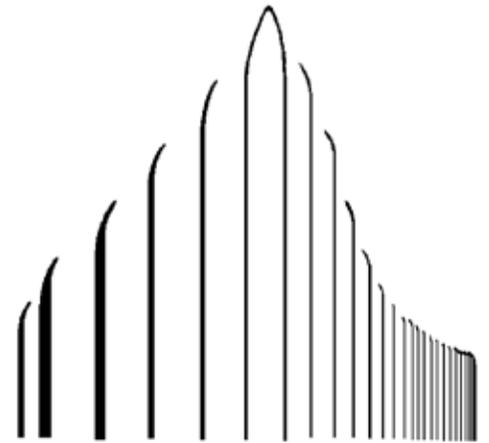


How Can We Keep From Singing?

Arthur Foote Music Sunday



Unity Church–Unitarian
Sunday, May 1, 2016

The flowers in the Main Lobby are given in gratitude for Ruth Palmer whose exceptional musical gifts enrich Unity Church on Arthur Foote Sunday, and throughout the year.
From Susan, Ben, Liam, and Mateo Foote

Arthur Foote Music Sunday • May 1, 2016

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

GATHERING MUSIC

Community Sing

Tesfa Wondemagegnehu

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Rob Eller-Isaacs (9:00/11:00) / Shay MacKay (4:30)

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

Music Down in My Soul (African American Spiritual) arr. Moses Hogan

Unity Choir

Joe Osowski, guest conductor

I hear music in the air. I can feel it in the air. There must be a God somewhere.

Over my head I hear music in the air. Over my head I hear singing in the air.

I got this music down in my soul; and it fills my heart with the joy of the Lord!

I've got joy, peace, love everlasting, in my heart, in my soul!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Marg Walker

***OPENING HYMN (108)**

My Life Flows On in Endless Song

Solo on first verse; congregation joins in on second verse.

***RESPONSIVE READING**

The Larger Circle — Wendell Berry

We clasp the hands of those that go before us,

And the hands of those who come after us.

We enter the little circle of each other's arms

And the larger circle of lovers, whose hands are joined in a dance,

And the larger circle of all creatures,

Passing in and out of life, who move also in a dance,

To a music so subtle and vast that no ear hears it

Except in fragments.

REFLECTION

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Wanting Memories — Ysaye Barnwell

Unity Singers

Joe Osowski, guest conductor

I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.

You said you'd rock me in the cradle of your arms. You said you'd hold me 'til the storms of life were gone.

You said you'd comfort me in times like these and now I need you. Now I need you... And you are — gone.

Since you've gone and left me, there's been so little beauty, but I know I saw it clearly through your eyes.

Now the world outside is such a cold and bitter place. Here inside I have few things that will console.

And when I try to hear your voice above the storms of life, then I remember that I was told.

I think on the things that made me feel so wonderful when I was young.

I think on the things that made me laugh, made me dance, made me sing.

I think on the things that made me grow into a being full of pride. I think on these things, for they are true.

I thought that you were gone, but now I know you're with me. You are the voice that whispers all I need to hear.

I know a "Please", a "Thank you", and a smile will take me far. I know that I am you and you are me, and we are one.

I know that who I am is numbered in each grain of sand. I know that I am blessed, again, and again, and again, and again, and, again.

I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.

I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me to see the beauty in the world through my own eyes.

Only in sleep I see their faces,
Children I played with when I was a child,
Louise comes back with her brown hair braided,
Annie with ringlets warm and wild.
Only in sleep time is forgotten —
What may have come to them, who can know?
Yet we played last night as long ago,
And the doll-house stood at the turn of the stair.
The years had not sharpened their smooth round faces,
I met their eyes and found them mild —
Do they, too, dream of me, I wonder,
And for them am I too a child?

