

SERVICE LEADER SCRIPT

Date: Sunday, February 10, 2019

Title of Service: Service & Outreach: The Role of Our Lay Chaplains

Description: Our Lay Chaplains will share with us some of their experiences as Ambassadors of our liberal religious faith and the importance of their role in educating our wider community on Unitarian Universalism's positive influence on society.

Speaker: Karen Trollope-Kumar

Service Leader: Lyla Miklos

Storyteller: Tim Veersteeg

Music Ministers: Norm Ayerst, Rachel Derry, Mary Ann Forbes, Lyla Miklos & George Zavarise

BELL

GATHERING MUSIC

The Place Where Lost Things Go

From Mary Poppins Returns

By Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman

Performed by Lyla Miklos (vocals) and Rachel Derry (piano)

LYLA: The song I'm about to sing as we gather is entitled The Place Where Lost Things Go. It is from the film Mary Poppins Returns and is nominated for an Oscars for Best Original Song. Mary sings this song to the Banks Children when they start talking about the grief they feel over the death of their Mother. Grief is a sadness that we feel when we miss someone who we loved. Our church's Lay Chaplains also provide solace and comfort in times of grief when we officiate funerals and celebrations of life.

LYLA: *Do you ever lie awake at night,
just between the dark and the morning light,
searching for the things you used to know,
looking for the place where the lost things go?*

*Do you ever dream or reminisce,
wondering where to find what you truly miss?
Well, maybe all those things that you love so
are waiting in the place where the lost things go.*

*Memories you've shared,
Gone for good, you feared,
They're all around you still,
Though they've disappeared.
Nothing's really left,
Or lost without a trace.
Nothing's gone forever only out of place.*

*So maybe now the dish and my best spoon
are playing hide and seek just behind the moon,
Waiting there until it's time to show.
Spring is like that now, far beneath the snow,
hiding in the place where the lost things go*

*Time to close your eyes so sleep can come around,
for when you dream, you'll find all that's lost is found,
Maybe on the moon, or maybe somewhere new
Maybe all you're missing lives inside of you.*

*So when you need her touch and loving gaze,
Gone but not forgotten is the perfect phrase.
Smiling from a star that she makes glow,
Trust she's always there, watching as you grow
Find her in the place where the lost things go*

WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

LYLA: Good Morning! Welcome to the First Unitarian Church of Hamilton. My name is Lyla Miklos, I serve this congregation as a Lay Chaplain, and I am your Service Leader this morning. My fellow Lay Chaplain, Karen Trollope-Kumar, will be our Speaker this morning and we will be talking about our roles as Lay Chaplains in our Worship Service today.

We are not the first people on this land, nor will we be the last. We acknowledge our connection to the web of all existence, honouring the past and preparing for the future. The stewardship of the original people preserved this place for our generation. We seek to be respectful stewards of this place for those who follow.

SINGING BOWL

LYLA: Our goal in this congregation is to extend our hearts in welcome to whomever you may be. We are connected through our desire to live out our ideals of peace, love, and justice for all. We are here to love one another and encourage each other in our spiritual growth.

Our congregational mission includes our commitment to nurture one another, serve the community, and inspire action to heal the world.

Please make sure your cell phone is silenced. I invite you all to be comfortable and listen to the singing bowl until the sound disappears.

(Play the singing bowl)

CALL TO WORSHIP
Celebrate the Interval
By Richard S. Gilbert

LYLA: Our call to worship words come from Richard S. Gilbert.

*Life is a brief interval between birth and death;
It is composed of a few notes between Prelude and Postlude;
It is a drama quickly played between the rising and falling of a curtain.*

*What shall we do with the interval of time?
What combination of notes shall we play?
What thespian mask shall we wear?*

*The transience of life tempers our joy;
Discordant notes reverberate in the soul;
The ending of the play is ever in doubt.*

*Yet the brevity can be rich with joy;
A simple tune cresses our ears;
The play produces laughter from time to time.*

*Why, then, are we so careless with time?
Why do we not sound the music of our hearts?
Why do we not feel the stage beneath our feet?*

*Is it not time to enjoy the interval?
Is it not time to play our own melody?
Is it not time for us to act our part?*

*Life is a brief interval between birth and death.
May we celebrate the interval with joy;
May we sing the song that belongs to us;
May we act as if our very life depended on it.*

It does.

