

**FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF HAMILTON
SERVICE LEADER SCRIPT**

Date: Sunday, January 29, 2017

Title of Service: Body Positivity, Ableism, and our Unitarian Universalist Faith

Speaker: Talli Osborne

Service Leader: Lyla Miklos

Storyteller: Ben Faulknor

Music Ministers: Babbage Industries

Hymn Accompanist: Rachel Derry

Chalice Lighters: Keira Silverglen and Ben Faulknor

Service Description: Rev. Josh Pawelek issued an official apology to Unitarian Universalists with disabilities for the ableist programming at 2016's Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association's (UUMA) Ministry Days. Rev. Jason Shelton who wrote the hymn Standing On The Side of Love, the banner slogan for the Unitarian Universalist Association's (UUA) anti-oppression work, acknowledged the ableism in our liturgy last year and in response changed the lyrics to his song. Talli Osborne, punk rock goddess and inspirational speaker, will share hilarious and touching reflections on overcoming odds and challenging assumptions. We will also examine ableism in our faith and explore solutions to correct our course as Unitarian Universalists.

Guest Speaker Bio: Talli Osborne's positivity is infectious! She has dedicated her life to opening up the eyes, minds and hearts of everyone that she meets and is passionate about the topics that she speaks on. She has shared her story at schools and clubs across the country, has been the keynote speaker at many corporate events and gave her very first TED Talk in 2015. She is an inspirational speaker, a punk rocker and one of Sir Richard Branson's top 10 most inspirational people. Website: talliosborne.com

Guest Musicians Bio: Babbage Industries is a five-piece band based in Hamilton. Named after Charles Babbage, the Victorian inventor of the clockwork computer, Babbage Industries mixes modern themes with roots music, playing mostly original compositions but also putting its own spin on modern and traditional songs. Babbage Industries is made up of Peter Lloyd on guitar and vocals, Chris Cracknell on banjo, dobro, accordion, keyboards, and vocals, Monica Knott on bass and vocals, Mary Anne Peters on violin and Frank Denton on drums.

Guest Story Teller Bio: Ben Faulknor is a grade ten student at Westmount Secondary School and is active in the school's dramatic arts program. Last year he was one of the brothers in Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. This year he will appear as Vince Fontaine in Grease. Ben also plays hockey, baseball, and wheelchair basketball. Ben's Great-Grandparents were active members of the First Unitarian Church of Hamilton and helped to build the Church at the Congregation's former location at King and Parkdale.

Service Leader Bio: Installed as a Lay Chaplain in 2014 and a congregant for over a decade, Lyla Miklos has served The First Unitarian Church of Hamilton in various leadership roles. She is a member of the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board's Leadership and Learning Team, Host of Centre Stage on 101.5 FM, Chief Negotiator for OSSTF D21 OCTU, and Owner of Lyla-The Publicist. Lyla is a queer, feminist, labour activist. She is also an accomplished vocalist, theatre performer, public speaker, and writer. Lyla is a Mohawk College Alumni of Distinction, Hamilton Women of the Year in Communications, Hamilton Pride Citizen of the Year, and Maggie Award Winner for Best Independent Arts & Culture Journalist. Website: www.lylamiklos.com

BELL

OVERTURE

Talli Osborne Promo Video

Featuring the song *She's Nubs* by NOFX

[From <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a5JXYzTeayY>]

GATHERING MUSIC

Such Great Heights

By Ben Gibbard and Jimmy Tamborello

Performed by Babbage Industries

BABBAGE INDUSTRIES: *(Lyrics N/A)*

WELCOME AND SINGING BOWL

LYLA: Good Morning! Welcome to the First Unitarian Church of Hamilton. Whoever you are, whomever you love, wherever you are on your journey of faith or search for meaning, today you are one of us, and you are welcome in this house of worship.

Our Mission is to nurture each other, serve the community and inspire action that heals the world.