SILENCE

EMBRACING MEDITATION

Rev. Janne Eller-Isaacs (9:00/11:00) / Shay MacKay (4:30)

PRAYER

REFLECTION

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Music in My Mother's House — Stuart Stotts/arr J. David Moore

Women's Ensemble
Judy Sagen, guest conductor

There were wind chimes in the window, bells inside the clock
An organ in the corner, tunes in the music box
We sang while we were cooking, or working in the yard
We sang although our lives were really hard

{Refrain}

There was music in my mother's house
There was music all around
There was music in my mother's house
And my heart still feels full with the sound

She taught us all piano, but my sister had the ear
She could play the harmony to any tune she'd hear
Now I don't claim much talent, but I've always loved to play
And I guess I will until my dying day

Those days come back so clearly, although I'm far away
She gave me the kind of gift I love to give away
And when my mother died, and she'd sung her last song
We sat in the living room, singing all night long

Singing la la la, la la
Singing the front porch songs
Singing the old torch songs
Singing the hymns to send her home

Will the Circle Be Unbroken (traditional Appalachian) — arr. J. David Moore

Will the circle be unbroken by and by, Lord, by and by, there's a better home awaitin', if we try, Lord, if we try.
I was singing with my sisters, I was singing with my friends, and we all can sing together, 'cause the circle never ends.
I was born down in the valley where the sun refused to shine, but I'm climbing up to the highland, gonna make that mountain mine.

REFLECTION

MUSICAL INTERLUDE*Under This Tree* (Brian Newhouse) — Jake RunestadUnity Singers
Jake Runestad, guest conductor
Solo, Brian Newhouse

Commissioned by Unity Church-Unitarian, St. Paul, MN, in loving gratitude to Rob and Janne Eller-Isaacs for their years of inspirational ministry to this congregation, the St. Paul community, and the Unitarian Universalist Association.

I walked so long to find this tree, each path was rock or thorn.
Then at last to touch these leaves... Could I hope, could I know:

Who might I be?
Who are you God?
Am I free?

And under this tree...

You are loved as you are.

Under this tree...

There is no veil.

Under this tree...

You are your own.

Under this tree...

Here is your home.

OFFERING

Arthur Foote was minister at Unity Church from 1945-1970. Upon his death in 1999 the Arthur Foote Music Fund was created as a permanent endowment to provide an annual music Sunday in his memory. Currently the endowment supports a portion of Foote Music Sunday expenses. Your gifts to grow this endowment are gratefully accepted!

OFFERING MUSIC*A Distant Shore* (A partner song with *The Water is Wide*) — Donnelly and Strid

Children's Choir

Once I gazed upon a distant shore,
watching sea birds as they filled the sky.
Standing out there in the misty air,
how I wished that I could fly.
The water is wide, I cannot get o'er.
And neither have I the wings to fly,
give me a boat that can carry two.
And both shall row, my love and I.

A Song of One — John Forster and Tom Chapin

Sing a song of one, one for the yellow sun, the yellow sun that's shining down on ev'ry one.
Sing a song of two, two for the sky of blue, the sky of blue that shouts "Halloo," to the yellow sun...
Sing a song of three, three for the redwood tree, the redwood tree that stretches high, high into the sky of blue...
Sing a song of four, four for the sandy shore, the sandy shore that joins the lea, the lea where grows the redwood tree,
the redwood tree that stretches high, high into the sky of blue, the sky of blue that shouts "Halloo..."
Sing a song of five, five for the things alive, alive to leap and soar, and dance along the shore, the sandy shore that
joins the lea, the lea where grows the redwood tree, the redwood tree that stretches high, high into the sky of blue,
the sky of blue that shouts "Halloo," to the yellow sun that's shining down on ev'ry one.

It's a Beautiful Day — Greg Scelsa

See the sun, shining in the window, time to start a new day,
can't you hear the song birds singing? Gotta sing out loud and say,

Refrain:

That it's a beautiful day for runnin' in the sun, a beautiful day that's just begun,
a beautiful day to do what I want to do, uh-huh! Yes it's a beautiful day just to be alive,
a beautiful day, so glad that I've got a beautiful day and I'd like to share it with you.

Look around, there's a world of beauty, from the mountains to the sea,
and there's a wonder 'round ev-ry corner, awaiting there for you and me. Refrain

REFLECTION

MUSICAL CENTERPIECE

Horizons — words and music by Peter Louis Van Dijk

Unity Choir
Joe Osowski, guest conductor
Solo, Shahzore Shah

From the composer: In a cave, somewhere in the Western Cape region, is a well-documented San (Bushman) painting of a Dutch (or, perhaps English) ship, resplendent with flags and sails, rounding the Cape. The painting dates back to the early 1700s and serves as a poignant reminder of the incredible powers of observation of those now virtually extinct people.

