

# First Unitarian Church of Louisville

~ A Member of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations ~

(502) 585-5110

www.firstulou.org

We are grateful for those who serve this morning, including:

Service Coordinator: Rev. Kathy Hurt

Worship Associate: Pam Middleton

Chancel Decoration: Kathy Thackeray



December 10, 2017

## WHAT ARE YOU SCARED OF?

SPEAKER: REV. DR. KATHY HURT

## ~ GATHERING ~

**Gathering Music**

Ethan McCollum

**Bell Sound**

**Welcome**

Kathy Drehmel

**Prelude**

Ethan

**Chalice Lighting**

Sophie Winstead

**Call to Worship**

Rev. Kathy Hurt

+ **Hymn**

*"Do You Hear?"*

#112

## ~ AFFIRMING ~

**Declaration** (*unison*)

Jane Martin Buckley

We are a church of reason and spirit  
that witnesses for progressive faith,  
Nurtures our community and transforms our world.

Love is the spirit of this church, and service is its law.  
This is our great covenant: to dwell together in peace,  
to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

**Joys and Sorrows** (*unison*)

When I breathe in, I breathe in peace.  
When I breathe out, I breathe out love.

**Moment of Prayer and Meditation**

**Sung Response** (*unison*)

Make us aware we are a sanctuary.  
Each made holy loved right through  
With thanksgiving we are a living sanctuary anew.

There's a truth beyond our knowledge.  
There's compassion beyond our pain.  
There's a spirit burning brighter;  
There's a love to guide our way.

**Invitation to Generosity**

Kathy D.

*With gratitude for the abundance in our lives, we give to the life of this congregation and to the life of the surrounding community.*

**Offertory**

Ethan

~ **EXPLORING** ~

**Moment for All Ages**

Rev. Kathy

**Song for the Children**

Come and go with me to that land,  
Come and go with me to that land,  
Come and go with me to that land where I'm bound. (x2)

There'll be justice in that land,  
There'll be justice in that land,  
There'll be justice in that land where I'm bound. (x2)

**Sermon**

*What Are You Scared Of?*

Rev. Kathy

+ **Hymn**

*"Just As Long as I have Breath"*

#6

~ **RETURNING** ~

**Extinguishing the Chalice** *(unison)*

Rev. Kathy

We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth,  
The warmth of community, or the fire of commitment.  
These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.

**Closing Words**

Rev. Kathy

**Postlude**

Ethan

**Benediction** *(unison)*

Here, may you know that you are loveable, and that indeed, you are loved.  
And may you carry that love out into the world as a blessing.

+ *Please Rise in Body or in Spirit*

**Infant and Toddler Care in the Nursery** is available in room 214. The service is piped in to the library (the door by the organ) if you need to step out with your child.

**"Busy Bags"** are available on the Usher Table or ask an Usher.

**Join Us Next Week: Sunday, December 17**

**Celebration of Life 11:00 am**

*“Solstice”*

Speaker: Christe Lunsford

The Solstice Singers will present a Winter Solstice Ritual during the Celebration of Life. This will be the only opportunity this year to participate in this lovely ritual of singing, spoken words, and celebration of the dark and the returning light.

**Religious Exploration will not meet December 17-January 7**

*There will be no morning activities on December 24. We encourage you and your family to join us for Christmas Eve Vespers at 5:00 pm.*

**From Mission and Outreach Ministry  
Vigil in Remembrance of Gun Violence Victims and Survivors**

Saturday, December 16 at 11 am

December 14, 2017 is five years since of the heartbreaking Sandy Hook tragedy. Since that tragic day in Newtown five years ago, 500,000 Americans have been killed or injured by guns and there have been more than 1,500 mass shooting incidents.

Gun violence impacts all of our communities and the victims, survivors, and the families impacted by gun violence are often forgotten. Therefore, the Newtown Foundation, in partnership with Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, Everytown Survivor Network, Faiths United to Prevent Gun Violence, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, Organizing for Action, States United to Prevent Gun Violence and the Women's March will host the annual national vigil service of mourning and loving remembrance at St. Marks Episcopal Church in Washington DC.

This national memorial service on December 6 will kick off the Nationwide Vigils to #EndGunViolence throughout the 50 states during the month of December. In Louisville, First Unitarian Church, together with the local Moms Demand Action chapter, will host a vigil for the Louisville community.

Let's #HonorWithAction to #EndGunViolence in America! We urge you to join us in our effort to continue to shine a light on the devastating epidemic of gun violence in our city and in our nation. Trish and Del Ramey

## FYI

**Brownbaggers Over the Hill? No, Brownbaggers are having Hill over... Bob Hill that is!** Join us Monday, December 11 at noon Hidden Hill Nursery and Sculpture Garden.

