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To access the Sanctuary's assistive listening system, please switch your hearing aid to "T" or request headphones or assistance from an usher. Large print orders of service are also available by request to an usher.

The Blessings of Congregational Conflict

Rev. Dr. Terasa Cooley



Unity Church-Unitarian

Sunday, February 4, 2024

9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

[Livestream](#) at 9:00 a.m.

Unity Church-Unitarian

733 Portland Avenue, Saint Paul 55104 | 651-228-1456
unity@unityunitarian.org | unityunitarian.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, February 4, 2024 | 9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

GATHERING MUSIC

Kathleen Kraulik, piano

WELCOME

Rev. Kathleen Rolenz

PEALING THE BELL

PRELUDE

Bright Morning Stars
Arranged by the Wailin' Jennys

Karyn Wrenshall
Mary Baremore
Rachel Kampling

CALL TO WORSHIP | KINDLING THE CHALICE FLAME

Jess Goff

Unison: We light this chalice as a symbol of our faith, the light of truth and the warmth of love.

*HYMN Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire #34

*RESPONSIVE READING Adapted from "Councils" by Marge Piercy

We must sit down and reason together

*Perhaps we should sit in the dark.
In the dark we could utter our feelings.*

In the dark we could propose and describe and suggest.

*In the dark we could not see who speaks,
and only the worlds would say what they say.*

No one would speak more than twice.

No one would speak less than once.

*Thus saying what we feel and what we want,
what we fear for ourselves and each other in the dark.*

Perhaps we could begin to begin to listen.

Perhaps then, we will listen.

EMBRACING MEDITATION | PRAYER | SILENCE

ANTHEM

Voice Still and Small
By John Corrado

Cathy Crosby-Schmidt
Chris Crosby Schmidt
Scott Rehovsky

READING

Allow by Danna Faulds

SERMON

The Blessings of Congregational Conflict Rev. Dr. Terasa Cooley

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*HYMN

For All That Is Our Life #128

*BENEDICTION

Unison: We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth, the warmth of community and the fire of commitment. These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.

SENDING FORTH

Unity Church resides on the homelands of the Dakota Nation. We honor with gratitude the people who have stewarded the land throughout the generations and their ongoing contributions to this region. We acknowledge the ongoing injustices that we have committed against the Dakota Nation, and we wish to interrupt this legacy, beginning with acts of healing and honest storytelling about this place.

The flowers in the Sanctuary are shared in loving memory of Don Brunquell.

At the June 2024 General Assembly, delegates will vote on Article II of the UUA's bylaws, which currently contains Unitarian Universalism's Seven Principles and Purposes. The graphic found on the cover depicts the proposed changes to Article II. For a fuller description of the report, visit bit.ly/art2uua, or search "UUA Article II."

Ujamaa Place, today's offering recipient, is a direct service organization that stabilizes and transforms the lives of African American men, ages 18-30, by teaching them how to navigate inequality, poverty, and a criminal justice system built to perpetuate recidivism. Each man has an individual plan and works with trained coaches to achieve stable housing, increase educational opportunities, secure and retain employment, reconnect with family, and eliminate contact with the penal system. This collection will support monthly training expenses. Donate at bit.ly/sundayoffering



Rev. Dr. Terasa Cooley is a lifelong Unitarian Universalist and has served as a minister for over 30 years in both congregational and denominational settings. She is an Accredited Interim Minister and faculty of the Interim Minister's Network and currently serves as the Developmental Minister at the First UU Church of Columbus, OH.

Worship associate Jess Goff lives in St. Paul with her husband, Kevin, and children, Murray and Olive. She teaches at Cornerstone Montessori Elementary. Jess and her family have been attending Unity Church for just over a decade.