

The First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleborough
September 17, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Chimes

Teddy Rowe

Organ Prelude

Flight of Angels

by George F. Handel

Words of Welcome

Viola Fairweather

Hymn*

#22

Dear Weaver of Our Lives' Design

Call to Worship

#429

“Come into this place of peace...”

by William F. Schulz

Chalice Lighting

Isla Rowe

Chalice Lighting Response

May We Shine a Light of Love (See last page)

Musical Offering

Chalice Ensemble

Bright Morning Star

Appalachian Spiritual arr. Peter Amidon

Unison Reading

*To be a strong community, great with acceptance, appreciation,
respect, trust, and forgiveness;*

to listen to one another and resolve our conflicts peacefully:

These things we covenant together.

Message for All Ages

The Invisible String

Kelly Lownds

by Patrice Karst

Children's Call to R.E. Classes *Children leave at this time.*

Children's Blessing (See last page)

by First UU Nashville Youth Choir

Time of Meditation and Prayer

Prayer

Silence

Hymn* #1002 *Comfort Me*

Responsive Reading

Viola Fairweather

#655 *Change Alone Is Unchanging*

by Heraklietos of Ephesos

Sermon

When We Grieve

Rev. Peter Connolly

Offertory

Sicut Cervus

by Jason Shelton

Psalm 42: "As the deer longs for streams of cool water,
my soul is longing for you, my God."

The Cash in the Plate for the month of September will be donated to the Salvation Army for relief efforts in Maui in the wake of the fire.

Hymn* #18 *What Wondrous Love*

Closing Words

#706 "May the light around us..." by Kathleen McTigue

Sung Benediction

#1057 *Go Lifted Up (See last page)* by Mortimer Barron

Postlude

To a Wild Rose

from *Woodland Sketches* by Edward MacDowell

Announcements

Rev. Peter Connolly

Joys and Concerns

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.

* *Please stand as you are able.*

Thank you to all who helped with today's service:

<i>Greeters:</i>	<i>Deanne & Jim Bonnar</i>
<i>Coffee Hour Host:</i>	<i>Andrea Priest</i>
<i>Worship Associate:</i>	<i>Viola Fairweather</i>
<i>Stream Team Member:</i>	<i>Jeff Giddings</i>
<i>Audio:</i>	<i>Rob Dragunas</i>

Music Notes

Kudos to today's vocal ensemble singing the Musical Offering, "Bright Morning Star." Singers include: Dody Adkins-Perry, Nancy Backus, Holly Begley, Jim Bonnar, Dan Hotchkiss, Marc MacQueen, Patty Simon, Jeff Stevens, and Nicola Wilbar.

Office Hours

Rev. Peter Connolly's office hours are Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Rev. Connolly will not be available on the second Wednesday of the month as he will be attending the UUMA cluster meeting. He is available by appointment. Monday is the minister's day off. He will respond to emails and messages beginning on Tuesday of the week.

Membership

If you would like to join our church, please speak to the minister after the service or call the church office at 508-947-1935. New members are asked to sign our membership book and will be officially welcomed into our church at a service during the church year.

Church Website Address:
<https://uumiddleboro.org>

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

Nursery Care

Nursery care is available during the church service each week, courtesy of Niko Pucillo-Dunphy.

RE Children's Classes

Our volunteer this morning is Chris Dargelis. We will be introduced to our new church school year. We are going to be talking about thresholds and getting introduced to our labyrinth. Every week we will work on creating our spiritual home. The children will bring home this week's copy of "Taking it Home" to share with their families

Youth Group

Our children will be back together on Sunday, September 24, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. This year we will be exploring our power to confront "powers and structures of evil with justice, compassion and the transforming power of love." We will use the elements of earth, fire, air and water to explore the different forms of power. We look forward to everyone getting together again at the end of September!

Kelly Lownds, Director of Religious Exploration

CHALICE LIGHTING RESPONSE:

May We Shine a Light of Love

Words & Music 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.

CHILDREN'S CALL TO R.E. CLASSES:

Children's Blessing

by First UU Nashville Youth Choir

May your mind be open to new learning.
May your lips bring truth into the world.
May your heart know love,
and your hands do the work of justice,
as you go your way in peace,
as you go your way in peace.

SUNG BENEDICTION:

Go Lifted Up (#1057 teal hymnal)

Words & Music by Mortimer Barron

Go lifted up, Love bless your way,
moonlight, starlight guide your journey into peace
and the brightness of day.