

First Unitarian Church of Louisville

~ A Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations ~
(502) 585-5110 *FirstULou.org*



December 24, 2017

FOLLOWING THE LIGHT

~ **Guest at Your Table** ~

Please place your boxes in the baskets on the ushers table. Thank you for your generous support of the UUSC's good work for human rights!

Children of all ages are welcome to remain with their caregivers. If you find you need to step out of the service with your child, the service is piped into the library (the door by the organ) if your child needs a place to move about.

Hearing Assist Devices are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.



Please hold your applause until the service is concluded.

~ **Preludes** ~

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen
O Christmas Tree
We Three Kings

Kailoa Pulupeikemele, recorder
Ethan James McCollum, piano

Improvisation on holiday songs #1

Ethan

Good King Wenceslas
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Kailoa and Ethan

O bone Jesu composed by Marc Antonio Ingegneri

First U Choir

Improvisation on holiday songs #2

Ethan

Thankful by Josh Groban

Kat Joyner and Ethan

Peace composed by Ethan McCollum
Solstice Carol composed by Diane Benjamin

First U Choir

Welcome

Jill Sampson
President, Board of Trustees

Processional

Gaudete

Brytner Evangelista, Tyler Dippold
Lydia Grossman, Ethan McCollum

Chalice Lighting

The Drehmel Family

Opening Words

Linette Lowe

Carol

Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella

Bring a torch, Jeanette, Isabella,
bring a torch and quickly run.
Christ is born, good folk of the village,
Christ is born and Mary's calling, Ah! Ah!
Beautiful is the mother, Ah! Ah!
Beautiful is her child.

Come and see within the stable,
Come and see the Holy one,
Come and see the lovely Jesus,
Brown his brow, his cheeks are rosy.
Hush! Hush! Quietly now he slumbers,
Hush! Hush! Quietly now he sleeps.

Our Living Tradition

Linette

1st Gospel Reading

Luke 2:1-7

Daniel Candee

Carol

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and with your captive children dwell.
Give comfort to all exiles here, and to the aching heart bid cheer.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come within as Love to dwell.

O come you Splendor very bright, as joy that never yields to might.
O come, and turn all hearts to peace, that greed and war at last shall cease.
Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come within as Truth to dwell.

O come, you Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by your presence here.
And dawn in every broken soul as vision that can see the whole.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come within as Light to dwell.

2nd Gospel Reading*Luke 2:8-14*

Christe Lunsford

Carol*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth to all good will, from heaven the news we bring.”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies thy come, with peaceful wings unfurled;
And still their heavenly music floats o’er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing;
And ever o’er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

For, lo! the days are hastening on by prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever circling years comes round the age of gold:
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.

3rd Gospel Reading*Luke 2:15-20*

Richard Jeffries

Carol*Within the Shining of a Star*

Within the shining of a star we catch a glimpse of who we are;
In every infant born we see the hope of our nativity.

The miracle of each new birth can shake and save the stony earth;
Triumphantly the newborn’s cry strikes echoes from the waiting sky.

Invitation to Generosity

Jill

Offertory*O Nata Lux*

First U Choir

Composed by Ethan McCollum

*Your gifts will go to the Minister’s Discretionary Fund, a special fund providing
emergency financial assistance for families and individuals in times of acute need.*

Winter Solstice ReadingsDebra Gilbert, Ron Zorn
Ken Shepherd**Special Music**

Veris leta facies
from *Carmina Burana* by Carl Orff

First U Choir

Hanukkah ReadingKailoa ben-Avraham
Linette

Special Music

Light One Candle

First U Choir

Homily

Following the Light

Rev. Kathy Hurt

Candle Lighting Ceremony & Carol

Linette

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia"
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, child of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Closing Words

Linette

Recessional Carol

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! The Word is come: let earth with praises ring.
Let every heart prepare a room, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! Now gladness reigns: let hearts their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground.
Let righteousness its glories show as far as love is found,
As far as love is found, as far, as far, as love is found.

Benediction

Rev. Kathy



~ **Invitation to Reception** ~

Please stay for refreshments and fellowship in the Social Hall following our Vespers Celebration. Thank you to those that contributed.

