ministerial search.

Aug. 19 – Morning workshop lead by UUA Transitions director on selecting a minister.

Aug. 6 – in the Fisher Room at 11:15 - Congregational Conversation on the revised bylaws. This will be the third opportunity to join the Conversation. A third opportunity will occur on **Aug. 13 at 9 a.m.**

The new year for First Church Sharing Circles will begin the week of September 9. It is now time to think about joining for next year. There will be 10 topics offered for discussion which have been prepared by Soul Matters. So how do you sign up? If you are a member you can: (1) Respond to an emailed invitation if you were in a sharing circle this past year. In fact, you may already have received your invitation. (2) Sign up at church in August. (3) Email Jo Ellen (joeellen63@gmail.com) and she will sign you up. If you are a new church member or a non-member and interested in joining a sharing circle please let Jo Ellen know and she will put you in contact with the correct person.

Sun., Aug. 27, 11:15 a.m. - in the sanctuary, the Blessing Law Firm will provide a seminar to our congregation on *How to Avoid Becoming Scammer Prey and Getting Scammed*. The Blessing Law Firm will provide this seminar and is heading the investigation into the scammers who took advantage of the Froehlichs. Come learn what you can do to prevent getting scammed! Questions? Contact Shelly Wallace at swallace6275@gmail.com

Welcome to our friends from St. John's! For several years, we have shared July services with St. John's Unitarian Universalist Church at 320 Resor Avenue. We are pleased to have been your hosts for the last three Sundays. In return, on July 23 and 30, we will join you at St. John's. Note that the services at St. John's begin at 11 a.m.