Sadly, the very people the San saw as gods, certainly in terms of stature and relative opulence, were to become their executioners (with the help of other tribes). Physically small, the San described their larger neighbors as animals without hooves and were often mistakenly regarded as cowardly due to their non-confrontational approach to conflict with friend and foe alike.

The eland (a large antelope) represents more than just food and took on an almost supernatural significance, while the rain was seen, supernaturally, to be either male or female (rain-cow or bull) depending on its intensity.

Horizons was commissioned by the Foundation for the Creative Arts (South Africa).

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Chris Crosby-Schmidt
Shahzore Shah
Brian Newhouse

Chant: *Al-Fatiha* (The Opening)

In the name of God, the infinitely Compassionate and Merciful.

Praise be to God, Lord of all the worlds.

The Compassionate, the Merciful. Ruler on the Day of Reckoning.

You alone do we worship, and You alone do we ask for help.

Guide us on the straight path,

the path of those who have received your grace;

not the path of those who have brought down wrath, nor of those who wander astray.

Amen. (Translated by Kabir Helminski)

REFLECTION

Amazing Grace — Ēriks Ešenvalds

Combined Choirs
Ruth Palmer, Director of Music Ministries
Solo, Tesfa Wondemagegnehu

Amazing Grace has become an emblem of African American faith. The hymn reinforces ideas of redemption, hope after suffering, and better days ahead. Though the song has been adopted as a spiritual reflection of the Black church, it has complicated origins. The lyrics of *Amazing Grace* were penned by John Newton. After serving in the Royal Navy he became involved in the transatlantic slave trade. Newton, a man who did not grow up with a deep connection to religion, experienced a moment of enlightenment after his ship became embattled with a violent storm. In his moments of fear and uncertainty, he called out to God for mercy. Newton wrote the first verse while his boat was being repaired. John Newton's life could also be a testimony to the redeeming narrative of the song. Though he never explicitly used the text to reference anti-slavery, Newton abandoned his ties to slavery and became an abolitionist.

Amazing Grace resonated with African Americans who sought relief from earthly misery and found hope in themes of joyous deliverance. There is a common thread of hope after long suffering — white robes in glory after a life of dangers, toils, and snares. A song written by an agent of white supremacy has become an anthem for black congregations exercising faith and practicing a religion once used as a mechanism for controlling slaves. Despite those origins, the song has become a tool for healing the wounds of a community which still feels the weight of the heavy hand of white supremacy. The song acted as one of the pulses of the 1960s Black Liberation Movement and Mahalia Jackson used it to employ protection for civil rights marchers. *Amazing Grace*, commonly sung at funerals held in the Black church, has become an elegy for the dead and an anthem of comfort for the living. (George Arnett)

CLOSING WORDS

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Draw the Circle Wide (Gordon Light) — Mark A. Miller

All Choirs

Congregation join as directed by Tesfa Wondemagegnehu

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still. Let this be our song: no one stands alone.

Standing side by side, draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.

GUEST CONDUCTORS

Tesfa Wondemagegnehu: Minnesota Public Radio Manager of Choral Activities and Sing to Inspire

Joe Osowski: Director of Choirs at St. Michael - Albertville High School, Artistic Director of East Central Minnesota Chorale

Judy Sagen: Founder/Director Minnesota Valley Women's Chorale; retired from District 196 choral programs (Rosemount, Apple Valley, Eagan and Eastview high schools)

Jake Runestad: Award-winning composer and conductor, recently awarded a 2016 Morton Gould Young Composer Award from the ASCAP Foundation

WORSHIP ASSOCIATE: Special thanks to Marg Walker whose literary skills and creative thoughts weave together all the elements of this service with her deeply sensitive words and text selections. Foote Music Sunday planning begins immediately after the previous year's presentation. After Ruth Palmer has found music for all choirs, arranged and organized these selections around a thematic idea and service flow, this team meets, tapping Marg's ability to enhance the programmatic progression and depth of thought with her words. Marg was drawn to Unity Church by its music program in 1999, and has been singing here ever since. Currently a member of Unity Singers, Marg has also served as a worship associate, Coming of Age mentor, and board member and board chair. Marg is a researcher and writer, with an abiding interest in the human voice.

