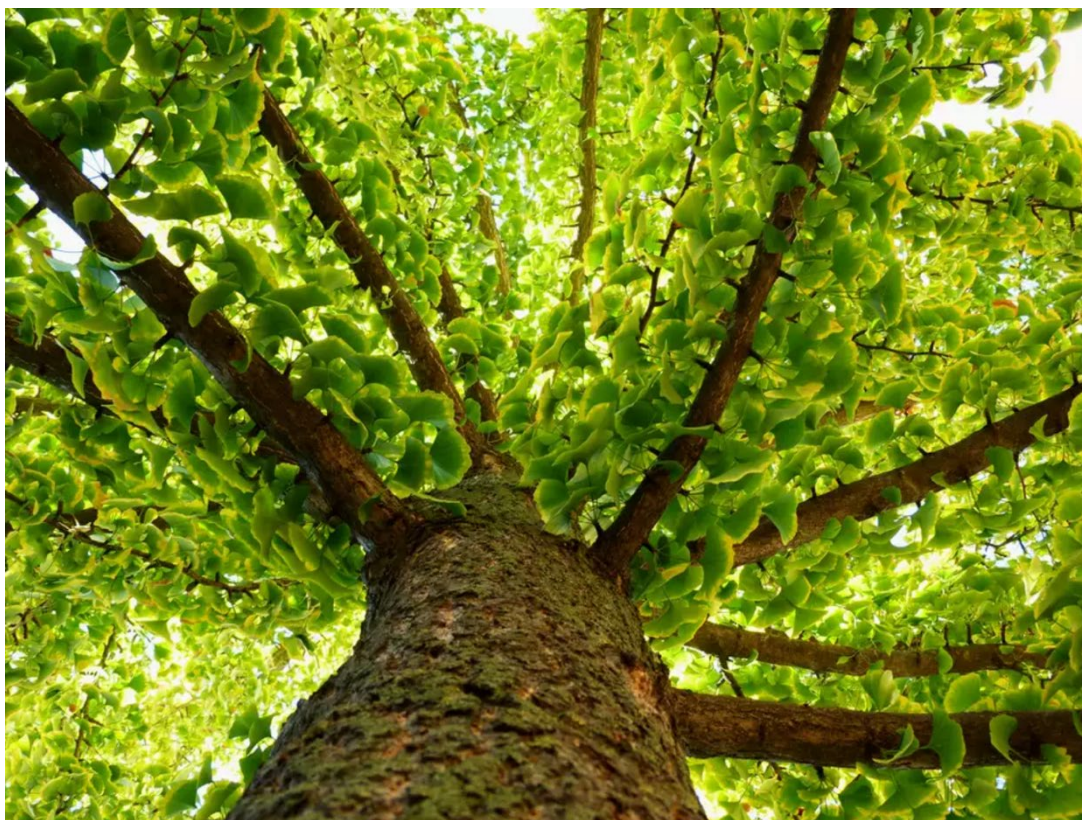


The Ordination of Susan Frances

*August 2, 2020,
Sunday, 2:00 pm CDT*





SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2020



Gathering Music

Carl Kennedy, piano
Desafinado by Antônio Carlos Jobim; *Minuet* by
Samuel Barber; *Blackbird* by Paul McCartney; *On The
Sunny Side of the Street* by Jimmy
McHugh; *Midsummer Nocturne* by Aaron
Coplane; *What A Wonderful World* by Bob Thiele

Welcome

The Rev. Jason Lydon

Processional

Enter, Rejoice, and Come In by Louise Ruspini
Amanda M. Thomas, vocals; Carl Kennedy, piano

Connecting

Susan Frances, Esq.

Chalice Lighting

The Rev. Darrick Jackson

Hymn

Spirit of Life by Carolyn McDade
Jonathan Dunmore, vocals; Carl Kennedy, piano

Spirit of Life, come onto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
Move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

Words of Covenant

Anabel Lian Watson

We covenant to build a community that challenges us
to grow and empowers us to honor the truth within
ourselves.

We will be generous with our gifts and honest in our
communication, holding faithful to a love that
embraces both diversity and conflict.

Called by our living tradition, we will nurture
spirituality within a vision of the eternal, living out our
inner convictions through struggles for justice and acts
of compassion.



