

The First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleborough
June 5, 2022 10:30 a.m.

Prelude **Patty Simon (flute) and Bet Giddings (piano)**
Over the Rainbow by Harold Arlen and Yip Harburg

Welcome and Announcements **Rev. Sarah Person**

Responsive Call to Worship by Forrest Church, adapted

Leader: Each of us, of course, must assume the responsibility
for awakening.

Congregation: *Others may be responsible for our being born,
but what we make of our lives,
how deeply and intensively we live,
is our responsibility, and ours alone.*

Leader: Having accepted life as a gift for ourselves,
we are then charged to revere the presence
of this same gift in others.

Hymn #170 *We Are a Gentle, Angry People* (See page 5)

Chalice Lighting *The Pride Flame* by Linda lee Franson, amended

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 **Bet Giddings (vocals & piano)**
True Colors by Billy Steinberg and Tom Kelly

Message for All Ages **Kelly Lownds**
This Day in June by Gayle E. Pitman

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

Reflection **Chris Korben**

Meditation *Words Fail* by David Glasgow

Hymn #1053 *How Could Anyone (See page 6)*

Reading *When Thunder Comes* by J. Patrick Lewis,
2011-2013 United States' Children's Poet Laureate

Sermon *Living Boldly* **Rev. Sarah Person**

Hymn #348 *Guide My Feet (See page 7)*

Offertory **Patty Simon (flute) and Bet Giddings (piano)**
Fly Me to the Moon by Bart Howard

Closing Words *Rainbow Blessing* by Cricket Hall

Congregational Song *Keep on Moving Forward (See page 8)*

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

**Chalice Choir Ensemble,
accompanied by Ed Priest (guitar)**

Swimming to the Other Side (See page 9)

Music Notes

We welcome Bet Giddings and Patty Simon as coordinators of this morning's music, while Susan Hotchkiss spends a well-deserved weekend away in Florida enjoying her grandchildren.

Kudos to today's ensemble of singers: Dody Adkins-Perry, Jim Bonnar, Bet Giddings, Ed & Andrea Priest, Patty Simon, and Jeff Stevens; and many thanks to guitarist Ed Priest for his accompaniment on the postlude.

Special music today includes several beloved anthems of the LGBTQ+ community: "Over the Rainbow" composed by Harold Arlen and Yip Harburg and originally sung by Judy Garland in the movie "The Wizard of Oz;" "True Colors" by Billy Steinberg and Tom Kelly, popularized by many significant artists including Cindy Lauper and Eva Cassidy; and the powerful "Keep on Moving Forward" by Pat Humphries of the activist feminist duo Emma's Revolution. "Fly Me to the Moon," famously recorded by Frank Sinatra, was actually written by Bart Howard in 1954 as a love song to Thomas "Bud" Fowler, the man who became his life partner of 58 years.

We close the service with another inspirational song by Pat Humphries: "Swimming to the Other Side." This song reminds us to "cherish the beings we live beside, loving spirits will live forever, we're all swimming to the other side." Please sing along!

We Are a Gentle, Angry People

Words & music: Holly Near

We are a gentle, angry people,
and we are singing, singing for our lives.
We are a gentle, angry people,
and we are singing, singing for our lives.

We are a justice-seeking people,
and we are singing, singing for our lives.
We are a justice-seeking people,
and we are singing, singing for our lives.

We are young and old together,
and we are singing, singing for our lives.
We are young and old together,
and we are singing, singing for our lives.

We are a land of many colors,
and we are singing, singing for our lives.
We are a land of many colors,
and we are singing, singing for our lives.

We are gay and straight together,
and we are singing, singing for our lives.
We are gay and straight together,
and we are singing, singing for our lives.

We are a gentle, loving people,
and we are singing, singing for our lives.
We are a gentle, loving people,
and we are singing, singing for our lives.

How Could Anyone

Words & music: Libby Roderick

How could anyone ever tell you

you were anything less than beautiful?

How could anyone ever tell you

you were less than whole?

How could anyone fail to notice

that your loving is a miracle?

How deeply you're connected to my soul.

Guide My Feet

Words: Traditional

Music: Spiritual from the collection of Willis Laurence James
harmony by Wendell Whalum

Guide my feet while I run this race.

Guide my feet while I run this race.

Guide my feet while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

Hold my hand while I run this race.

Hold my hand while I run this race.

Hold my hand while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

Stand by me while I run this race.

Stand by me while I run this race.

Stand by me while I run this race,
for I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

Search my heart while I run this race.

Search my heart while I run this race.

Search my heart while I run this race.

For I don't want to run this race in vain! (race in vain!)

Keep on Moving Forward

by Pat Humphries of Emma's Revolution (1984)

Gonna keep on moving forward

Keep on moving forward

Keep on moving forward

Never turning back

Never turning back

Gonna keep on moving proudly...

Gonna keep on singing loudly...

Gonna keep on loving boldly...

Gonna keep on moving forward...

Swimming to the Other Side

by Pat Humphries of Emma's Revolution (1990,1992)

Chorus: (same melody as verse)

*We are living 'neath the great Big Dipper
We are washed by the very same rain,
We are swimming in the stream together,
Some in power, and some in pain.
We can worship this ground we walk on,
Cherishing the beings we live beside.
Loving spirits will live forever,
We're all swimming to the other side.*

1. I am alone and I am searching,
Hungering-for-answers in my time.
I am balanced at the brink of wisdom,
I'm impatient-to-receive a sign.
I move forward with my senses open
Imperfection will be my crime,
In humility I will listen,
We're all swimming to the other side.

Chorus

2. On this journey in thoughts and feelings,
Binding intuition – my head, my heart,
I am gathering the tools together,
I'm preparing to do my part.
All of those who-have-come before me
Band together and be my guide,
Loving lessons that I will follow,
We're all swimming to the other side.

Chorus

3. When we get there, we'll discover
All of the gifts we've-been-given to share
Have been with us since life's beginning and
We never noticed they were there.
We can balance at the brink of wisdom,
Never-recognizing that we've arrived,
Loving spirits will live together,
We're all swimming to the other side.

Chorus x 2, then repeat last 2 lines