**Black Lives Matter Vigil** Join us after the service as we exit through the front door at Heywood House, and have our vigil on 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Our vigils provide an opportunity for church members and friends to speak up, identify as allies, and invite a conversation about race. It lasts about 30 minutes and signs are provided.

**Santa's Helpers – Turn in Your Gifts Today** Thank you to those that took the name of a student to shop for this year. **Gift Cards** in any amount, from Kroger, Target, Meijer, or Walmart type stores are also much appreciated. It's not too late to contribute! Give your cash or a check payable to First Unitarian to Mary Ballard and she'll pick up gift cards for you. If you turn in money through your offering, please designate "For Coleridge Taylor Santa Gift."

**Recycle Your Old Christmas Lights** First U's Solar Array Project will take your old lights and turn them into cash which will be used to buy more solar panels for First U! Drop them into the SAP aluminum can receptacle in the courtyard (outside the kitchen door) or give them to Joe or Kathy Kremer. Questions? Email Joe at [joe\\_kremer\\_99@yahoo.com](mailto:joe_kremer_99@yahoo.com).

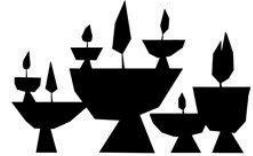
**10th through 12th grade OWL** Do you know a 10th through 12th grader who would benefit from age-appropriate, values-based, scientifically driven sexuality education? If so, please contact Linette at [dre@firstulu.org](mailto:dre@firstulu.org). Classes will begin in January.

**Member Kiosk** Remember to check on the Member Kiosk in the Social Hall for holiday ideas and opportunities.

**2018 Calendars** CLCM Clients can use your unwanted 2018 calendars. Bring them any time and place them in the box on the volunteer counter.

**Winter Break for RE** All RE classes will be on Winter Break December 17-January 7. RE classes will resume January 14 with One Room Schoolhouse for children and youth and new class offerings for adults. Did you have a great experience during fall RE? Be sure to let your RE Leaders know!

**Chalica Challenge** We hope you took a bag to decorate this week. Prizes will be awarded next week for *UU Spirit* for adult and children/youth as well as *Silliest Bag*.



**Chalica Video** Did you make a video? There will be a prize for *Most Awesome Chalica Video* again this year. Email your short (1-3 minutes) video on any aspect of Chalica or our theme this year, *Healing*, to [dre@firstulou.org](mailto:dre@firstulou.org) (link sends e-mail) or share a link. Our prize-winning video will be shown before the service next week.

### **Vespers Reception**



Please help to make this the tastiest Vespers Reception ever! Donations of finger foods are requested. Please bring your favorite treats to the church kitchen on December 24 by 3 pm, so the kitchen elves can arrange everything on platters for the reception.

If you'd like to stay and be a kitchen elf yourself, please do. (Remember, elves come in both sexes!)

Contact Maureen Taylor to volunteer or for more information.  
([maureenptaylor69@att.net](mailto:maureenptaylor69@att.net))

### **Guest at Your Table**

Guest at Your Table is an annual collection for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, which works to advance human rights around the world. We distributed boxes and information on the Sunday before Thanksgiving for folks to take home.

We hope that you will feed the Guest at Your Table box regularly between Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve (or before if you will be out of town), when we return the boxes. Every little bit helps support our partners around the world!





# **Christmas Eve Vespers December 24**

## ***Following the Light***

*Musical Preludes begin at 5:00*

*The service begins at 5:30*

Join us for our annual Christmas Eve Vespers service. Everyone is welcome to join the pageantry and light as we Follow the Light through our living tradition. The service concludes with candlelit singing in our beautiful darkened sanctuary, a moment not to be missed! A cookie and punch reception will follow the service. Plan to join us, and invite your family and friends!

### **Children at Vespers**

Hi Families! The RE Ministry had discussion this month about Christmas Eve Vespers and decided that, because it is rarely used, child care during the service will be discontinued. Child care WILL be available during Vespers rehearsal from 3:00-5:15. The service runs an hour. The Library will be available with sound piped in and quiet toys, coloring, and a rocking chair available if littler ones need a break.

Flameless electronic candles will be available for young children so they can participate fully in the candle-lit portion of the service. The Ministry would really like to encourage families to be in this special service together!

## 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.

**Children** of all ages are welcome to remain with their caregivers. Childcare is also available upstairs in room 214. 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).

**Free Parking:** The lot off 4th Street next to the church is free all day Sunday. The lot off York Street, across from the library, is free until 1:30pm.

**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](http://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](http://firstulou.org/online-service). Enjoy the service.