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICES

LYLA: Our chalice represents the light of hope at the center of our faith tradition. The spark of this flame draws us into our time of worship and community.

I invite former Lay Chaplain Bill Fulton to come forward to light our Chalices.

Please share in reading/join me in repeating our Unison Chalice Lighting Words, found in your Order of Service.

May this flame be our light of friendship and love.

HYMN #354 – We Laugh, We Cry

LYLA: Please rise in body or in spirit and join in singing Hymn #354 in your grey hymnals, We Laugh, We Cry. Lyrics will also be projected on the screen.

CONGREGATION: *We laugh, we cry, we live, we die;
we dance, we sing our song.
We need to feel there's something here to which we can belong.
We need to feel the freedom just to have some time alone.
But most of all we need close friends we can call our very own.
And we believe in life, and in the strength of love;
and we have found a need to be together.
We have our hearts to give, we have our thoughts to receive;
and we believe that sharing is an answer.*

*A child is born among us
and we feel a special glow.
We see time's endless journey as we watch the baby grow.
We thrill to hear imagination freely running wild.
We dedicate our minds and hearts to the spirit of this child.
And we believe in life, and in the strength of love;
and we have found a time to be together.
And with the grace of age; we share the wonder of youth,
and we believe that growing is an answer.*

*Our lives are full of wonder
and our time is very brief.
The death of one among us fills us all with pain and grief.
But as we live, so shall we die, and when our lives are done
the memories we shared with friends, they will linger on and on.
And we believe in life, and in the strength of love;
and we have found a place to be together.
We have the right to grow, we have the gift to believe
that peace within our living is an answer.*

*We seek elusive answers to the questions of this life.
We seek to put an end to all the waste of human strife.
We search for truth, equality, and blessed peace of mind.
And then, we come together here, to make sense of what we find.
And we believe in life, and in the strength of love;
and we have found a joy being together.
And in our search for peace, maybe we'll finally see:
even to question, truly is an answer.*

STORY FOR ALL AGES

A Cup Of Light

By Pamela Baxter

LYLA: Our story teller this morning is former Lay Chaplain Tim Versteeg. It's time for the children (or, the young and young at heart) to come up to the carpet to listen to our story.

TIM: TBD

CYRE ANNOUNCEMENTS

TBD: TBD

CHILDREN'S RECESSIONAL HYMN

LYLA: Thank you, Tim Veersteg, for that story.

Children and youth please get ready to follow TBD who is carrying the Children's Chalice, to go to your class. Adults on this aisle (point to aisle on your right) please form an arch, so the children may pass through as we sing them to their classes:

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 GARY KOWALSKI

LYLA: Our Reading is by Gary Kowalski.

Children widen the circle of our being in ways that are limitless.

Every baby that's born connects us to our history, our own mothers and fathers, grandparents and unknown forbears who brought new life to the world in each successive generation.

Every baby that's born links us to the future, to a world yet to come that belongs to our descendants and that we hold in trust for our posterity whom we will never know.

Each child that's born connects us to nature, to the innocence and exuberance if a world always hatching newborns: kittens and pups and lambs and babes.

Each child reminds us of the kinship we share with people of other lands and races who love their young as purely and tenderly as we do.

Each child connects us to the universe, to the holy mysteries of birth and death and becoming from which we all emerge.

Children widen the circle of our being in ways that are limitless.

WORSHIP IN MUSIC

STAND BY ME

By Jerry Lieber, Mike Stoller & Ben E. King

Performed by Norm Ayerst, Mary Ann Forbes & George Zavarise

LYLA: Our Music Ministers George, Mary Ann and Norm will now share with us our Worship in Music.

GEORGE, MARY ANN & NORM: *When the night has come, and the land is dark
And the moon is the only light we'll see
No, I won't be afraid, oh, I won't be afraid
Just as long as you stand, stand by me
So darlin', darlin' stand by me
Oh stand by me
Oh stand, stand by me, stand by me*

*If the sky that we look upon should tumble and fall
Or the mountain should crumble to the sea
I won't cry, I won't cry, no, I won't shed a tear
Just as long as you stand, stand by me
And darlin', darlin' stand by me
Oh stand by me
Whoa stand now, stand by me, stand by me
*Solo**

*And darlin', darlin' stand by me
Oh stand by me
Oh stand now, stand by me, stand by me*

*Whenever you're in trouble won't you stand by me
Oh stand by me
Whoa stand now, oh stand, stand by me...*

*Whenever you're in trouble won't you stand by me
Oh stand by me
Whoa stand now, oh stand, stand by me...*

MEDITATION: JOYS & 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 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 out the Joys & Sorrows to the congregation.)