PIANIST AND MUSICAL ASSISTANT: Kathy Kraulik

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES: Ruth Palmer: Director of Unity Choir, Unity Singers, Women's Ensemble, organist and pianist

CO-MINISTERS: Rev. Janne Eller-Isaacs and Rev. Rob Eller-Isaacs

UNITY CHOIR: Joe Osowski, guest conductor; Kathy Kraulik, piano

Unity Choir is a community of singers from all stages of life's journey: those exploring new connections in their lives, to parents of newborn infants, to those retired and actively engaged. We welcome all to sing with us. This group is the foundation on which Unity's music program is built and is a vital and energetic presence in our community. Unity Choir members share various levels of musical experience and a wide variety of activities and interests, all of which are brought together by their love of singing.

Soprano: Jule Adelsheim, Julia Brown, Karen Buggs, Elaine Campbell, Joan Carrier, Carolyn Caswell, Susan Conner, Cay Emkovik, Nancy Evert, Patt Kelly Hall, Kirstin Jarvis, Rochelle Lockridge, Anna Newton, Bonnie Power, Nancy Rector, Emily Richardson, Julie Robbins, Debbie Smith, Teresa Tierney*

Alto: Heidi Birkholz, Katherine Clayton, Pauline Eichten, Sylvia Elrod, Sally Foster, Jess Goff, Wendy Harris, Roxy Johnson, Ruth Kirkland, Ann Mabbott, Layla May, Robin Moede, Katrina Nichols, Mary Nienaber, Angela Norberg, Nicole Ottjes, Jane Potish, Kathleen Radspinner, Jan Spencer, Judy Steller, Nancy Veverka, Bailey Webster, Malaby Webster, KrisAnne Weiss*

Tenor: Tony Borgerding, Warren Davidson, Mark Foster, Hal Freshley, Peter Heege, Eric Hendrickson, Russ Heuckendorf, Gary Mabbott, Tom Merritt, Tim Power, Shahzore Shah*, Harry Wernecke

Bass: Mike Bruns, Glenn Davis, Paul Englund, Chuck Griggs, Bryan Janssens*, Mike LaFleur, Don Lee, Bob Ruud, Bob Steller, Michael Votel, Gary Zimmerman

(* = Section Leaders)

WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE: Judy Sagen, guest conductor; Kathy Kraulik, piano

The Unity Women's Ensemble is a continually growing and evolving group. Founded in December 2012, they started as a reflection of the joy found in singing together at Unity's annual Women's Retreat. The chance to meet once a month quickly turned into the desire for weekly rehearsals and singing opportunities. The ensemble has evolved into a multi-generational group with several mother-daughter teams and one three-generation family team. These wonderful singers meet for only one-half hour each Sunday morning between the 9:00 and 11:00 services. Into this short rehearsal time they bring tremendous creative energy, commitment, and joy!

The Women's Ensemble sings today in honor and memory of Diane Ross, beloved and founding member.

Erin Adams, Madison Adams, Elizabeth Alexander, Ginny Allen, Marcie Allen, Libby Arnosti, Meg Arnosti, Katherine Barton, Lillian Birkholz, Andrea Bond, Ann Borer, Pat Conboy, Megan Casselmann-Condon, Teresa Connor, Debbie Cushman, Tarrah Dunham, Rebecca Flood, Ellen Green, Annie Halland, Alana Howey, Ariana Howey, Roberta Hunt, Mary Kerres, Ellie Lin, Peggy Lin, Louise Livesay-Al, Amber Lockridge, Rochelle Lockridge, Sandy Lucas, Susan Lundquist Stryk, Kerry McNeill, Dana Mardok, Anna Meek, Sarah Meek, Carol Miller, Angela Norburg, Suzanne Quin-McDonald, Jeannine Robinett, Arlene Seashore, Teresa Schicker, Linny Siems, Jackie Smith, Phina Smith, Heidi Springborg, Becky Steeber, Jennifer Taylor, Sierra Trejo, Muffet Trout, Janet Wacker, Kathy Wallace, Mary Wilson, Ellen Wold, Beth Yokom, Jessica Zimmerley

UNITY SINGERS: Joe Osowski, guest conductor; Kathy Kraulik, piano

Unity Singers is Unity Church's auditioned a cappella chamber choir. Each singer's involvement is built on a passion for singing and a willingness to work towards an ensemble of excellence capable of sharing varied musical genres with the community. The Unity Singers were privileged to be chosen by national audition to perform at the American Choral Directors Association National Convention in March 2009. All singers volunteer their talents to offer the musical gift of this ensemble and are deeply involved in the life of this church community.

