



Inspiring Wonder, Awe and Empathy
Rev. Kim Mason
October 9th, 2022
Order of Service

Welcome and Announcements

Dwight Homer

Prelude

Prelude in G Major by Felix Mendelssohne

Earl Naylor, organ

Call to Worship

Rev. Kim Mason

Opening Hymn #34 Though I May Speak With Bravest Fire

*Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain as sounding brass and hopeless gain.*

*Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.*

*Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.*

Chalice Lighting

Dwight Homer

Sung Response

*Come as we light this candle of memory.
Come as we light this candle of hope.
Come as we light this candle of reverence.
Come into the flame. Come into the flame.*
Words and Music by Tony Fathman

Story for All Ages

Hide and Seek with God by Mary Ann Moore

Danielle Kozemczak

Children's Recessional #118 This Little Light of Mine

*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.*

Joys & Concerns

Submit Joys and Concerns online at <https://forms.gle/WiHevqVTkCc3dWmC7>

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Kim Mason

Sung Response: #123 Spirit of Life

Spirit of Life, come unto 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 & Music: Carolyn McDade, Harmony: Grace Lewis-McLaren

Reading

Three Things by Rev. Jan Taddeo

Dwight Homer

Call for the Offering

Text the dollar amount you wish to give to: 833-649-0088

Rev. Kim Mason

Offertory

Being Alive by Stephen Sondheim

Pam Geppert

Reading

from *Coming Back to Life: The Guide to the Work that Reconnects*
By Joanna Macy and Molly Young Brown

Dwight Homer

Sermon

Wonder, Awe and Compassion

Rev. Kim Mason

Hymn #86 Blessed Spirit of My Life

*Blessed Spirit of my life, give me strength through stress and strife;
help me live with dignity; let me know serenity.*

Fill me with a vision, clear my mind of fear and confusion.

When my thoughts flow restlessly, let peace find a home in me.

Spirit of great mystery, hear the still, small voice in me.

Help me live my wordless creed as I comfort those in need.

Fill me with compassion, be the source of my intuition.

Then, when life is done for me, let love be my legacy.

Closing Words

Rev. Kim Mason

Postlude

Praeludium in G Major by Johann Walther

Earl Naylor, organ

Serving Us This Morning:
Ushers: Paula Hanssen, Hunter Hart & Roy Cole
Greeter: Jeremy Colton
Flower Arrangement: Karen Albin
AV Assistant: Margaret Weck

Music Notes

Felix Mendelssohn (1809 – 1847) played the organ and composed for it from the age of 11 to his death. His primary organ works are the *Six Sonatas*, Op. 65 (1845), and the *Three Preludes and Fugues*, Op. 37 (1837), of which this is prelude number two.

**Welcome to this religious community
where we affirm the dignity, worth, and freedom
of all who enter our doors.**

Here we seek to live together in relationship and respect so that we may embrace and celebrate our differences. Understanding that we need not think alike to love alike, our religious values invite us to a shared journey of truth and meaning. Sincerity and connection guide our religious community, and call us into deeper association with ourselves and our world.

We welcome people of all ages, races, classes, ethnicities, abilities, sexual orientations and gender identities. First Unitarian Church of St. Louis is a *Welcoming Congregation* committed to the inclusion of LGBTQIAA+ individuals, families and communities in the life of our congregation. We are a *Green Sanctuary Church*, committed to sustainable practices and ethical consumption on our building and grounds.

First Unitarian Church of St. Louis Yellow Pages

At Church This Week!

Sunday October 9th

10:00 am - 11:00 am - Worship Service - In Person & Online
11:00 am - 12:00 pm Youth Group Bake Sale (Fellowship Hall)
11:30 am - 12:30 pm Reparations Presentation (Sanctuary)
11:30 am - 12:30 pm Membership Committee (library)
2:30 pm - 4:00 pm Partner Church Committee (online)

Monday October 10th

6:30 pm - 8:00 pm What Moves Us (in person & online)

Tuesday October 11th

11:00 am - 2:00 pm Women's Alliance Business Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday October 12th

7:30 pm - 9:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday October 13th

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm Facilities Committee (online)
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm New Member Class (In person and online)
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Covenant Group - Herzog (Dodson)