My name is Lyla Miklos and I am your service leader this morning. I am a member of this congregation and have been a part of this faith community for over 15 years. Currently I, along with Tim Versteeg, serve this church as a Lay Chaplain.

Today's service will explore Body Positivity, Ableism and our Unitarian Universalist faith.

Our Guest Speaker this morning is Talli Osborne. She is an inspirational speaker, a punk rocker and if you follow her on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram you'll also know she is an amazing cook! Hashtag Chef Nubs!

Our Guest Musicians today are local band Babbage Industries. Babbage Industries is made up of Peter Lloyd, Chris Cracknell, Monica Knott, Mary Anne Peters and Frank Denton. My connection to this band goes back to my days as a punk rock groupie when the majority of the members of this group used to be known as I Love My Shit-zu. So if you want to hear some embarrassing stories from my college days they are the ones to ask.

Our Guest Storyteller this morning is Ben Faulknor. He is currently a grade 10 student at Westmount Secondary School and will be appearing in their upcoming production of Grease. Ben also plays hockey, baseball, and wheelchair basketball. Ben's Great-Grandparents were active members of the First Unitarian Church of Hamilton and helped to build the Church at the Congregation's former location at King and Parkdale Streets.

Our Music Director Rachel Derry will provide hymn accompaniment on the piano this morning.

(Take a pause.)

I invite you now to be comfortable,

(pause)

turn off any cell phones,

(pause)

close your eyes if you wish,

(pause)

and listen to the singing bowl until the sound disappears.

(Play singing bowl.)

CALL TO WORSHIP

From the 2016 Sermon *In Body or In Spirit*

By Rev. Jason Shelton

[Source: <http://www.thefuun.org/sermons-audio-archives/> - Aug 14, 2016 audio file]

LYLA: Our Call To Worship Words come from the Rev. Jason Shelton from a sermon he gave at The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashville last summer entitled In Body or In Spirit.

"Some years ago I wrote a song called Standing On The Side Of Love. It was a song that was connected with our marriage equality work.

When I wrote the song I wasn't thinking we're all getting up and standing over here, because that is the side of love. It also says hands joined together as hearts beat as one. Those two things don't happen either when we sing the song. So it never even crossed my mind that this could be an issue.

And yet, year after year after year at General Assembly our annual gathering of Unitarian Universalists from across the country issues of accessibility have come up.

The songs that we sing about where our values are, how many of those songs use language that's about physicality? Guide My Feet While I Run This Race. Right? We know that's a metaphor. Of course it's a metaphor. We're not running around the Sanctuary when we sing this song. Right? But those words can still hurt if running isn't an option for you. If standing isn't an option for you. If I don't know that you know that I'm in the room when you say those words.

We say rise in body or in spirit to let people know for whom rising in body is not an option that you are welcome here too. That we get it and we've made this commitment. But those hurts can pile up year after year at General Assembly. One of the ways some folks have dealt with the hurt is to unofficially, unofficially meaning no one has ever talked to me about it, ban the singing of Standing On The Side Of Love. We can wear our yellow t-shirts that say Standing On The Side Of Love, but we can't sing the song because it's too painful.

Now that hurts my feelings, but I also have tried for several years now to get a better understanding of why this is going on. I can be defensive. I can say that's not what I meant when I wrote that song.

How many of us when someone says: "You know what you said is kinda racist." Then say: "Oh well, that's not what I meant."

Well it doesn't matter what you meant, what matters is that it was experienced in this way and the hurt is there. How do we deal with that?"

CHALICE LIGHTING

By Stevie Wonder

From *The Story of Stevie Wonder* by James Haskins

LYLA: We light our chalices to mark our entry into sacred space.

I welcome our guest storyteller Ben Faulknor and church member Keira Silverglen to come forward to light our Chalices this morning.

(Ben & Keira go to the chalices and light them. As Ben & Keira light the chalices the congregation will share in our chalice lighting words.)