(Make sure to include the following sorrow ...

A serial killer who targeted Toronto's gay community plead guilty and was sentenced to 25 years in prison with no parole. Today I will light candles in memory of his 8 victims. Their names are ..

*Kirushna Kanagartnam
Abdulbasir Faizi
Skandaraj Navaratnam
Soroush Mahmudi
Dean Lisowick
Majeed Kayhan
Andrew Kinsman
and
Selim Esen*

Andrew was a McMaster University grad. A group of Hamiltonians created a Memorial Fund in his name and a Memorial Tree Planting Ceremony is scheduled to take place at the McMaster University Campus in Spring 2019.)

**MEDITATION: IN WORDS
THE GREAT PEACE
BY ROBERT TERRY WESTON**

LYLA: Our Meditation in Words comes from Robert Terry Weston.

*Always there is something,
Something that lives on when folly has burned itself out;
When the leaves are sere, and fall, one by one;
When the hair is white,
And the hands tremble,
And cannot quite find what they see;
Always there is something.*

*Perhaps it is a whisper in the night,
Or a great silence, when the plates are gone,
And the cars are silent beside the highways,
And the children are asleep,
And the heart can hear a soundless voice.
Always there is a something, something beyond all time.*

*The past that hurt slips away:
The humiliations, the failures, the resentment,
The sorrows, the haunting fears, dissolve into the healing night.
The darkness is no longer darkness, but a comforting presence.
And it comes, a great peace, flooding the heart.*

*It comes, a sense of healing forgiveness
A sense of comprehending and forgiving compassion,
A meaning in which all things are comprehended and made whole.
Though we, accepting, comprehend it not.*

*Always there is something, and we, knowing this, need never fear again,
Nor hate, nor grieve, for there is always something
Above defeat and success alike,
And to know and feel this
Is to know the great peace*

MEDITATION: IN SILENCE

(Wait about a minute and then sit so Rachel knows it is time to play music.)

MEDITATION: IN MUSIC

(Rachel will play various pieces on the piano while congregants light candles.)

MEDITATION: ONE LAST FLAME

(Light the last flame.)

LYLA: I lit this last flame for all the joys and sorrows which remain in our hearts.

MEDITATION: UNISON WORDS OF SUPPORT #473 By James Vila Blake

LYLA: Please join me in reading our unison words of support.

*Love is the spirit of this church;
And service its law.
This is our great covenant:*

*To dwell together in peace'
To seek the truth in love,
And to help one another.*

HYMN #306 – Sing Of Living, Sing of Dying

LYLA: Please rise in body or in spirit and join in singing Hymn #306 in your grey hymnals, Sing of Living, Sing of Dying. Lyrics will also be projected on the screen.

CONGREGATION: *Sing of living, sing of dying
Let the both be joined in one,
Parts of an eternal process like the ever circling sun.
From the freshness of each infant giving hope in what is new,
To the wisdom of the aged deepened by a longer view.*

*Open to a deeper loving,
Open to the gift of care,
Searching for a higher justice, helping others in despair.
Through the tender bonds of living in a more inclusive way
We are opened more to a suffering from the losses of each day.*

SERMON

KAREN: TBD

OFFERING

LYLA: In the free faith tradition, we are the support and resources of this congregation. Our gifts and donations sustain the many ministries of this church, a community we have chosen to join and support.

