

Notes from the Music Department

The UU Adult Choir is back! After our year-long pandemic induced hiatus, joy fills our hearts and smiles bloom as we are honored to again share our music with you.

One of the earliest favorites in our repertoire is "**Szekely Aldas**," written by Elizabeth Norton for members of the Concord, MA congregation as they traveled to Transylvania to visit their sister church there. This gorgeous, haunting piece weaves languages and melodies together to connect us to our faith.

"**Color and Fragrance**," was written by Norbert Capek who along with his wife, Maja, developed our beloved Flower Communion. Capek was executed in Dachau two decades later because his gospel of the inherent worth and beauty of every human person made him "an enemy of the state." As he said in these lyrics,

"It's about relationships, not just to what some call God, but to each other, to events, to power, to suffering, to our enemies and our friends, to the earth, to growth. It's about relationships because in the end, that's all we have. It won't be easy. But it is what we're called to, if we are ever to see 'God's vision growing.'"

The Rev. Kimberly G. Debus

Today's song of blessing, "**Deep Peace**," was written by Sara Thomsen, the Duluth area composer who also wrote "**The Canticle of the Feathered Ones**" that we heard two weeks ago and "**Mni Wiconi, Water is Life**," an homage to the courageous people involved in the Standing Rock protests. There will be more of her works featured starting next fall starting with our Water Communion.

Ed McCurty's "**Last Night I Had the Strangest Dream**" has been recorded in 76 languages and is the official song of the Peace Corp. Originally recorded by Pete Seeger in 1956, it was also one of the folk group, The Weavers, biggest hits.

Today is the debut performance of the Wausau UU Recorder Ensemble. A month or so ago we were zoom discussing possibilities of making music together safely when the idea of playing soprano recorders floated by. Almost immediately, allowing vaccinated people to sing together became a possibility. We were thrilled to blend our voices again but also spent time developing some recorder chops. We send you off into summer delights today with the cheery "**Oh, How I Love to Play!**"

Szekely Aldas

Hol hit ott szeretet;
Hol szeretet ott beke.
Hol beke ott aldas;
Hol aldas ott Isten.
Hol Isten ott szuksege nincsen.

Where there is faith, there is love;
Where there is love, there is peace;
Where there is peace, there is blessing.
Where there is blessing, there is God.
Where there is God,
There, there is no need.

Deep Peace

Deep peace of the rolling waves to you,
Deep peace of the silent stars.
Deep peace of the blowing air to you,
Deep peace of the quiet earth.
Let peace, let peace, let peace fill your
soul.
May peace, may peace, may peace keep
you warm.

Last Night I Had the Strangest Dream

Last night I had the strangest dream
I'd never dreamed before.
I dreamed the world had all agreed
To put an end to war.

I dreamed I saw a mighty room,
Filled with women and men.
And the paper they were signing said
They'd never fight again.

And when the paper was all signed
And a million copies made
They all joined hands and bowed their
heads
And grateful prayers were prayed.

And the people in the streets below
Were dancin' round and round
While swords and guns and uniforms
Were scattered on the ground.

Last night I had the strangest dream
I'd never dreamed before.
I dreamed the world had all agreed
To put an end to war.