Doxology

All Creatures of the Earth and Sky
Music from the Ausserlesene Catholische Kirschengesang;
Words composite based on Isaac Watts
Anabel Lian Watson, vocals; Gregory Shifrin, piano

From all that dwell below the skies
let songs of hope and faith arise.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let peace, good will on earth be sung
through every land, by every tongue.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia

Good Wishes from Meadville Lombard Theological School

Dr. Michael S. Hogue

Good Wishes from The Unitarian Universalist Association and Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association

The Rev. Dr. William Sasso

Reading

The Rev. Jorge Espinel

Anthem

We Are... by Dr. Ysaye M. Barnwell
The Rev. K Mooney, vocals

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Adam Robersmith

Offertory

The Rev. Elizabeth Harding
Erzulie malade, Haitian folksong transcribed by Werner Jaegerhuber
Tom Clowes, cello

Act of Ordination

Dr. Jon F. Rice, Board Chair of the
Second Unitarian Church of Chicago

Jon Rice:

In the living tradition of Unitarian Universalism, only the congregation has the authority and the privilege to ordain a person to the ministry. Ordination is for a lifetime. It is a meaningful and joyous occasion when we come together to recognize one who has chosen ministry as their life's work. It is a special privilege for our congregation to once again exercise this authority to ordain Susan Frances.

Susan, you have been recognized by the Ministerial Fellowship Committee of our Association as being prepared to serve. Are you ready and willing to embrace this sacred



relationship, to undertake the commitments of religious leadership through a Unitarian Universalist ministry?

Susan Frances:

Yes, I am ready and willing.

Jon:

By the authority of a congregational vote of the religious community of the Second Unitarian Church of Chicago, we desire to ordain you to the Unitarian Universalist ministry.

Dear members of Second Unitarian, wherever you are located in this moment, we unite our voices with the intent of our hearts, to consecrate this act of ordination together as a congregation. Please join me in saying the Words of Ordination now appearing on your screen. Even though you are on mute, our voices echo through the world. It is the energy of intention in our collected words that gives power to this sacred moment.

Members of Second Unitarian Church of Chicago, led by Jon Rice:

We, the members of the Second Unitarian Church of Chicago, affirm your calling to the Unitarian Universalist ministry. Wherever you are called to serve, may you minister from your whole self: heart, mind, body, and spirit. We ask you to dedicate yourself to celebrating the mystery and wonder of life, speaking the truth as you know it with courage and wisdom, encouraging spiritual growth and depth, bearing witness to the moral and ethical concerns of our times, sharing the many joys and sorrows of our human condition, embodying the principles of our faith, and, above all, serving the world with compassion and love.

We do hereby ordain you, Susan Frances, to the Unitarian Universalist Ministry!

Susan:

With a deep sense of its privileges and responsibilities, I take up this ministry.

Jon:

Will Susan's family, colleagues, and friends who wish to add their love and encouragement to this ceremony, please join in affirming this ordination by joining Mickey, Susan's spouse, in reading the words now appearing on your screen?

Family, Colleagues, and Friends, led by Mickey Kennedy:

Susan, with joy and pride, we affirm your ordination. We have watched you and encouraged you as you worked and prepared for this day. You have our continuing love and support. May your ministry nourish you and be an ongoing source of strength for your acts of love, compassion, and justice.

Susan:

With great appreciation and love for all of you in my life, I move forward into this ministry.

Jon:

I invite everyone who is present today, to unmute yourself. We will all say together: “We ordain you with great rejoicing!”

Everyone:

We ordain you with great rejoicing!

Jon:

Susan, we celebrate your presence among us now as a Unitarian Universalist minister. May your ministry be blessed and be a blessing!

Investiture

The Rev. Eileen Wiviott
Presentation of Stoles from the Second Unitarian Church of Chicago
and the Unitarian Church of Evanston

Blessing of Kinship

The Rev. Dr. Jerome A. Stone

Charge to the Minister

The Rev. Pamela Rumancik

Blessing, Laying on of Hands

The Rev. Viola Abbitt, Esq.

Anthem

O Love by Elaine Hagenberg
Vickie Hellyer, conductor; 2U Choir and UCE Choir, vocals;
Tom Clowes, cello; Gregory Shifrin, piano;
Adam Gough, AV Production

Extinguishing Chalice

The Rev. Darrick Jackson

Benediction

The Rev. Susan Frances, Esq.

