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Coming into "The Peace of Wild Things"



Unity Church–Unitarian
Sunday, July 11, 2021
10:00 a.m. • [Livestream](#)

UNITY CHURCH–UNITARIAN

733 PORTLAND AVENUE, SAINT PAUL 55104

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, July 11, 2021

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

GATHERING MUSIC Ahmed Anzaldúa, piano

WORDS OF WELCOME Rev. Karen Hering

RINGING OF THE BELL Barbara Hubbard

CALL TO WORSHIP Rebecca Flood

LIGHTING THE CHALICE

*OPENING HYMN (76) For Flowers That Bloom about Our Feet

*UNISON READING The Peace of Wild Things by Wendell Berry (Rebecca)

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

SILENCE

EMBRACING MEDITATION (Bailey)

PRAYER (Bailey)

SUNG RESPONSE (74) On the Dusty Earth Drum

STORY FOR ALL AGES Ray Hommeyer

INTERLUDE (Ahmed)

OFFERING (Rebecca)

OFFERING MUSIC (Ahmed)

READINGS Blackbirds by Julie Cadwallader-Staub (Bailey)
The City Limits by A.R. Ammons (Rebecca)

SERMON Coming into "The Peace of Wild Things" (Bailey)

*CLOSING HYMN (21) For the Beauty of the Earth

*BENEDICTION (Bailey)

POSTLUDE (Ahmed)

Northwest Passage provides residential treatment for youth ages 12-17 using a program that blends traditional mental help interventions with arts and nature-based therapies. Its "In a New Light" program is a therapeutic nature photography initiative, emphasizing experiences in nature immersion with the goal of empowering struggling youth to define themselves by their strengths rather than their weaknesses and see themselves through the lens of their awe-inspiring accomplishments. This collection will support Northwest Passage's unique artist-in-residence program. Unity's Mark and Sally Foster, Sue Conner, Sherm Eagles, Ray Wiedmeyer, and Karen Abraham are among "In a New Light" supporters. Donate online at <https://bit.ly/sundayoffering>.

Bailey Webster is a lifelong member of Unity Church. Passionate about sustainable organic agriculture, she is currently working as an organic certification specialist with the Minnesota Crop Improvement Association (MCIA). Bailey has a BS in Horticultural Science from the University of Minnesota, and lives on a small farm in Wisconsin where she grows garlic as a weekend farmer.

Rebecca Flood lives in St. Paul with her spouse of 36 years, the Reverend Ruth MacKenzie (Minister Emerita of First Universalist Church of Minneapolis). After a 40 year public sector service career protecting Minnesota's water resources, retirement has given Rebecca more time for birdwatching, gardening, and helping friends, family and the community, a privilege for which she is profoundly grateful. She has found her time as a worship associate to be deeply meaningful.

As we begin to reopen the church during the month of July, we are inviting choir members to join us on Sunday morning to help lead the singing of our hymns. We are grateful for these singers lending their voices to our live-streamed services.