

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: LinetteLowe

Worship Associate: Nancy MacPherson

Chancel Decoration: RE Ministry



December 3, 2017

CHALICA - HEALING

SPEAKERS: LINETTE LOWE
AND THE RE CLASSES

~ GATHERING ~

Gathering Music

Ethan McCollum

Bell Sound

Welcome

Nancy MacPherson

Prelude

Joy to the World

Jaymeson Dolen

Lucy Hickerson

Chalice Lighting

Sprouts Nursery

Each person is important.

Call to Worship

+ **Hymn**

Where You Go

Choir for All Ages

~ AFFIRMING ~

Mission (*unison*)

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

Covenant (*unison*)

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

Nancy

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

Simple Gifts
Traditional Shaker Song, arr. Faber & Faber

Priscilla Walston-Hunt

~ EXPLORING ~

Be kind in all you do.

Seekers 2-4

We're free to learn together.

Faith Like a River

And search for what is true.

Explorers P-1

+ **All people need a voice.**

One More Step

#168

Build a fair and peaceful world.

Unconditional Parenting

We care for earth's lifeboat.

Cakes for the Queen of Heaven

A Chalica Challenge

Linette

~ RETURNING ~

Special Music

Can't Stop the Feeling

Choir for All Ages

Extinguishing the Chalice (*unison*)

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

Linette

Postlude

Shepherd's Song
Beethoven

Madeline Sherman

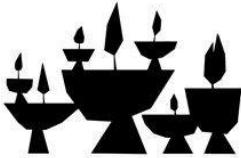
Benediction (*unison*)

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.



Chalica is a great opportunity to focus on our UU values during a time of year that can be highly commercial and consumer-driven. We hope you enjoy participating and deepening your connections to each other, our community, and your faith. Happy Chalica, everyone!!

Reminder After the service, be sure to have your child pick up a special Chalica ornament and a Chalica booklet to help your family continue the celebration all week!

Chalica Challenge We hope you will take a bag, decorate it (prizes for UU Spirit for adult and children/youth as well as Silliest Bag will be given), and then consider putting food items, hats, socks, and/or personal care items (soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toilet paper, laundry detergent, etc.) in the bag to help our friends and neighbors. Return your bag December 10 (or thereabouts if you are unable to attend that day). Prizes will be given during the service on December 17. There will be a **Community Chalica Challenge** bag available at the Volunteer Desk all week for those who would like to donate but would rather not take a bag.

Chalica Video There will be a prize for *Most Awesome Chalica Video* again this year. Make a short (1-3 minutes) video on any aspect of Chalica or our theme this year, *Healing*, and email it to dre@firstulou.org (link sends e-mail) or share a link. Our prize-winning video will be shown before the service on December 17!

Join Us Next Week: Sunday, December 10

Celebration of Life 11:00 am

"What Are You Scared Of?"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Kathy Hurt

The Christmas narratives have several references to characters being afraid, and fear can be one of the most overwhelming experiences we ever have to deal with. This service looks at the fears in us that need healing, and how that healing might happen.

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.

Religious Exploration Sundays 9:45-10:45

RE will not meet December 17-January 7

Classes Meeting December 10

See Class Descriptions at firstulou.org/cre (children) and firstulou.org/lre (adult)

Nursery care is available 9:30-12:00. Room 214

One Room Schoolhouse On the second Sunday of each month, children of all ages meet to learn about the monthly ministry theme. December's theme is healing Room 205

The Law of Attraction Room 203.

Cakes for the Queen of Heaven Room 101—Parlor

Faith Like a River: Themes from UU History Room 103—Library

Coffee and Social Justice Social Hall

FYI

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

Suzi Schuhmann's memorial service will be held at First Unitarian Church on December 6, 2017, which would have been her 80th birthday, at 12:00. A light reception will follow. Please plan to join us to celebrate Suzi's life.

Reception Food Request Finger foods such as small sweets, fruit, sandwiches, etc are needed for the reception after Suzi Schuhmann's memorial service December 6. Anyone wishing to participate in donating, preparing or serving food at the reception, please contact Lois Allen (loisjeanallen@gmail.com or 502-935-3554).

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

Bud Dorsey will be speaking at First U on January 21 about his work photographing and documenting the black experience in and around West Louisville for over fifty years. The worship ministry feels that this presentation supports our commitment to "Black Lives Matter" and transforming our world. As an introduction to the service in January, Bud will be in the social hall after the service to offer copies of his book, *Available Light*, for holiday gift giving.

Guest at Your Table is an annual collection for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, which works to advance human rights around the world. If you did not get a box, take one today. We hope that you will feed the Guest at Your Table box regularly until 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!

Calling All Santa's Helpers!
Holiday Assistance for Coleridge-Taylor Families
Bring Your Gifts and Gift Cards by December 10

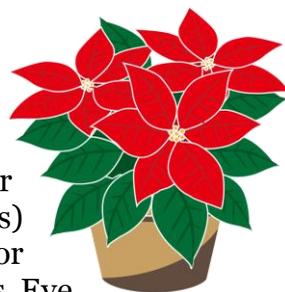


Great news! All of the students needing assistance have been adopted! However, **Gift Cards** in any amount, from Kroger, Target, Meijer, or Walmart type stores are much appreciated. Don't want to shop? Give your cash or a check payable to First Unitarian to Mary or Sarah Ballard and someone will pick up gift cards for you. If you turn in money through your offering, please designate "For Coleridge Taylor Santa Gift." Return these to the church by December 10. Contact Mary Ballard (ballardmb2@bellsouth.net or (502)594-9347) for information.

Coleridge-Taylor Montessori Elementary School, located at 1115 W. Chestnut Street. Students come from all parts of the Louisville metro area who are in preschool through grade five. More than 500 students are eligible for free or reduced lunch prices due to low family income.

Order Poinsettias for Vespers TODAY
Deadline Wednesday December 6

It is the First Unitarian Tradition to decorate the Sanctuary with Poinsettias for the Christmas Eve Vespers Worship Service. The Aesthetics Team does this with your help. We offer you the opportunity to purchase a poinsettia(s) to honor someone, some event, or give thanks to someone or some group. Your words will be printed in the Christmas Eve Vespers Order of Service. After the service, you may take your poinsettia(s) home with you. Come see one of us at our Poinsettia Info Table in the Social Hall.



Make the check out to First Unitarian Church. or you may mail your order and exact wording you would like in the Vespers Order of Service with a check (made out to First Unitarian Church) for \$15.00 for each poinsettia, Mail it to Barbara Creasy, Office Administrator, First Unitarian Church. 809 S. Fourth St. Louisville, KY 40203. Please note that all orders must be received by December 6 to be mentioned in the Vespers order of service. Thank you!

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

Christmas Eve Vespers December 24

Following the Light

Preludes begin at 5:00 and the service begins at 5:30

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!

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 for information (maureenptaylor69@att.net).

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. 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.