

The First Unitarian Universalist Society of Middleborough
December 22, 2024

5:00 p.m.

Winter Solstice

Prelude		Ruth Lampietro by Jeanne Cotter
	<i>With You</i>	
Welcome		Natalie Johnson
Opening Words		Rev. Beau Rivers
Musical Offering		Chalice Ensemble by Cindy Mapes of Libana
	<i>Circle of Light</i>	
Introduction to the Night		Natalie Johnson & Frank Girard
Invoke Directions		Natalie Johnson & CUUPS
Lighting Ice Chalice		Natalie Johnson
Musical Offering		Chalice Ensemble
	<i>We Are Opening Up</i> Words: Issa; Music: Harmony Grisman	
Embracing the Dark		Natalie Johnson
Reading		Rev. Beau Rivers by Rainer Maria Rilke
	<i>You, Darkness</i>	
Musical Offering		Chalice Ensemble by Becky Reardon
	<i>Winter Solstice Round</i>	
Reading		Marybeth Truran by Gary Kowalski
	<i>Solstice Reading, adapted</i>	
Guided Meditation		Marybeth Truran
Silent Meditation		Marybeth Truran
Music Meditation	<i>Singing Bowls</i>	Marybeth Truran & Ellyn Dent

Responsive Reading by Suzelle Lynch **Rev. Beau & Natalie Johnson**
Response: *We honor the darkness and move toward the light.*

The Light Returns **Natalie Johnson**

Legend of Deer Mother **Kelly Lownds, Christie Hoyle,
Andrea Priest, Ed Priest, Sandra Smiley**
Deer Mother Story, adapted Trad. Legend

Welcoming the Sun **Natalie Johnson**

Musical Offering **Ruth Iampietro**
Here Comes the Sun by George Harrison

Legend of the Green Man, Trad. Legend **Rev. Beau Rivers**

Pine Stars by Rick Kimball, adapted **Rev. Beau & Tony Soares**

Congregational Song* *The Holly and the Ivy (See Insert)*
Words, adapted: Áine Minogue; Music: Trad.

Offering **Rev. Beau Rivers**
Offertory **Ruth Iampietro**

Shadow Dancer
by Spencer Brewer & Eric Tingstad
The Cash in the Plate this evening will be donated to the Minister's Discretionary Fund.

Sharing the Light **Rev. Beau Rivers**

Releasing the Directions **Natalie Johnson & CUUPS**

Congregational Song* *Joy to the Earth (See Insert)*
Words: adapted by Natalie Johnson; Music: Handel

Closing Words **Rev. Beau Rivers**
Winter Solstice Prayer by Natalie Johnson

Sung Benediction *Go Lifted Up (See last page)*

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

Greeters: Bill Howe, Ed Priest & Diane Reed
Sound: JR Pucillo-Dunphy
Live Streaming: Jeff Giddings
Coffee Hour Hosts: Stephen Larrett & Tony Soares
*Singing Bowls: Ellyn Dent, Ray of Light Health,
and Venita Qualls, Soulful Essentials.*

This evening's service was developed by Natalie Johnson and Rev. Beau Rivers and is presented to you by a host of heavenly angels.

*Please join us in the Parish Hall after the service
for refreshments.*

Music Notes

Kudos to our pianist this evening, Ruth Lampietro, as well as our Chalice Ensemble: Nancy Backus, Holly Begley, Sue Curtiss, Mal Marvill, Sarah Person, and Andrea Priest. Special thanks to Marybeth Truran for her singing bowls.

*Two of the chants, "Circle of Light" and "Winter Solstice Round" are learned from the singing of Libana on their CD **Through the Darkness ~ Songs for the Winter Solstice & Beyond...** (libana.com).*

Our Mission:

To create and sustain a welcoming and caring community that embodies our UU principles, inspires spiritual growth without dogma or creed, and promotes and serves racial and social justice.

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

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.