Postlude

The Fire of Commitment by Mary Katherine Morn and Jason Shelton
Amanda M. Thomas, vocals; Carl Kennedy, piano





Collection Plate Share Recipients

[The Living Tradition Fund](#): The Living Tradition Fund provides support for ministry by providing need-based scholarships for theological students who have completed a full year of theological education; new minister assistance to reduce the burden of high educational debt and repayment; and emergency assistance grants to seminarians, ministers, religious professionals, other congregational staff, retired ministers and their loved ones.

[The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee \(UUSC\)](#): UUSC advances human rights and social justice around the world, partnering with those who confront unjust power structures and mobilizing to challenge oppressive policies, often working at the intersection of the environmental crisis, racism, and capitalism. Their work is grounded in the principles of the interconnected web of life and that all people have inherent worth and dignity.

♥ **Text Giving:** Text 773-900-5669 to donate from your phone. When you text to this number for the first time, you will be prompted to enter your payment details. Once you have given your information, simply text “\$[dollar amount] Frances” to give to the Susan Frances Ordination collection plate.

♥ **Web Giving:** To contribute to the Susan Frances Ordination collection plate online, [click here](#) and select “Susan Frances Ordination” from the drop down menu.





Participants (presenters and musicians) in Order of Appearance

The Rev. Jason Lydon, Minister serving the Second Unitarian Church of Chicago, Illinois (2U).

Rev. Jason has known Susan only a short while and has been moved by her passionate dedication to serving our shared faith with care and intentionality. Rev. Jason is currently on vacation and study leave and is finding joy in the powerful movements rising up around the country demanding justice and liberation.

Amanda M. Thomas, Mezzo-soprano, Director of Music with the Second Unitarian Church of Chicago.

Amanda is a vocal soloist and vocal instructor in the Chicago area. She earned a B.A. in music from Saint Xavier University of Chicago, where she studied voice and choral conducting. She is the current Director of Music at Second Unitarian Church of Chicago, and a member of Unity Temple Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Oak Park, Illinois. She serves as a Trustee at Large on the Board of The Association of UU Music Ministries.

Carl Kennedy, Pianist with the Second Unitarian Church of Chicago.

Originally from Kenosha, Wisconsin, Carl has lived in Chicago since 2011 where he works as a pianist, composer and educator. As the pianist at Second Unitarian Church of Chicago, Carl has gotten to know Susan via the choir and could not be more thrilled for her next steps into ministry. Connecting with his students and finding online musical outlets have sustained Carl through this time of social and physical distancing.

The Rev. Darrick Jackson, Director of Ministries for Lifelong Learning with the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association, Affiliated Community Minister serving Second Unitarian Church of Chicago.

Rev. Darrick lives in Chicago and got to know Susan from both Meadville Lombard Theological School, when he was on the faculty, and 2U, when he and Susan were co-teachers of the Spirit Play class. He is one of the authors in the book *Centering: Navigating Race, Authenticity and Power in Ministry*. Darrick is finding joy in the intersections between Zoom, story telling and theatre.

Jonathan Dunmore, Member of Second Unitarian Church of Chicago.

Jonathan has been a member of Second Unitarian and its choir since 1980. He is a retired accountant currently living in Evanston, Illinois, with his wife and daughter who bring him much joy and comfort during these trying times. He got to know Susan through church and greatly admires the care and compassion she's shown and given to congregants in need.

Anabel Lian Watson, Member of Second Unitarian Church of Chicago.



Anabel met Susan through involvement in Second Unitarian's CUUPS chapter and later sang with her in the church choir. Passionate for nature connection, deep conversations, and the performing arts, Anabel holds degrees in Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies and Religious Studies from DePaul University (Chicago). She is currently finding joy through virtual group meditation, fantastical novels, and the culinary adventures of wildcrafting in the Pacific Northwest.

Dr. Michael S. Hogue, Professor of Theology, Ethics, and Philosophy of Religion at Meadville Lombard Theological School.

Michael Hogue started teaching at Meadville Lombard Theological School just before Susan Frances matriculated as a student! He teaches and writes at the intersection of theology, ethics, and political theology. His most recent book is *American Immanence: Democracy for an Uncertain World*.

The Rev. Dr. William Sasso, Minister Emeritus with the Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship, Illinois.

