

Northshore Unitarian Universalist Church

Sunday, November 22, 2020 via Zoom

10:15 AM Zoom site opens – 10:30 AM Service

Music for Gathering *We Gather Together,*
from Adrian Valerius's *Nederlandsch*
Gedankelank, 1626, arr. Clif Hardin
Judy Putnam, piano

Welcome

Opening Words by Marjorie Montgomery

Chalice Lighting

Opening Song *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*
words v.1 by Robert Robinson, 1735-1790
adapt., v 2-3 by Eugene B Navias, 1928-
music by John Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, 1813
Helen Brandt
(pre-recorded video)

Sharing Cares and Celebrations

You can send the cares and celebrations you'd like to share with the congregation in an email to nsuu@verizon.net. Or, if you'd like, you can share a care or celebration during the service using the chat function in Zoom (it looks like a little thought bubble in your tool bar). Click on it and you'll see a place to type in your care or celebration.

Story for All Ages “Giving Thanks A Native American “Good Morning Message” by Jim Reschke

from book by Chief Jake Swamp, Illustrated by Erwin Printup, Jr.
Narrated by Chief Jake Swamp

Meditation Naomi King

Music for Meditation “Thanksgiving Eve” Bob Franke
Carol Strecker, guitar and vocal

Reading from *Grateful*
by Diana Butler Bass

Reflection Rev. Carol Strecker

Offertory

Music

Grace,
by Elizabeth Alexander,
sung by Kate Huizinga

Announcements

You can send announcements for NSUU related events and activities in an email to nsuu@verizon.net

Closing Song

For All That Is Our Life,
words by Bruce Findlow,
music by Patrick L Rickey
Terri Hansen, Judy Putnam, piano
(pre-recorded video)

Closing Words W.E.B Du Bois

Blessing

May love surround us,
May joy gladden us,
May peace lie deep within.
And may our lives,
And the lives of all
Those we touch, go well.

Edwin C. Lynn

Music Notes***We Gather Together***

The original Dutch text of this hymn, “Wilt heden nu treden,” was first published in 1626 by Adrian Valerius in his *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, though it may have been written earlier, in the late 16th century. The author is unknown. This text was written in celebration of the freedom of the Netherlands from Spanish rule. Theodore Baker, an American music scholar, translated the text into English in 1894 for an anthem titled “Prayer of Thanksgiving.”

When this hymn was first published in America, the idea of the United States' Manifest Destiny to overtake the American continent in God's name was still popular.

Tune

The tune now known as KREMSER is a Dutch folk tune, “Ey, wilder den wilt,” and is also from Valerius' *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck* (1626). It is the only tune to which “We Gather Together” is sung. Edward Kremser, a Viennese choirmaster, popularized this tune as part of a collection of Dutch folk songs arranged for male voices in 1877, and it has become known by his

name. The original publication of Baker's text in 1894 was set to this tune. The tune is simple and well-known. (Source: hymnary.org)

TEXT in our hymnal written by

Dorothy Caiger Senghas (1930-), a librarian, attends the First Unitarian Universalist Society in Burlington, Vermont. Robert E. Senghas (1928-) is a Unitarian Universalist minister who served as the Unitarian Universalist Association's Executive Vice President from 1974 to 1979, and has served congregations in Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts; Davis, California, and Burlington Vermont. This text was written for a Thanksgiving Sunday service. (*Between the Lines, Sources for Singing the Living Tradition*)

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Robert Robinson (1735-1790) was 16 years old and running with the wrong crowd when he went by chance to hear the celebrated 37-year-old evangelist, George Whitefield, preach in London on May 24, 1752.

In May 1758, when he was only 22 years old, Robinson penned "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" for his sermon on Pentecost Sunday. More than 260 years later, Robinson's memorable words continue to inspire and encourage each new generation. The words below have been adapted and rewritten for UU congregations.

*Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune our hearts to sing thy grace.
Streams of mercy never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of life's perfection fills our hearts with joy and love,
Teach us ever to be faithful, may we still thy goodness prove.*

*Come, thou fount of ev'ry vision, lift our eyes to what may come.
See the lion and the young lamb dwell together in thy home.
Hear the cries of war fall silent, feel our love glow like the sun.
When we all serve one another, then our heaven is begun.*

*Come, thou fount of inspiration, turn our lives to higher ways.
Lift our gloom and desperation, show the promise of this day.
Help us bind ourselves in union, help our hands tell of our love.
With thine aid, O fount of justice, earth be fair as heav'n above.*

Thanksgiving Eve

"I always think of Bob Franke as if Emerson and Thoreau had picked up acoustic guitars and gotten into songwriting." -Tom Paxton, songwriter

"Whenever I sing I'm trying to create in my listeners an awareness of the beauty and sacredness of their own lives, both individual and together, as a community." -Bob Franke

*It's so easy to dream of the days gone by
It's a hard thing to think of the times to come*

*But the grace to accept ev'ry moment as a gift
Is a gift that is given to some*

*What can you do with your days but work & hope
Let your dreams bind your work to your play
What can you do with each moment of your life
But love til you've loved it away
Love til you've loved it away*

*There are sorrows enough for the whole world's end
There are no guarantees but the grave
And the life that I live & the time I have spent
Are a treasure too precious to save*

*As it was so it is, as it is shall it be
And it shall be while lips that kiss have breath
Many waters indeed only nurture Love's seed
And its flower overshadows the power of death.*

Grace

Composer Elizabeth Alexander calls this piece “a reflection on the mystery and bounty of grace – that profound force transcending all transgression, prejudices and creeds. With lyrics grounded in the realities of life and an understated piano accompaniment, this intimate, conversation song is rooted in quiet compassion.”

*It's how I hold my head up after I have missed the mark
It's how I know I'm loved when things are dark,
It's how I stand when I am feeling small,
How I stand again after a fall –
It's how I'm even standing here at all:
Some people call it Grace.*

*Refrain:
Falling down like rain on everyone,
So warm, like greetings from the sun,
Like a gentle snow it's making every surface glow.
And I know I didn't earn it:
That's how I know it's Grace.*

*It's how two people stay together through the many years,
It's how a broken people sing again,
It's how a man can overcome his shame,*

*How a woman moves beyond her fears,
It's how I know that holy is my name -
We're all the same to Grace.*

Refrain

*I didn't have to earn it through a word or through a deed,
Or through a trial or through a creed,
Or by denying what I need.
I only had to reach out my hand, and it was there.
But still it cannot take away the truths I have to face.
Oh no, that's not how it works with Grace.*

For All That Is Our Life

“ It is the words that really captured me today; it is a song of thanksgiving – but not a rosy thanks to that unseen Divine. Rather, it's a gritty, real thanks – as much to each other and ourselves as anything. And it's the third verse that really caught me today – ‘for each new thing we learn, for fearful hours that pass’ – in the horrifying chaos that is this new administration, we must still give praise and thanks – because (a) we do learn from sorrows, pains, and failures and (b) it is these that often motivate our work and service (especially when we can see another's woe), which we also give praise and thanks for. “

-from Notes from the Far Fringe

*For all that is our life we sing our thanks and praise;
for all life is a gift which we are called to use
to build the common good and make our own days glad.
For needs which others serve, for services we give,
for work and its rewards, for hours of rest and love;
we come with praise and thanks for all that is our life.
For sorrow we must bear, for failures, pain, and loss,
for each new thing we learn, for fearful hours that pass:
we come with praise and thanks for all that is our life.
For all that is our life we sing our thanks and praise;
for all life is a gift which we are called to use
to build the common good and make our own days glad.*