Please join in reading our Chalice Lighting Words, from Stevie Wonder, found in your Order of Service and projected on the wall.

CONGREGATION: *We all have ability. The difference is how we use it.*

(Ben and Keira returns to their seats.)

LYLA: Thank you Ben and Keira.

HYMN

#1053 – How Could Anyone
Words & Music by Libby Roderick
From Singing The Journey

LYLA: Please rise in body or in spirit and join in singing Hymn #1053 in your teal hymnals, *How Could Anyone*. Lyrics will also be projected on the screen. We will sing this hymn once through.

CONGREGATION: *How could anyone ever tell you
you were anything less than beautiful?
How could anyone ever tell you
you were less than whole?
How could anyone fail to notice
that your loving is a miracle?
How deeply your connected to my soul.*

LYLA: Thank you. Please be seated.

STORY FOR ALL AGES

Don't Call Me Special
By Pat Thomas

(Pictures will be scanned so the projectionist can show them to the congregation while the story is being shared.)

[Slide #1: Cover of Book.]

LYLA: I invite all our children and youth to come and join our Guest Storyteller Ben at the front of the church for our Story For All Ages entitled *Don't Call Me Special*. Adults you will also be able to enjoy the story as the pictures from the book will be projected on the wall.

[Slide #2: Children in a school with a girl in a wheelchair.]

BEN: *Some children find it really hard to join in with sports and games in the playground.*

[Slide #3: More children in a school]

BEN: *How can you tell which ones?*

[Slide #4: Children playing tennis]

BEN: *You probably picked out the girl in the wheelchair. Lots of people would guess that because she has a disability she wouldn't be interested in sports.*

[Slide #5: Angry boy]

BEN: *Actually it's this boy.*

He hates sports because he can't run as fast as his friends and he always gets pushed around.

[Slide #6: Girl talking to boy in wheelchair]

BEN: *Sometimes when we see people who are different from us we assume things about them that are not always true.*

[Slide #7: Children dancing]

BEN: *When you assume, you are just making a guess. Assuming things about people can hurt their feelings and make them feel very left out.*

[Slide #8: Five children standing]

BEN: *Everybody in the world is unique. That means that each one of us is a little different from everyone else.*

[Slide #9: Children playing with blocks]

BEN: *We each have things that we can do easily and things that we find hard and need help with.*

[Slide #10: Girl with glasses & boy with scissors.]

BEN: *If you need glasses to see or special scissors to cut with, you are using special equipment to help you do your best.*

[Slide #11: Adult with children working at a computer]

BEN: *Children with disabilities often use helpful equipment too. They use ramps to make getting from one place to another easier. They have special toilets and sinks or special types of mice and keyboards to help them use the computer.*

[Slide #12: Mom at a child's bedside in the hospital]

BEN: *Some children are born with a disability and some have a disability because they have an illness or have been in an accident.*

[Slide #13: Boy with dog & boys working on math together]

BEN: *There are many different types of disabilities. There are some where parts of your body don't work so well.*

There are some that make it hard to learn as fast as others.

[Slide #14: Children in a special school]

BEN: *Years ago children with disabilities went to special schools with special teachers. Because of this people started calling them "special".*

[Slide #15: Children in class together]

BEN: *Today many people with disabilities dislike being called special because it makes them sound too different from everybody else.*

[Slide #16: Children holding books and raising hands]

BEN: *Now many children with disabilities go to ordinary schools. That's because we know that the world is more interesting when we can all be together and learn from each other.*

And even though children with disabilities may sometimes look different on the outside, inside they are just like you.

[Slide #17: Teachers with students in class.]