Rev. Bill first encountered Unitarian Universalism at 2U, where he was a member from 1993 to 1999. That summer he and his wife Kathy O'Laughlin moved to southern Illinois, where he began serving as Extension Minister at the Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship. After retiring in 2012, Bill served as the last President of the UUA's Central Midwest District and the first President of the newly formed MidAmerica Region. Bill and Susan first met at the Carbondale congregation during her time at Southern Illinois University.

The Rev. Jorge Espinel, Chaplain with Imbanaco Medical Center, Cali, Colombia.

Rev. Jorge lives in Cali, Colombia, where he works as a palliative care chaplain. He met Susan in Chicago a few months before entering seminary in 2010 and she was his guide and support in that new and strange territory. In the interesting times we are living, having the opportunity to spend time with his family is bringing Jorge a lot of joy.

The Rev. K Mooney, Sabbatical Minister serving the Unitarian Universalist Advocacy Network of Illinois.

Rev. K has known Susan since she moved to Chicago with her partner and joined Second Unitarian. Together Susan & K have plotted and planned, laughed and cried about the world and all that is needed to bend the arc to justice. K is grateful to be acknowledging this moment in Susan's ministry, the world will be better for her call. K is looking forward to the time that Susan will teach her how to eat fire.

The Rev. Dr. Adam Robersmith, Senior Minister serving The Universalist Church of West Hartford, Connecticut.

Rev. Adam is a Unitarian Universalist minister, spiritual director, and storyteller who served 2U from 2009-2017. He is now the Senior Minister of the Universalist Church of West Hartford, CT. Educated at Cornell University, Starr King School for the



Ministry, and Chicago Theological Seminary, he has studied science, theology, history, and the arts. He lives in the woods of Connecticut with his partner of 24 years, their dog, two looms, three harps, and too many plants and books to count.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Harding, AM, MDiv, LCSW, Affiliated Community Minister serving the Second Unitarian Church of Chicago.

Rev. Elizabeth is one of the affiliated community ministers at Second Unitarian Church of Chicago, Illinois. She is married to Kevin O'Reilly, and together they have Lucas and Simon, and Adam the fish. Elizabeth knows Susan from Second Unitarian Church and is excited to celebrate Susan's ordination to the ministry!

Tom Clowes, Cellist, Member of Second Unitarian Church of Chicago.

Tom is the founder, Executive Director, and Cellist of Crossing Borders Music, which promotes the dignity of people from all cultures by sharing chamber music by composers from under-represented cultures. Tom was happily on the 2U board for the past 3 years, and is happily off the board as of July 1, 2020! Tom is a high school counselor at Midwest UU Summer Assembly, teaches music at the Ambassadors Music Institute summer camp in Marin, Haiti, and enjoys going to events at Chicago's National Cambodian Heritage Museum.

Dr. Jon F. Rice, retired history professor, Board Chair of Second Unitarian Church of Chicago.

Jon is a retired history professor and first-person historical performer with Plimoth Plantation. He has a doctorate in American history. He enjoys gardening and environmental maintenance in his retired life, and is the current chairperson at Second Unitarian Church. He admires Susan and the spiritual path she has chosen and wishes her the very best at her wonderful and challenging calling, for which he should add, she seems well suited.

The Rev. Eileen Wiviott, Acting Senior Minister serving the Unitarian Church of Evanston, Illinois (UCE).

Rev. Eileen currently serves as the Acting Senior Minister of the Unitarian Church of Evanston, where she has been a member, Membership Director, Social Justice Coordinator, and Assistant Minister. Her ministry grew out of a call to usher people into a sense of belonging in our faith and a passion for expanding justice through transformative and accountable relationships. She lives in Skokie with her husband, David, two grown (or nearly grown) children, Mable and Grey, and two yappy dogs, Ozzie and Sully. Eileen graduated from Meadville Lombard Theological School and was ordained by the Unitarian Church of Evanston in the spring of 2017.

The Rev. Dr. Jerome A. Stone, (ret.). Jerome Stone is a foundational theologian of Religious Naturalism and his book *Religious Naturalism Today: The Rebirth of a*



Forgotten Alternative is on the UUA's MFC Reading List. He was the Community Minister serving with the Unitarian Church of Evanston when Susan was the congregation's ministerial intern. He continues to be one of her informal mentors. His most recent book is *Sacred Nature: The Environmental Potential of Religious Naturalism*.

