

Time and trouble will tame an advanced young woman, but an advanced old woman is uncontrollable by any earthly force. *Dorothy Sayers, British writer, d. 1957*

All creation is groaning in one great act of giving birth. *Romans 8:22*

It is not more surprising to be born twice than once; everything in nature is resurrection. *Voltaire, 18th c.*

...religious leaders have a lot to say about violence. We can't speak powerfully if we look like a bunch of harmless frumps. It's so easy to ignore earnest, drab little people spouting bromides about peace, love and understanding. I want you to be fierce. I want you to be compelling. I want you to sound powerful, look powerful and be powerful. Put any clichés and bromides you were thinking of spouting through the shredder right now. America needs your strong voice, your passion, your intensity. *The Reverend Dr. Victoria Weinstein, Unitarian Universalist, 21st c.*

Our task must be to free ourselves... by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature and its beauty. *Albert Einstein, 20th c.*

Miracles are a retelling in small letters of the very same story which is written across the whole world in letters too large for some of us to see. *C.S. Lewis, 20th c.*

If you read the Bible and it does not challenge you, then you are reading yourself and not the Bible. *Ernesto Tinajero, 21st c.*

Prayer Candles: Is there a person or relationship that needs a prayer?

Please come forward and light an individual prayer candle before our worship begins.

Greeting One Another in Peace and Friendship Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude *Rejoice in the Lord Always* Callender

The Centering Silence

The Introit *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether* Harold Friedell

* **The Gathering Hymn** *Morning Has Broken* # 53

* **The Call to Worship** Thomas Troeger

L: Each breath is borrowed air, not ours to keep and own,

P: and all our breaths as one declare what wisdom long has known:

L: to live is to receive and answer back with praise

P: to what our minds cannot conceive: the source of all our days.

L: The sea flows in our veins.

**P: The dust of stars is spun to form the coiled, encoded skeins
by which our cells are run.**

L: From earth and sea and dust arise yet greater things,

P: the wonders born of love and trust, a grateful heart that sings:

L: to live is to receive and answer back with praise

P: to what our minds cannot conceive: the source of all our days.

The Gathering Prayer S. Sledge

God of healing, our prayers today are not those we prayed yesterday, and they are likely not the ones we will pray tomorrow. For we are a little farther along than we were yesterday, and we are not where we will be tomorrow. Some of us are a bit stronger; some a little more fragile.

In both our strongest and weakest moments, your spirit heals and leads in ways we do not understand. Remind the sad and lonely that you do not despise a broken heart but welcome its tears. Remind the fearful that fragile people shall yet dream dreams. Remind those aching for others that one day the lame shall leap for joy, the blind shall see, and the deaf shall hear.

O God, the touch of your presence eases our pain and your spirit helps us care. Your strength comes in the midst of our deepest heartaches, in our shimmering joys, and in our crushing sorrows. God, whose steadfastness outshines the sun, we lean on your steady love. Amen.

Naming our Mothers in this Sacred Space (*insert*)

The Anthem *My Lord, What a Morning* arr. Peter Amidon

Time for the Child in Each of Us

Sing Our Children to Sunday School (*seated*) *Go Now In Peace* #437(twice)

Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of God surround you
everywhere, everywhere you may go.

The Prayer Hymn (*seated*) *God, Who Touches Earth with Beauty* # 514

The Silent Prayer and Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer New Zealand Prayer Book

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
source of all that is and that shall be,**

Father and Mother of us all. Loving God, in whom is heaven.

The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe.

May the way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the earth.

May your heavenly will be done by all created beings.

**May your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope
and come on earth.**

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.

Amen.

The Congregational Response *Confitemini Domino* Taize Community

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O God, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, allelu-u-u-u-ia!

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O God, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, allelu-u-u-u-ia!

The Offering Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

**Walk among us, God of Peace. Help our church to find the joy that
comes through involvement and sharing, so that we participate in the
changes taking place in the world and are a part of making all persons free.
Amen.**

The Offering and The Offertory *Prelude in C major* J.S. Bach

* **The Doxology** # 715, vs 3

**All praise and thanks to God our Father and our Mother,
to Christ and to the One who binds us to each other,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore,
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

The Scripture Reading *Acts of the Apostles 9:36-43* Stefanie Egenhofer, *Liturgist*

The Sermon *Doing Theology* Reverend Grenfell

The Parting Hymn *Restless Weaver* # 658

* **The Benediction**

* **The Choral Benediction** # 230, vs 4

**When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
Love is come again like wheat arising green.**

* **The Postlude** *March* Purcell

Today's Plate Offering

marked gifts

PLEDGE or

Orono to Africa

Mozambique:

Medical Tuition Assistance

Former Orono school nurse Emily Wesson and her husband Dr. Peter Millard mentor and financially support medical students in Beria, **Mozambique**. One of these students is Bigiruhiriwe Rehnovat (Big). Big and his family are refugees and the area has just suffered through a tremendous cyclone disaster. Our church has helped Big through his medical education, and he is beginning his residency.

Malawi:

Support for Women, Children, Sustainability

This area, too, suffered from Cyclone Idai in March. Marquita Hill, wife of John Hassler, a former CUF choir member, has traveled to **Malawi** – one of the poorest countries in the world—for many years using her own funds and church donations. Her efforts to help improve conditions in Malawi include: opening and supporting YWCA programs, adult literacy and health education classes, microloan programs, the building of “rocket stoves” and drinking water wells, planting trees, planned parenthood and much more. Our church continues to help in all these endeavors!

**Along with your support of CUF's
Annual Church Picnic,
please make checks payable to:
The Church of Universal Fellowship.**

**Memo your check or mark your
envelope:**

Pledge or

Orono to Africa

**(unmarked gifts will support
Open Doors)**

April Benevolences:

Partners for Peace \$243
Bangor Area Homeless Shelter \$190
Thank You!