

May 22, 2022

Prelude *To a Wild Rose* Edward MacDowell

Welcome and Announcements

Introit "The Third Principle" David M. Glasgow

Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn No. 63 [STLT]

“Spring Has Now Unwrapped the Flowers”

Spring has now unwrapped the flowers
Day is fast reviving,
Life in all her growing powers
Toward the light is striving.
Gone the iron touch of cold,
Winter time and frost time,
Seedlines working through the mold
Now make up for lost time.

Herb and plant that, winter long,
Slumbered at their leisure,
Now be stirring green and strong,
Find in growth their pleasure.
All the world with beauty fills,
Gold the green enhancing;
Flowers make glee among the hills,
Set the meadows dancing.

Chalice Lighting

Unison Affirmation

Love is the doctrine of this church,
The quest for truth its sacrament,
And service its prayer.
To dwell together in peace,
To seek knowledge in freedom,
To serve human need,
To the end that all souls shall
grow into harmony with the Divine —
Thus do we covenant
with each other and with God.

Joys and Sorrows

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory Eastern Massachusetts Abortion Fund

For donations to support the Eastern MA Abortion Fund, please make checks payable to UUCGL with Eastern MA Abortion Fund on the memo line. Checks for the church should be payable to UUCGL with church on the memo line. All plate cash will go to the EMA Fund. For those joining us on Facebook Live, you may donate online at: uucgl.org/donate.

Reading Flower Communion Prayer by Norbert Capek

Anthem	“Soul Spring”
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Homily "What Decency Demands"
Rev. Dr. Victoria Weinstein

Responsive Reading

Flowers unfold slowly and gently, bit by bit in the sunshine.

*A soul, too, must never be pushed or driven but unfolds
In its own perfect timing to reveal its true wonder and beauty.*

Our work is to be gardeners of souls, wherever we are.

*Everywhere, seeds are beginning to germinate.
Let us tend them with the greatest care.*

They are very tender and delicate.

Let us water them with love.

Flower Communion

*Closing Hymn No. 303 [STLT]

We Are the Earth Upright and Proud

We are the earth upright and proud, in us the earth is knowing.
Its winds are music in our mouths, in us its rivers flowing.
The sun is our hearthfire; warm with the earth's desire,
And with its purpose strong, we sing earth's pilgrim song;
In us the earth is growing.

We lift our voices, fill the skies with our exultant singing;
We dedicate our minds and hearts, to order, beauty bringing.
Our labor is our strength our love will win at length,
Our minds will find the ways to live in peace and praise.
Our day is just beginning.

Sending Forth The Words of Maja Capek

Benediction

Congregational Response: *AMEN*

Postlude *Sunflower Slow Drag* Scott Joplin

Donations to Support the Eastern Massachusetts Abortion Fund

The recipient of UUCGL's special collection during our Sunday services will be the Eastern Massachusetts Abortion Fund, to support MA residents and women who are coming to MA for an abortion. For more information about Eastern Massachusetts Abortion Fund: <https://abortionfunds.org/fund/eastern-massachusetts-abortion-fund/>.

Today's Worship Team

The Rev. Dr. Victoria Weinstein, Parish Minister

Kenneth Griffith II, Director of Music

David Collins, Keyboard

The UUCGL Choir

Jason Gatlin, Livestream Service

Steve Deveau, Videographer

WELCOME

Welcome, to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lynn!

Thank you for demonstrating your commitment to community well-being by maintaining safe Covid practices between yourself and others not in your "bubble." While our community trusts science and we are vaccinated if medically able to be so, transmission rates are rapidly rising in Essex County. Even if not necessarily life-threatening, Covid is still a serious disease. Please continue to support one another in mitigating the spread: masks are encouraged, as is awareness of personal space.

OUR CHURCH HISTORY

Our congregation has a long history, and the present congregation is the outcome of the merger of three churches. Our earliest roots are in the First Church of Christ of Lynn, organized in 1632.

About two hundred years later, in 1822, a group of liberals withdrew to form the Second Congregational Society. Its first building was dedicated on South Common Street in 1832 and its second at the corner of Atlantic and Baltimore Streets in 1910. In 1919 that congregation changed its name to the Unitarian Church of Lynn.

The First Universalist Society, located in Lynn, was organized in 1833. Its first building was dedicated on Union Street in 1835 and its second on Nahant Street in 1873. By the late 1800s, the congregation was the largest Universalist Church in America. In 1908, the congregation changed its name to First Universalist Parish of Lynn.

The Swampscott Universalist Society was organized in 1889, and its building on Burrill Street was dedicated in 1891. The Swampscott Universalist Society later changed its name to the Swampscott Universalist Church.

Between 1964 and 1966 these three churches consolidated. On March 22, 1981, our present meetinghouse, on seven and a half acres of wooded land in Swampscott, was dedicated; and the congregation was renamed the *Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lynn*.

WE ARE A SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY

that gathers to explore deeper truths together,
to support one another through the complexities
and struggles of daily life, and to serve the greater good by
becoming more compassionate in our thoughts, words and actions.
Join with us to cultivate reverence, peacefulness, and an ethic of
loving engagement with the world.