BEN: *They feel angry and sad when they are teased and they feel happy and confident when they are accepted.*

[Slide #18: Children finger painting]

BEN: *Some children with disabilities have extra teachers or helpers who work with them at school and at home. Sometimes these helpers are adults and sometimes they are children in the class.*

[Slide #19: Helper with child]

BEN: *A helper's job is just to help. It can be very upsetting when a helper tries to do everything.*

[Slide #20: Two children sitting at a table with a Teacher]

BEN: *No two people learn things in the same way or at the same speed.*

[Slide #21: Children playing basketball]

BEN: *Some children who have a disability take longer to do or learn things, or they do them in a different way. But sometimes they can do things better and learn things faster than others.*

[Slide #22: Children in a pool]

BEN: *We all need to work and play together.*

[Slide #23: More children in a pool.]

BEN: *And with a little extra help, children with disabilities can learn and grow and do the things they want to – just like everybody else.*

CHILDREN'S RECESSONAL HYMN

LYLA: Thank you Ben.

I would now like to ask a member of our Children and Youth Religious Education Team to come forward and share CYRE news and announcements with the congregation. I believe Aiden will share them today.

AIDEN: Today the pre-schoolers are affirming all the ways they can help. Elementary kids are talking about Truth and Reconciliation and the Junior Youth will talk about how things can be beautiful even when they are broken.

LYLA: Children and youth please line up behind Tamara who will take the Children's Chalice as you leave for class. Adults on this aisle (point to aisle on the right) may form an arch, if you please. Everyone join us in singing our Children's Recessional Hymn, found in your order of service and projected on the wall.

CONGREGATION: *As you go may joy surround you, as you go, go in peace. Know our love is with you always, as you go, as you go.*

READING

From The June 23, 2016 Response to Concerns Raised About Ministry Days

Rev. Josh Pawelek

Member At Large

Unitarian Universalists Ministers Association Board

[Source: <http://www.uuma.org/news/295634/Response-to-Concerns-Raised-About-Ministry-Days.htm>]

LYLA: Our reading today is an excerpt from an official letter of apology written and shared by Unitarian Universalist Rev. Josh Pawelek on behalf of the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association Board last June in response to concerns raised about last year's Ministry Days Conference.

"Many of you reported having a wonderful experience at our worship service. But some reported the opposite; and I'd like to name what I've heard and offer an apology.

First, "One More Step" and "Guide My Feet," while they are beloved songs in the current UU canon, are also songs in which people who don't walk or run or step cannot locate themselves.

I know of two ways to address these concerns. First, adapt the language. We don't have to walk or run, we can move, we can roll. Second, if there's a compelling reason to use the original language, then in the very least, acknowledge that the language is not inclusive and state the compelling reason. In a number of instances we pursued neither of these options.

Further concerns were also raised about ableism in our worship. Some examples include: a song that equated blindness with ignorance; an invitation to rise without reference to ability or 'in body or spirit'; and more references to walking as a metaphor for our spiritual lives with no acknowledgement that the metaphor is not inclusive.

To all those who felt left out or invisible, I offer a heart-felt apology. I also caution us that this apology is not about the feelings of any particular individual, and it is definitely not about political correctness. This is an acknowledgement that we missed the mark. This is about who we are, how we are together, and how we fulfill the promise of our theology and our principles.

Clearly there is a problem with ableism in our public presentation. Public statements, music, stories and metaphors that perpetuate ableism have been hurtful to colleagues.

As with any oppression, this ableism likely runs deeper than our public presentation. I remain grateful to all those who are willing to call it to our attention, and I am deeply sorry that such calling is still necessary."

WORSHIP IN MUSIC

Apostle of Monday

Written and Performed by Babbage Industries

LYLA: Our Music Ministers, Babbage Industries, will now share with us our Worship in Music. The song is called Apostle of Monday and it is a Babbage Industries original.

BABBAGE INDUSTRIES: *(Lyrics N/A)*

MEDITATION: JOYS AND SORROWS

LYLA: This is our time as a church community to come together to celebrate and grieve with our fellow congregants, supporting each other through both our struggles and our victories.

Following our meditation words, we will join in a time of silence for reflection or prayer.

During our musical meditation, you are invited to come forward, and light a candle.

These are the Joys and Sorrows we share today.

