

The First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleborough

November 15, 2020

10:30 a.m.

Prelude

Main Street

by Clif Hardin

Welcome and Announcements

Deanne Bonnar & Sarah Person

Responsive Opening Words

594 *Principles and Purposes for All of Us*

Reader: We affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of each person.

Congregation: We believe that each and every person is important.

Reader: We affirm and promote justice, equality, and compassion in human relations.

Congregation: We believe that all people should be treated fairly.

Reader: We affirm and promote acceptance of one another and encouragement of spiritual growth.

Congregation: We believe that our churches are places where all people are accepted, and where we keep on learning together.

Reader: We affirm and promote a free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

Congregation: We believe that each person must be free to search for what is true and right in life.

Reader: We affirm and promote the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process.

Congregation: We believe that all people should have a voice and a vote about the things which concern them.

Reader: We affirm and promote the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.

Congregation: We believe that we should work for a peaceful, fair, and free world.

Reader: We affirm and promote respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Congregation: We believe that we should care for our planet earth.

Hymn #347 *Gather the Spirit* (See page 4)

Chalice Lighting *Letting Go* by Jay Wolin
(Everyone can light their candles at home.)

Message for All Ages **Kelly Lownds**
Harlem's Little Blackbird: The Story of Florence Mills
by Renee Watson

Reflection **Mike Schroeder**

Reflection **Nicola Wilbar**

Reflection **Dody Adkins-Perry**

Reading *Let America Be America Again*
by Langston Hughes as amended

Sermon *What Will We Do for Love* **Rev. Sarah Person**

Offertory **Quartet: Andrea Priest, Katie Allen, Sarah Person, Dan Hotchkiss**
Lift Every Voice and Sing (See page 5)
by James Weldon Johnson and J. Rosamond Johnson

Invitation to the Leadership

Invitation to the Congregation

Hymn *Hold On (Eyes on the Prize)* (See page 6)
African American Spiritual; Transcribed by Justice Choir, 2017

Closing Words by Susan Frederick-Gray

Unison Benediction

***Go out into the world in peace.
Have courage.
Hold on to what is good.
Return to no person evil for evil.
Strengthen the fainthearted.
Support the weak.
Help the suffering.
Honor all beings.***

Sung Benediction #1057 *Go Lifted Up* by Mortimer Barron
***Go lifted up,
Love bless your way,
moonlight, starlight guide your journey into peace
and the brightness of day.***

Postlude *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*
Traditional Spiritual; set by John Carter

After the Service

Reports to Congregation from the Racial Justice Task Group

1. *Introduction*
2. *Self Growth*
3. *Education*
4. *Advocacy*

Appreciation to All

Music Notes

*The offertory and second hymn are from **Justice Choir Songbook, Volume 1**, first published in June of 2017 and made possible by Westminster Presbyterian Church, Minneapolis. This collection has been a staple of our Zoom Choir rehearsals since September. Many of the songs were written specifically for this project; some have new words set to familiar tunes; some are in their original form. All the songs address the pressing issues of our time. This singing has sparked discussions on race, wealth, gender, citizenship, appropriation, survivorship, identity, immigration, faith, gun violence, privilege, peace-making, and the role of art. For more information, please see www.justicechoir.org*

Gather the Spirit

Words & music: Jim Scott

Gather the spirit, harvest the power.
Our sep'rate fires will kindle one flame.
Witness the mystery of this hour.
Our trials in this light appear all the same.

Gather in peace, gather in thanks.
Gather in sympathy now and then.
Gather in hope, compassion and strength.
Gather to celebrate once again.

Gather the spirit of heart and mind.
Seeds for the sowing are laid in store.
Nurtured in love, and conscience refined,
with body and spirit united once more.

Gather in peace, gather in thanks.
Gather in sympathy now and then.
Gather in hope, compassion and strength.
Gather to celebrate once again.

Gather the spirit growing in all,
drawn by the moon and fed by the sun.
Winter to spring, and summer to fall,
the chorus of life resounding as one.

Gather in peace, gather in thanks.
Gather in sympathy now and then.
Gather in hope, compassion and strength.
Gather to celebrate once again.

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Words: James Weldon Johnson

Music: J. Rosamond Johnson

Lift every voice and sing,
till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty;
let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod,
bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path thru the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

Hold On (Eyes on the Prize)

Refrain credited to Alice Wine
Johns Island, SC / 1950's

African American Spiritual
transc. by Justice Choir / 2017

VERSES:

1. Oh, the one thing we did right was the day we started to fight.
Keep your eyes on the prize. Hold on!
2. Got my hand on the freedom plow, wouldn't take nothin' for my
journey now.
Keep your eyes on the prize. Hold on!

REFRAIN: (sing twice)
Hold on! Hold on!
Keep your eyes on the prize.
Hold on!

3. Only chains that we can stand, are the chains of hand in hand.
Keep your eyes on the prize. Hold on!
4. We're gonna board that big Greyhound, carryin' love from town to
town.
Keep your eyes on the prize. Hold on!

REFRAIN: (sing twice)
Hold on! Hold on!
Keep your eyes on the prize.
Hold on!

5. Many good souls have fought and died, so we could sing here side by
side.
Keep your eyes on the prize. Hold on!
6. When united it is clear, we don't have to live in fear.
Keep your eyes on the prize. Hold on!

REFRAIN: (sing twice)
Hold on! Hold on!
Keep your eyes on the prize.
Hold on!

Licensed for non-commercial distribution through the Creative Commons
BY-NC-ND 4.0 International license