The Rev. Pamela Rumancik, Minister serving the Unitarian Church of Hinsdale, Illinois.

Rev. Pam shares life with beloved wife, Rev. K Mooney, their dog Parker and the elusive feline, Suki. She has served the Hinsdale church for six years, practices Qi Gong, loves to cook, write, and explore new places and experiences. Originally from Ohio, Pam is currently finding joy in restoring their new home in the Woodstock area.

The Rev. Viola Abbitt, Minister serving the Coastal Virginia Unitarian Universalists, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Rev. Viola, who has up to now been a lifelong resident of New York State, is the new minister at Coastal Virginia Unitarian Universalists in Virginia Beach, VA. Prior to that, she served as the half-time contract minister of two congregations in New York, the First Unitarian Society of Westchester and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Poughkeepsie. Viola has been awarded degrees by Binghamton University, Long Island University, the Fordham University School of Law and most recently Meadville Lombard Theological School, where she was blessed to meet and make friends with Susan Frances. She loves dancing and nature (especially the beach!), and has one adult son Taylor, a classical musician who will be attending Juilliard in the fall, and a rescue cat named Minerva.

Vickie Hellyer, Director of Music with the Unitarian Church of Evanston.

Since 2015, Vickie has served as the Music Director at UCE where she had the pleasure of working with Susan Frances when Susan was an intern there. In June, she retired from the DuPage Unitarian Universalist Church after 24 years as their choir conductor. Being involved (behind the scenes) in the beautiful UCE online services; being able to connect with choristers, staff, colleagues, congregants, friends and family via technology; and having the good fortune to have a great quarantining partner (hubby Jon Siegel - lifelong UU and bass in Vickie's choirs) are all bringing a lot of joy to Vickie during these complex times.

Gregory Shifrin, Pianist with the Unitarian Church of Evanston.

Gregory has been a pianist for the Unitarian Church of Evanston since 2007. He is also a pianist for The Chicago Music Institute Choral, Congregation Temple Chai (Long Grove), The Chicago Youth Choral Theater, and Glenbrook South High School. Gregory is thankful that music stays in the center of his life and brings him joy.

Joint 2U & UCE Choir:

Anabel Lian Watson, Andrew Fisher, Audrey Martin, Barb Butz, Barb Michael, Chauncey Brandom, Cheryl Pattin, Christy Grant, Darrick Jackson, Ellie Feddersen, Harris McKee, Jane Handy, Jenn Wisegarver, Jenny Earlandson, Jill Althage, Jim Redlich, Jim Simonis, John Houck, Jon Siegel, Jonathan Dunmore, Judy Corbeille, Karina Stribley, Lynn Kendall, Morgan Mastrangelo, Myra Epping, Peggy Boccard, Robb Geiger, Sue Widell, Susan Frances, Susan Richter, Tom Hempfling, Tory Bassani, Tyler Duston, Woody Haynes

UCE Stole Design and Needlework by Carol Nielsen

2U Stole Design and Needlework by the 2U Quilters Group

Jodi Cerny
Judy Corbeille
MiSang Stalzle
Susan Richter
Tory Bassani

This ordination was made possible by the skilled and generous people behind the scenes

Adam Gough, A/V Technician with Unitarian Church of Evanston
Christy Grant, Member of Second Unitarian Church of Chicago
Curtis Smith, Ordination Team with Second Unitarian Church of Chicago
David Martin, Member of Second Unitarian Church of Chicago
Epiphany Paris, Member of Second Unitarian Church of Chicago and Seminarian at
Meadville Lombard Theological School
Harris McKee, Member of Second Unitarian Church of Chicago
Karen Goldner, Past Board Chair of Second Unitarian Church of Chicago
Kate Learson, Congregational Administrator with Second Unitarian Church of Chicago
Libby Harvey-Hill, Ordination Team with Second Unitarian Church of Chicago
Mickey Kennedy, Cinematographer, Creative Technical Crafts Artist, Editor, Set
Designer, Sound Technician, Spouse, Supporting Actor and Technical Director
Ruth and Miles Bair, Mother and Stepfather of Susan Frances
Tom Denio, Ordination Team with Second Unitarian Church of Chicago