(Read joys and sorrows.)

... I do also feel the need to acknowledge the collective sorrow so many of us in this room are feeling as witness world events unravel all around us. May I share some words from actor David Tennant of Doctor Who fame that he just shared last week to help us all find some hope: "It's time to be rebelliously positive and positively rebellious." So let's cling on to that mantra as we go forth into this world as Social Justice Warriors during these troubling times.

MEDITATION: IN WORDS

By Christopher Reeve

**From *Christopher Reeve: A hero onscreen and off* by Alanna Nash
Reader's Digest – October 2004**

[Source: http://www.adherents.com/people/pr/Christopher_Reeve.html]

LYLA: Our Meditation In Words speaks to our worship theme this month, Temperance, which our Minister the Reverend Victoria Ingram framed in our January Newsletter as being awake to the circumstances before us and being aware of the choices we face while maintaining a discipline that honours our larger goals and plans.

Our reading comes from Christopher Reeve. The actor who will forever be my onscreen Superman. As many of you know in 1995 Christopher Reeve became quadriplegic after being thrown from a horse during an equestrian competition. In 2004, the year he died, he was asked the following question ...

"You went nearly 50 years without religion in your life. What made you recently join the Unitarian Church?"

And this was his answer ...

"It gives me a moral compass. I often refer to Abe Lincoln, who said, "When I do good, I feel good. When I do bad, I feel bad. And that is my religion."

I think we all have a little voice inside us that will guide us. It may be God, I don't know.

But I think that if we shut out all the noise and clutter from our lives and listen to that voice, it will tell us the right thing to do.

The Unitarian believes that God is good, and believes that God believes that man is good. Inherently. The Unitarian God is not a God of vengeance. And that is something I can appreciate.”

MEDITATION: IN SILENCE

LYLA: Blessed be.

MEDITATION: IN MUSIC

Sheffield

Written and Performed by Babbage Industries

BABBAGE INDUSTRIES: *(Lyrics N/A)*

MEDITATION: ONE LAST CANDLE

LYLA: I lit one last candle for all those joys and sorrows which remain in our hearts until the time comes to speak them aloud. Whatever our level of sharing, may the COMMUNITY be a blessing and support to us all.

(Lyla lights the last candle.)

MEDITATION: UNISON WORDS OF SUPPORT

From The Five Sensed World

By Helen Keller

[Source: https://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Helen_Keller**]**

LYLA: Please join me in our unison words of support. They are in your order of service and projected on the wall and come from Helen Keller’s book The Five Sensed World.

CONGREGATION: *We differ, blind and seeing, one from another, not in our senses, but in the use we make of them, in the imagination and courage with which we seek wisdom beyond the senses.*

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER

From *What is Beauty?*

By Richard Branson

[Source: <https://www.virgin.com/richard-branson/what-is-beauty>**]**

LYLA: To introduce our guest speaker this morning I would like to share just some of the wonderful things Richard Branson had to say about her in a piece he wrote entitled What Is Beauty? He said ...

“I’ve been fortunate to come across so many remarkable people in my life. Leaders, entrepreneurs, creative, collaborators and children – I’ve been inspired time and time again. But few people have stood out as much as Talli Osborne.

Born without arms and missing bones in her legs, Talli has been bullied and suffered cruel criticism about her appearance.

But to me, she is one of the most beautiful people in the world. Why? Because she stands much taller than meets the eye.

At just four feet, Talli stands tall – her spirit and confidence sees her tower over those around her.

The most talented, thought-provoking, game-changing people are never ‘normal’. They usually overcome great obstacles, take surprising routes to their goals, and under no circumstances do what people expect them to do.”

Please welcome Talli Osborne.

SERMON

Confidence Is Beautiful

Talli Osborne

TALLI: *(Sermon N/A)*

HYMN: #118 – *This Little Light of Mine*

Words and Music: African American Spiritual

Harmony by Horace Clarence Boyer

LYLA: I am going to ask Babbage Industries to come and join us on the dias so we can have the full band experience on this particular hymn.