~ First Unitarian Choir ~
Ethan McCollum, Choir Director
Brytner Evangelista, Accompanist

Lois Allen	Tyler Dippold	Lydia Grossman	Kailoa Pulupeikemele
Bill Allison	Kristi Drehmel	Jill Harmer	Trish Ramey
Pat Allison	Carol Findling	Janice Molnar	Claudia Runge
Brian Daly	John Grossman	Beverly Moore	Pat Triplett

~ The Poinsettias Displayed Tonight Were Given ~

In Loving Memory Of

Margaret and William Hampton Allison from Bill Allison
Ruth and Kenton Atwood from Uwe and Kathy Eickmann
Anne Brigham from John H. Hess
Our cousins, the four Butler Boys, from Brian and Bev Daly
My brother Michael Dodson and Gladys Dodson from Pat Allison
Bill Dolen and Peter Lowe from Linette Lowe, Jay and Jaymeson Dolen
Our parents, Arvid & Elma Drehmel and Ray & Jean Warnke, from Kathy & Gary Drehmel
Joan and A.D. Ellison from Kyle Ellison & Cassandra Culin
Gerald and Marjorie Fitzpatrick from their daughters and their families
Friends at First Unitarian from Marjorie Warden
Phoebe Gibson from John Nader
Rosemary J. Hess from John H. Hess
Daryl R. Karns from Pam Middleton
Kay from Lon Kaminer
Katherine and Pat Kirwan from Kate and Michael Greer
Lillian Johnson from John Nader
Ed & Shirley Martin and Don Buckley from Jane Martin Buckley
Paul, Beverly and Mary Louise McWilliams from Jim and Jan Calvert
Nina Moser from Eugenia Willner
My family, George, Ann, brother Bob, nephew Bobby Packowski from Patricia Packowski
Our Parents from Trish and Del Ramey
Bob & Jeanne Reed from Claudia & David Runge
Mary Rose and Bernard Scherzer from Jim and Jan Calvert
Genevieve Sibley from John H. Hess
Duane Simms from Laurie Clark
Harry Ulinski from his family
Robert Ward and Dorothy Davis from Kristen Millwood
Alan Willner from Eugenia Willner
My parents, Lillie & Arthur Witten, from Lois Allen

~ The Poinsettias Displayed Tonight Were Given ~

In Honor Of

Wendy Culin from Cassandra Culin & Kyle Ellison

Our grandchildren, Calvin James and Nora Jean Drehmel, from Kathy & Gary Drehmel

The Kentucky Drehmels – missing you this holiday season, love Elizabeth and Scott

Celebration of Family from Kathy Gapsis

Friends at First Unitarian from Marjorie Warden

Our grandchildren from Brian and Bev Daly

Keith & Dorothy Houchin from Kathy & Randy Davidson

Great-granddaughters Aniston and Kinsley from Joan Johnson

Meg, Zach, Grace, Carly, Toli, and Jacqueline, Molly, & Emma from Rose Stevens

Those who support Reproductive Choice from Carol & John Findling



~ THANK YOU ~

It takes many people to plan and prepare for our Vespers Service, including staff, members of the Worship Ministry, Aesthetics Committee, and the Reception Committee. We are grateful for those listed below, and the many that serve behind the scenes. Thank you to those that decorate, clean, bake, gather, and organize! From changing light bulbs to helping with the order of service, each is essential.

Candlelighters

Nate Candee

Jaymeson Dolen

Lucy Hickerson

Priscilla Walston-Hunt

Ushers

Laurie Clark

Bev Daly

John Findling

David Runge

Rose Stevens

Kathy Thackeray

Greeters

Allie Cobb

Rita Sasse

Acolytes

Daniel Candee

Richard Jeffries

Tech Crew

Bob Ballard

Mary Ballard

Jim Fry

Welcome to First Unitarian!

If you are a visitor to our congregation today, we trust you will find meaning in our service. First Unitarian Church is a liberal, self-governing, self-supporting church in covenant with the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Calendar of Events <http://firstulou.org/calendar>

~ We Are a Welcoming Congregation ~

We welcome all persons to participate fully, openly, and equally, in all aspects of our congregational life, in ever-widening circles of inclusion. We respect and affirm diversity and its gifts in race, ethnicity, national origin, affectional or sexual orientation, family or relationship structure, gender identity, gender expression, sex, abilities, neurodiversity, age, socio-economic class, political views, religious belief, creed, or interpretation of religion.

Our Ministry Staff

Rev. Dr. Kathy Hurt, Interim Minister

Linette Lowe, Dir. Religious Exploration Christe Lunsford, Student Minister

Support Staff

Ethan McCollum, Choir Director	Christina Roberts, Childcare Coordinator
Barbara Creasy, Office Administrator	Elena Meeks, Childcare staff
Earl Reynolds, Building Supervisor	NaQueesha Puckett, Childcare staff and RE Assistant
Michael Purintun, Bookkeeper	Vantreasea Jones, Custodian
Brytner Evangelista, Accompanist	

ZOOM Into First U

Members and friends can sign into Zoom and access the service in real time. Go to the website www.firstulou.org. Click on the “Worship” tab. Then select “Livestreaming our Sunday Service” and follow the directions. You can also go to firstulou.org/online-service. Enjoy the service