

Earth Day: Waiter? Another Planet Please
April 21st 2024

PRELUDE

WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:
GREET YOUR NEIGHBOR**

OPENING WORDS: A novel time to be alive
CHALICE LIGHTING: Cold & Dark, Light & Flame

OPENING HYMN: #21 For The Beauty of the Earth

STORY FOR ALL AGES: Ocean Sensory Bin
PARTING SONG/ SINGING OUT THE CHILDREN
“Go Now in Peace, Go Now in Peace, Let the Spirit of Love Surround you, Everywhere, Everywhere, You May Go.”

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:
Love is the doctrine of this church. The quest for truth its sacrament, and service is its prayer. To dwell together in peace, to seek knowledge in freedom, to serve humanity in fellowship, to the end that all souls shall grow into harmony with the Divine: thus do we covenant with each other and with God.

CENTERING HYMN: SLT #83 Winds Be Still
PRAYER/MEDITATION: Thich Nhat Hahn

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

**CANDLES OF JOY AND CONCERN:
MUSICAL MEDITATION/INTERLUDE:**

RESPONSIVE READING: Yes to the Universe (reverse)
SERMON: Waiter, Another Planet Please

OFFERTORY WORDS: “Anything you like”
CHORAL RESPONSE/MUSICAL OFFERTORY:

DOXOLOGY*

*From all that dwell below the skies
Let songs of love and faith arise
Let peace, goodwill on earth be sung
Through every land, by every tongue. Amen*

EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE*

*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 HYMN: STJ #1064 Blue Boat Home

*(the hymn is sung facing the world we are about to enter)

CLOSING WORDS/BENEDICTION: Rev. Wilson
POSTLUDE

*Please stand in body or spirit.

**Please join us for refreshments downstairs
immediately after the service**

“I’m at 2 with nature” -Woody Allen

Minister/Leader:

Stars are born, and stars die. Along the way, these stars fashion the very atoms of our bodies. — Is this a universe we say Yes to?

Congregation: *Yes to the Universe*

Minister/Leader: Mountains are born, and mountains die. Along the way, these mountains create the particles of sand and clay that blend with dead plants to become soil. —Is this a universe we say yes to?

Congregation: *Yes to the Universe*

Minister/Leader: Glaciers come and glaciers go. Along the way, they grind rocks into new soil and sculpt ponds and lakes. —Is this a universe we say yes to?

Congregation: *Yes to the Universe*

Minister/Leader: Species come and species go. Along this odyssey of evolution, marvels emerge: eyes, limbs, feathers, song, terror, love. —Is this a universe we say yes to?

Congregation: *Yes to the Universe*

Minister/Leader: Cells are born, and cells die. Along the way, the winnowing yields fingers and toes, fins and wings, and the miracle of healing from injury. —Is this a universe we say yes to?

Congregation: *Yes to the Universe*

The First Parish Church *The Unitarian Universalist Church*

On the Common, Billerica Massachusetts



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