Please rise in body or in spirit and join in singing Hymn #118 from your grey hymnals, This Little Light of Mine. Lyrics will also be projected on the wall.

CONGREGATION: *This little light of mine*

I’m gonna let it shine

This little light of mine

I’m gonna let it shine

This little light of mine

I’m gonna let it shine

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

*Everywhere I go
I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go
I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine*

*Building up a world
I'm gonna let it shine
Building up a world
I'm gonna let it shine
Building up a world
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY WORDS

From *The Disability Come To Jesus Talk*

By Monterey Buchanan

2016's EqUual Access Award Winning Sermon

[Source: <http://www.equalaccess.org/resources-2/sermons/>]

LYLA: Our offertory words come from Monterey Buchanan's 2016 EqUual Access Award Winning Sermon. Ms. Buchanan is a member of the First Unitarian Church of Denver.

"Religion doesn't have to pity and sensationalize disability, or encourage prayer without action. Much like world peace, we can't just pray for a better world for people with disabilities; it's going to take committed action to get there.

One of our goals in this congregation is to find "salvation in this life." Doing the hard work of disability activism that is so rooted in this life may be one way for us to get there.

At its best, disability activism encourages wholeness, much like Unitarian Universalism. So often we are taught to view the body, mind and spirit as separate entities, and that prayers can achieve great change on their own.

This extends to disability, making it easier to focus on "fixing" a disability of a person's body or mind through prayer.

The challenge for religious congregations is letting go of the literalism of a passage of holy text and instead working toward a mind/body/spirit wholeness that Unitarian Universalism, at its best, encourages.

If we encourage an interconnectedness of the physical, mental, and spiritual, we come closer to seeing people with disabilities as whole souls who are sacred and worthy.”

We will now receive our offering while we listen to our Music Ministers.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Shallow Grave

Written and Performed by Babbage Industries

MONICA: We dedicate this song to Lyla.

LYLA: It's about my Ex!

MARY-ANNE: And it's called Shallow Grave.

MONICA: There's no bitterness here.

BABBAGE INDUSTRIES: *(Lyrics N/A)*

(As Babbage Industries plays the ushers will collect the offering. Depending on how long it takes to collect the ushers may pass the baskets to you just before the end of his song or right at the end.)

MONICA: Not very churchy.

LYLA: What the what!

MONICA: We changed the lyrics for church.

LYLA: That was good of you!

We dedicate these gifts to the church with our mind, body & spirit. Thank you.

NEWS OF OUR COMMUNITY

LYLA: News of our community is a part of our life as a church family. Please make a point of reading your e-announcements. Printed order of service announcements are available on a self-serve basis on top of the hymnal bookshelf. Please pick up a copy if you do not receive announcements via email or are a visitor.

(Read any special announcements)

1. Please join us in the Sanctuary tomorrow, Monday, Jan 30 from 7:30 to 9:00 as we welcome two guest speakers. Jean-Jacques Somwe will relate the ups and downs of settling his family in Hamilton after their arrival here as refugees last summer. Leo Johnson will help us learn how best to support new Canadians in Hamilton. Both of these men, born in Africa, offer unique perspectives.

GOING FORTH WORDS

From The 2016 Sermon *In Body or In Spirit*

By Rev. Jason Shelton

[Source: <http://www.thefuun.org/sermons-audio-archives/> - Aug 14, 2016 audio file]

LYLA: Our Going Forth Words come from the conclusion of Unitarian Universalist Rev. Jason Shelton's sermon *In Body or In Spirit*.

"So there's this song. Standing On The Side Of Love. And I have to wonder if the damage has been done and maybe it is too much to overcome. That explaining away intention or metaphor or having those high level conversations maybe that's not going to undo that pain or make it any better. So how do we demonstrate commitment? How do we say I get this? I know you're in the room.

