



# THE FIRST UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

*Gathered in 1870*

Sunday, October 25, 2020

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**Prelude—Bagatelle, Op. 119, No. 1**

*Ludwig van Beethoven*

**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. 1053 – “How Could Anyone”**

*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.

**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.

**Offertory—“Musings”**

*Paul A. Tate*

**Reading – From Holy Mass in Swedbank Stadion, Malmö**

*Pope Francis*

**Prayer**

**Music Meditation—“Life is the Greatest Gift of All (Brother James’ Air)”** *James L.M. Bain*

**Sermon –**

*The Mystical Gifts of Political Vagrancy: A Spiritual Journey Away from Partisanship*

**Hymn No. 1015 – “I Know I Can”**

*Hamilton, Gagné, and Freundt*

Though days be dark with storms  
And burdens weigh my heart;  
Though troubles wait at ev’ry turn,  
I know I can go on.

Though troubles wait at every turn,  
I know I can go on.

When sorrow heals my soul  
And burdens make me strong,  
Though troubles wait at ev’ry turn,  
I know I can go on.

And though the journey is long,  
The destination is near,  
Though troubles wait at every turn,  
I know I can go on.

My sister in my heart,  
My brother in my song,

So brothers take my hand,  
And sisters sing my song,  
When hope awaits at every turn,  
I know we will go on.

**Benediction**

**Postlude—“Oh, Sing a New Song”**

*John Leavitt*

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*Today’s service is led by the Reverend Brian Mason.  
The music is provided by Margaret Jerz on piano and Dänika Kozlovich.*