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

OFFERTORY MUSIC
GIVE ME LOVE (GIVE ME PEACE ON EARTH)
By George Harrison

GEORGE, MARY ANN & NORM: *Give me love
Give me love
Give me peace on earth
Give me light
Give me life
Keep me free from birth
Give me hope
Help me cope, with this heavy load
Trying to, touch and reach you with*

Heart and soul

*Om m m m m m m m m m m m m m m m
M m m my lord . .*

*Please take hold of my hand, that
I might understand you
Won't you please
Oh won't you
Give me love
Give me love
Give me peace on earth
Give me light
Give me life
Keep me free from birth
Give me hope
Help me cope, with this heavy load
Trying to, touch and reach you with
Heart and soul*

*Om m m m m m m m m m m m m m m m
M m m my lord . .
Please take hold of my hand, that
I might understand you*

LYLA: For the gifts which we have received, and for the gifts which we, ourselves, are, may we be truly grateful. May we be committed to using these gifts to make a difference in the world, to share and keep sharing, as long as we can. Your gifts in support of our ministries to one another and to the community are appreciated. Thank you.

NEWS OF OUR COMMUNITY

LYLA: News of our community helps us stay current on what is happening in our church family. To find out what is happening this week, take a look at the announcements and calendar of events in your order of service.

(Share any special announcements with the congregation.)

CHALICE EXTINGUISHED/GOING FORTH BY JOHN B. WOLFE

(Extinguish the chalice and the final flame from joys and sorrows.)

LYLA: Our closing words come from John B. Wolfe.

There is only one reason for joining a Unitarian Universalist church and that is to support it.

We want to support it because it stands against superstition and fear.

We want to support it because this church points to what is noblest and best in human life.

We want to support it because it is open to people of whatever religion, race, creed, colour, place of origin, political affiliation, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

We want to support it because it is a place where children can learn that religion is for joy, comfort, gratitude, and love.

We want to support it because it is a place where walls between people are torn down rather than built up.

We want to support it because it is more concerned with human beings than with dogmas.

We want to support it because it searches for the holy, rather than dwelling on the depraved.

We want to support it because it calls no one a sinner, yet know how deep is the struggle in each person's breast and how great is the hunger for what is good.

We want to support it because it calls us to worship what is truly worthy of our sacrifice.

There is only one reason for joining a Unitarian Universalist Church: to support it.

POSTLUDE

MY SWEET LORD

By George Harrison

Performed by Norm Ayerst, Mary Ann Forbes & George Zavarise

LYLA: Please remain seated for our Postlude.

GEORGE, MARY ANN & NORM:

CHORUS

My sweet Lord

Mmh, my Lord

My sweet Lord

VERSE

I really want to see you

*I really want to be with you
I really want to see you Lord*

CHORUS

*Hmmm, my Lord
My sweet Lord
Oh, my Lord*

VERSE

*I really want to know you
I really want to go with you
I really want to show you Lord
That it won't take long, my Lord (Hallelujah)*

CHORUS

*My sweet Lord (Hallelujah)
Mmh mmh, my Lord (Hallelujah)
My sweet Lord (Hallelujah)*

VERSE

*I really want to see you
I really want to see you
I really want to see you, Lord
I really want to see you, Lord
But it takes so long, my Lord (Hallelujah)*

CHORUS

*My sweet Lord (Hallelujah)
Mmh mh, my Lord
My sweet Lord (Hallelujah)*

VERSE

*I really want to see you (Hallelujah)
I really want to be with you (Hallelujah)
I really want to see you, Lord
But it takes so long, my Lord (Hallelujah)*

CHORUS

*My sweet Lord (Hallelujah)
Mmh, my Lord (Hallelujah)
My sweet Lord (Hallelujah)*

INTERLUDE

CHORUS

Hmm mmh, my Lord (Hare Krishna)

*My sweet Lord (Hare Krishna)
Hmm mmh, my Lord (Hare Krishna)
Oh, my Lord (Hare Hare)*

VERSE

*I really want to know you (Hare Rama)
I really want to go with you (Hare Rama)
I really want to show you Lord (aaah)
That it won't take long, my Lord (Hallelujah)*

OUTRO

*Hmm mmh, my Lord (Hallelujah)
My sweet Lord (Hallelujah)
Hmm mmh, my Lord (Hallelujah)
Guru Brahma (Hare Krishna)
Guru Vishnu (Hare Krishna)
Guru Devo (Krishna Krishna)
Maheshwara (Hare Hare)
Guru Sakshaat (Hare Rama)
Parabrahma (Hare Hare)
Tasmayi Shree (Hare Rama)
Mmmh mmh, my Lord (Hallelujah)
My sweet Lord (Hallelujah)
Mmh mmh mmh (Hallelujah)*