I think if you are in a position of privilege like I am as the writer of the song there's a moment in which a sacrifice can make all the difference in building and maintaining relationship.

So after this summer's General Assembly when this really hit home because it was service after service after service of songs that were all about ability and no one saying anything about recognizing these issues.

So I am proposing a change to this song and some people want to change it, they have suggested all kinds of things like Rolling On The Side Of Love or Crutching On The Side Of Love and I'm like ok so well it's not about physical ability.

This song is about love and if you change that first word, you're pointing at something else and making it about that thing instead of about love and that's all I want to do is get to love. And so I thought about this for a long time and it hit me in the middle of the night a few weeks ago.

Answering The Call Of Love.

That we are answering the call of love is not only theologically more honest, because if we are standing on the side of love it says that we know what's right and we got it figured out and we're here, we're planted.

Answering the call of love says love is going to take us places we might not want to go, but we certainly won't be standing anywhere. So how do we remain open and answer and I think in fact that word change answering the call of love connected with this issue is a way of actually embodying those words.

That what love calls us to do is to be in deeper relationship with one another. To see one another more clearly. To respond to those needs and to let go of our attachments. And God knows I am attached to those words. But love is more important. So will you please rise in body or in spirit and join in singing with me Answering The Call Of Love."

You can find the new lyrics projected on the wall, but if you need to see the music it's number 1014 in your teal hymnals, but remember to change the words Standing On The Side Of Love to Answering The Call Of Love and also instead of hands joined together it will be souls joined together.

Please rise in body or in spirit.

HYMN: #1014 ~~Standing On The Side Of Love~~ Answering The Call Of Love

CONGREGATION: *The promise of the Spirit
Faith, hope and love abide
And so every soul is blessed and made whole;
The truth in our hearts is our guide.*

*We are answering the call of love:
Souls joined together as hearts beat as one.
Emboldened by faith, we dare to proclaim
We are answering the call of love.*

*Sometimes we build a barrier
To keep love tightly bound.
Corrupted by fear, unwilling to hear,
Denying the beauty we've found.*

*We are answering the call of love:
Souls joined together as hearts beat as one.
Emboldened by faith, we dare to proclaim
We are answering the call of love.*

*A bright new day is dawning
When love will not divide
Reflections of grace in every embrace
Fulfilling the vision divine.*

*We are answering the call of love:
Souls joined together as hearts beat as one.
Emboldened by faith, we dare to proclaim
We are answering the call of love.
We are answering the call of love.*

CHALICE EXTINGUISHED

LYLA: Congregation it truly takes a village to create the worship you experienced today. I do need to thank several people today.

Our guest speaker Talli Osborne.

Our guest storyteller Ben Faulknor.

Our guest musicians Babbage Industries.

Our church staff: Victoria, Rachel, Tamara, and Melina.

Our Board of Directors.

Our worship and music committees, clusters, chairs and reps.

Our office volunteers who put together our newsletters and orders of service.

Our Words on The Wall Team.

Our Sound Team.

Our Ushers and Greeters.

Our Joys and Sorrows Team.

And after we leave here Our Coffee Crew. YES!

Thank you to every member who makes sure to love and take care of their spiritual home to ensure that it is beautiful, warm, inviting and welcoming to every congregant and guest who enters our doors.

Please remain in the Sanctuary and enjoy our Postlude from our Guest Musicians Babbage Industries with another original song Drop A Roll Of Pennies.

I will now extinguish our chalice, but not the light of truth, warmth of community, or fire of commitment that we carry in our hearts until we meet again. So may it be.

(Lyla extinguishes the chalice.)

POSTLUDE

Drop A Roll Of Pennies

Written and Performed by Babbage Industries

MONICA: This is the song I want played at my funeral. It is about living a good life and being remembered for that. That's the schmaltzy version, but wait until you hear it.

BABBAGE INDUSTRIES: *(Lyrics N/A)*

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

(In the Main Foyer.)