

The First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleborough
April 17, 2022 *Easter Sunday*

Organ Prelude *Flute Piece* by William Hine

Welcome and Announcements **Rev. Sarah Person**

Opening Words *A Tomb Is No Place to Stay* by Richard Gilbert

Hymn #1000 *Morning Has Come (See page 4)*

Chalice Lighting by Liz Strong

Chalice Lighting Response *May We Shine a Light of Love* by Joyce Poley

*May we shine a light of love,
May we shine a light of love,
With ev'ry thought, With ev'ry step we take
May we shine a light of love.*

Musical Offering *Alleluia* **Chalice Choir**
by Mozart, arr. Russell Robinson

Message for All Ages *Easter Litany* **Kelly Lownds**
by Lisa Maria Andreoli Steinberg

Congregational Response:
Sing praises for spring revealing holy love growing from deep in our hearts.

1. We celebrate the memory of winter's sleep and the quieting of our souls.

Response

2. We celebrate the return of color and the rebirth of wonder.

Response

3. We celebrate the treasure of new life and the promise within.

Response

4. We celebrate the human cycle of joy and sorrow and the companionship of this community.

Response

5. We celebrate the search for what is sacred and the lifelong pursuit of truth.

Response

6. We celebrate the promise of summer's bounty and how it will feed our souls.

Response

(Joys and Concerns will be shared at the start of our time of fellowship.)

Prayer

Hymn #266 *Now the Green Blade Riseth* (See page 5)

Responsive Reading *A Planet Is Born* by Amanda Udis-Kessler

Leader: A planet is born, a spark ignites,
something completely new comes into being;

Congregation: *we give thanks for the mystery and miracle of life.*

A waterfall descends, a rainbow arcs through the sky,
the ocean opens to an endless horizon;

we give thanks for the mystery and miracle of beauty.

The stars pierce our hearts, peace envelops us, we are blessed;

we give thanks for the mystery and miracle of wonder.

In the midst of pain, we find our way to hope and restoration;

we give thanks for the mystery and miracle of healing.

In the midst of fear, we do what is right
and speak our truth in faith;

we give thanks for the mystery and miracle of courage.

In our aloneness we see someone in greater need and
offer ourselves to them;

we give thanks for the mystery and miracle of compassion.

We gather in community, in relationship, in friendship,
and cherish each other;

we give thanks for the mystery and miracle of love.

Sermon *Emergence* **Rev. Sarah Person**

Offertory *Immortal, Invisible* Welsh ballad, arr. J. M. Martin

Closing Words
Selection from *View from the Iceberg* by Bruce Clary

Hymn #61 *Lo, the Earth Awakes Again* (See page 6)

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 *Go Your Way in Peace* by Jim Scott
*Go your way in peace,
wander as you may,
Blessed is the path you take:
may love guide you on your way.*

Extinguishing the Chalice (*in unison*) by Brian Kiely
*The Chalice is extinguished,
but its light lives on in the minds
and the hearts and the souls of each one of us.
Let us carry the flame with us and
share it with those we know,
with those we love, and most
especially, with those we have yet to meet.*

Postlude *Amazing Grace* **Tony Soares**
by James Carrell & David Clayton

Morning Has Come

Words & music: Jason Shelton

Morning has come, arise and greet the day!
Dance with joy and sing a song of gladness!
The light of hope here shines upon each face.
May it bring faith to guide our journey home.

A new day dawns, once more the gift is giv'n.
Wonder fills this moment shared together.
The light of peace here shines upon each face.
May it bring faith to guide our journey home.

Open our eyes to see that life abounds;
open hearts to welcome it among us.
The light of love here shines upon each face.
May it bring faith to guide our journey home.

Now the Green Blade Riseth

Words: John MacLeod Campbell Crum

Music: Medieval French carol, harmony by Marcel Dupré

Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:

Chorus:

Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

In the grave they laid him, Love by hatred slain,
thinking that never he would wake again,
laid in the earth, like grain that sleeps unseen:

Chorus

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Love's touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

Chorus

Lo, the Earth Awakes Again

Words: Samuel Longfellow

Music: Lyra Davidica

Lo, the earth awakes again — Alleluia!

From the winter's bond and pain.

Alleluia! Bring we leaf and flower and spray — Alleluia!

to adorn this happy day. Alleluia!

Once again the word comes true,

Alleluia! All the earth shall be made new. Alleluia!

Now the dark, cold days are o'er, Alleluia!

Spring and gladness are before. Alleluia!

Change, then, mourning into praise, Alleluia!

And, for dirges, anthems raise. Alleluia!

How our spirits soar and sing, Alleluia!

How our hearts leap with the spring! Alleluia!