Soprano: Mary Baremore, Cathy Crosby-Schmidt, Amber Lockridge, Angela Newhouse, Karyn Wrenshall

Alto: Mary Blouin Auffert, Estelle Brouwer, Ellen Merlin, Marg Walker, Lorelee Wederstrom

Tenor: Charlie Caswell, Chris Crosby-Schmidt, Russ Heuckendorf, Greg Johnson, Steve Nelson

Bass: Steve Harper, Brian Newhouse, Bob Peskin, Scott Rehovsky, Ty Wilson

CHILDREN'S CHOIR: Kathleen Radspinner, director; Priscilla Morton, piano

Unity's Children's Choir is a vibrant group of first through fifth graders which reflects the many talents of our children, the support of our parent community and the energy of its director, Kathleen Radspinner. We are grateful for their presence in our services.

Sophia Amundson, Lily Borgerding, Madeline Brazelton, Penelope Brazelton, Bella Carls-Rehovsky, Annika Collins, Wells Darst Rice, Emily Easter, Ariel Hansen, Quinn Hendel, Wesley Hendel, Rachel Howey, Sam Johnson, Chloe Koch, Hanna Koch, Josie Lin, Laura Lundquist, Gabriel Robuck, Sophie Satoskar, Levi Smith, Zachary Smith, Margot Trout, Ben Vaughan-Fier, Owen Vaughan-Fier, Alice Verbrugge, Alice Wagner-Hemstad, Noah Weiser, Lydia Westerlund, Hazel Wright, Violet Wright, Anna Zindren

THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO: Bill Lowell, Madeline Summers, Martha Tilton, Harold Watson; our facilities, administrative, and program staff, today's Welcome Team members; and our choir reception volunteers

Kim Klose, Production Manager

Bob Peskin, for conducting and working with Unity Singers through March; and Jeannine Robinett, for assisting with the Women's Ensemble

Today's music is made possible by funds given in memory of John Emkovik, Mary Kaul, and Harry Olson; the Arthur Foote Music Fund; and the congregation of Unity Church-Unitarian.

Our thanks to all involved in this community for such strong and continued support of our music program and musicians. Endless thanks for the unique gift brought by each choir member and musician.

It must be noted, that due to my fall on March 7 and ensuing absence other than organizational assistance, it took the individual strengths and commitment of every singer, outstanding leadership of our music staff, and the exceptional leadership of our guest conductors to fulfill the vision of this year's Arthur Foote Music Sunday! My deepest gratitude and kudos to all participants! — Ruth Palmer

Today's service will be available as a podcast on Unity's website: www.unityunitarian.org.

We will not be offering CDs at this time.

UNITY CHURCH–UNITARIAN

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KATHY KRAULIK: PIANIST, UNITY CHOIR, UNITY SINGERS, WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE; ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
KATHLEEN BARTHOLOMAY, SUMMER MUSIC COORDINATOR
KATHLEEN RADSPINNER, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S CHOIR
PRISCILLA MORTON: PIANIST, CHILDREN'S CHOIR
UNITY CHOIR SECTION LEADERS: TERESA TIERNEY (SOPRANO), KRISANNE WEISS (ALTO), SHAHZORE SHAH (TENOR), BRYAN JANSSENS (BASS)

*Interested in learning more about Unity's music program?
Please contact Ruth Palmer at ruth@unityunitarian.org or 651-228-1456 x118.*

UNITY CHURCH–UNITARIAN

SANCTUARY ENTRANCE: 733 PORTLAND AVENUE, SAINT PAUL 55104
BUSINESS ENTRANCE: 732 HOLLY AVENUE, SAINT PAUL 55104
651-228-1456 • UNITY@UNITYUNITARIAN.ORG • WWW.UNITYUNITARIAN.ORG
FACEBOOK: FACEBOOK.COM/UNITYUNITARIAN • TWITTER: [@UNITYUNITARIAN](https://TWITTER.COM/@UNITYUNITARIAN)