ComMUSICation was founded to make high quality after school music programs accessible to local youth. At ComMUSICation, music isn't just singing or playing instruments. It's a unique language that builds confidence, community and capacity for change in the lives of the youth it serves. Participants learn life and leadership skills, building community across schools and cultures, with opportunities to perform frequently and experience the exuberance of their collective creativity. Donate at bit.ly/sundayoffering

Worship associate Lorelee Wederstrom has been a member of Unity Church for nineteen years and during that time has been joyfully engaged as a founding member of Unity Singers and as strategic planner and project manager for the Unity Tomorrow project. Now retired from the University of Minnesota as a facilities executive, Lorelee lives on the banks of the Mississippi River in South Minneapolis with her life partner, Ruth Palmer, and their two canine kids. Ruth and Lorelee were married in Unity's Ames Chapel in 2014.

Unity Singers is Unity's auditioned, chamber choral ensemble. Each singer's involvement is built on a passion for singing and for ministry through music. This ensemble has an outstanding trajectory of representing Unitarian Universalist music locally and abroad through many commissions and premieres of music by world renowned composers, professionally produced recording projects, and collaborations with other ensembles and community organizations. Ahmed Anzaldúa, director; Kathleen Kraulik, pianist

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.

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Unity Church-Unitarian

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

Color and Fragrance Rev. Lara Cowtan



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, March 10, 2024 | 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. *Please rise in body or in spirit.

GATHERING MUSIC Ahmed Anzaldúa

WELCOME Rev. Lara Cowtan

PEALING THE BELL

PRELUDE Let Beauty Awake Beth McGarr, soloist

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Let Beauty awake in the morn from beautiful dreams,

Beauty awake from rest!

Let Beauty awake

For Beauty's sake

In the hour when the birds awake in the brake

And the stars are bright in the west!

Let Beauty awake in the eve from the slumber of day,

Awake in the crimson eve!

In the day's dusk end

When the shades ascend,

Let her wake to the kiss of a tender friend,

To render again and receive!

CALL TO WORSHIP Being Sanctuary by Jo VonRue Lorelee Wederstrom

KINDLING THE CHALICE FLAME

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

*HYMN For the Beauty of the Earth (21)

*RESPONSIVE READING Committed to Respond

By Jerrie Kishpaugh Hildebrand, Shirley Ann Ranck

Committed to respond to the call of a wounded world...

We join together this day with loving hearts, hands and minds.

Embracing the interconnected web of water, air and earth...

We light a fire of sustaining hope, ever bright with love and justice.

May we bring forth this day new wisdom, strength and courage

To create a new world not of wealth, but well-being.

A world of new peace and abundance for all.

As we give thanks for this earth, our shared and singular home,

May we dedicate ourselves to its ongoing care.

Rising to the calls deep within us, and all around us...

(All) May we respond today and always with courage and with love.

EMBRACING MEDITATION | PRAYER | SILENCE

ANTHEM Earthsong — Frank Ticheli

Unity Singers

Sing Be

Live

See

This dark hour, the wind, it stirs The scorched Earth cries out

In vain

O war, power, you blind and blur

The torn heart cries out

in pain

But music and singing shall be my refuge And music and singing shall be my light

A light of song, shining strong:

Hallelujah!

Through darkness and pain and strive

I'll sing Be Live See

Peace.

REFLECTION Lorelee Wederstrom

SERMON Color and Fragrance Rev. Lara Cowtan

OFFERING | OFFERTORY

*HYMN For the Earth Forever Turning (163)

*BENEDICTION

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.

Today's flowers in the Sanctuary are in memory of Gary DeCramer, with love and gratitude from Estelle.