



THE FIRST UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

Gathered in 1870

Sunday, October 11, 2020

Prelude – “Andante Grazioso”

W. A. Mozart

Call to Worship and Chalice Lighting

We light this chalice for the light of truth,
the warmth of love,
and the fire of commitment.
We light this symbol of our faith
as we gather together.

Hymn No. 209 – “O Come, You Longing Thirsty Souls”

O come, you longing thirsty souls, drink freely from the spring.
And come, you weary, famished folk, and end your hungering.
Why spend yourself on empty air? Why not be satisfied?
For everywhere a feast is spread that’s always at our side.

For as the rain and snow above fall not in vanity,
but for this purpose water earth: to feed humanity.
So shall the word of spirit serve as seed within our loam,
that we may bear so rich a yield as brings the harvest home.

For we shall go in peace secure and leave in joy sublime!
The hills outside will burst with song, the trees will clap in time!
No more shall thorns and nettles grow! The bay tree and the pine
shall sign for us th’eternal Name that makes the world a shrine.

Affirmation

Love is the doctrine of this church;
The quest of truth is its sacrament;
And service is its prayer.
To dwell together in peace;
To seek knowledge in freedom;
To serve humankind in fellowship;
To the end that all souls shall grow into harmony with the Divine,—
Thus do we covenant with each other.

Doxology

From all that dwell below the skies
Let songs of hope and faith arise;
Let peace, good will on earth be sung
Through every land, by every tongue.

Story for All Ages**Children's Song**

May peace surround you, may love surround you
as you go, as you go, as you go on your way.

Offertory—"Interlude for Autumn"

Paul A. Tate

Reading – 1 Corinthians 13**Prayer****Music Meditation—"Spirit of Life"**

Carolyn McDade

Sermon – Not Hell, But Hope: 250 Years of Universalism in America**Hymn No. 121 – "We'll Build a Land"**

We'll build a land where we bind up the broken.
We'll build a land where the captives go free,
where the oil of gladness dissolves all mourning.
Oh, we'll build a promised land that can be.

(Chorus) Come build a land where sisters and
brothers,
anointed by God, may then create peace:
where justice shall roll down like waters,
and peace like an ever flowing stream.

We'll build a land where we bring the good tidings
to all the afflicted and all those who mourn.

And we'll give them garlands instead of ashes.
Oh, we'll build a land where peace is born. (Chorus)

We'll be a land building up ancient cities,
raising up devastations from old;
restoring ruins of generations.
Oh, we'll build a land of people so bold. (Chorus)

Come, build a land where the mantles of praises
resound from spirits once faint and once weak;
where like oaks of righteousness stand her people.
Oh, come build the land, my people we seek.
(Chorus)

Benediction**Postlude—"Perpetual"**

Malcolm Kogut

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*Today's service is led by the Reverend Brian Mason. Julie Trombley is the worship associate.
The music is provided by Margaret Jerz on piano and Dänika Kozlovich. The Sunday Morning
Assistants are Katelynn DeLosh and Ruby Fischer.*