Friday October 14th

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Toward Justice

Saturday October 15th

10:00 am - 11:00 am Black Lives Matter Social Witnessing

Sunday October 16th

10:00 am - 11:00 am Partner Church Worship Service - In Person & Online
11:30 am to 1:00 pm Policy Board Meeting (Chapel)

Please check the Church Calendar on the website for more information about gatherings

Deadline for announcements: Wednesday, noon

Send items to dkozem@firstuustlouis.org

Our Mission

We strive to be a welcoming congregation, inspiring lives of loving kindness and integrity by nurturing spirituality, building community, and advancing justice

Upcoming Services

October Theme - Awe

Sunday October 16th - Partner Church Sunday - Transylvanian Unitarianism

Sunday October 23rd - The Ministry of Both/ And, Part III with Rev. Kim Mason

Joys and Concerns

Concerns

Condolences to...

Alison Lamothe, who is mourning the loss her stepfather, Gerald Ross

As a church community, each of us is an integral part of the care and concerns network. Not only do we show up and care for one another, we can make sure people get care by sharing with the care and concerns team when health and other concerns arise. Contact the Care and Concerns team by calling or emailing careandconcern@firstuustlouis.org

Next Designated Collection

Sunday October 16th

Partner Church Fund

The Partner Church Committee's mission is to maintain and foster the relationship between the First Unitarian Church and our partner church in Csokfalva, Transylvania (Romania), a relationship dating from 1991. In supporting our partner Unitarian church, we are promoting liberal religion, developing international friendships, and creating opportunities for pilgrimage, hospitality, learning and service. **Nominated by Kimberly Perry.**

Church Events

Uhuru Reparations Presentation

Sunday, October 9th 11:30am-12:30pm

Omali Yeshitela and Penny Hess will speak to our congregation about the Black Power Blueprint. BPB is a joint initiative of the African People's Education and Defense Fund (APEDF) and Black Star Industries (BSI), transforming North St. Louis through renovation, economic development and political power by and for the black community.

Boston Trip Fund Bake Sale

Sunday, October 9th 11am-12pm

Our 7th-12th graders will be running the Bake Sale this Sunday to raise funds for the Boston Trip Fund. Make sure to stop by during coffee hour.

Upcoming Partner Church Events

Partner Church Worship Service

Sunday October 16th 10am

Partner Church Dinner

Saturday 10/22/22

5:30pm Appetizers, 6:00pm Dinner, 6:45pm- Program - Trivia, Update, and Raffle

Be sure to sign up for dinner during coffee hour on either October 9th or 16th!

We rely on your early sign-ups so we can adequately prepare for this delicious home-cooked Transylvanian feast!

More clues for Transylvania Trivia Competition Below:

- Transylvanian Unitarians are ethnic Hungarians. As a minority in Romania, they have hung on tightly to their religious faith, particularly during the Cold War, when the Transylvanian Unitarian Church was severely repressed by the Communist government of Romania.
 - Our partner village of Csókfalva is predominantly Hungarian and predominantly Unitarian.
 - The current minister in Csokfalva is Tamási Noémi
-

Religious Education This Week

Sunday October 9th, 2022

Story for All Ages - Hide and Seek with God, by Mary Ann Moore

Childcare for children birth to 3 years old available in the Nursery

Children and Youth are encouraged to attend service with their families at 10am. They will exit the sanctuary after the Story for All Ages and RE volunteers will escort them to their classrooms.

RE Classes This Sunday!

Preschoolers (Nursery) Chalice Children

Three and four year old children will learn that our church is a place to worship, learn, play, and help other people! Children will enjoy the book I Can Help and will be introduced to the Memory Game.

Kindergarten - 3rd Grade (C2) Spirit Play

Children in grades K-3rd grade will be learning about the promises we make to each other in our church community, starting with the first promise- Respect People. We will be reading the story And Tango Makes Three.

4/5/6th Graders - (C1) History of Religion

This Sunday we are learning about prehistoric cave art. Children are introduced to the religious idea of magical thinking and view a variety of cave art before making their own masterpieces in the cave underneath the chapel.

7-12th Graders - (Fellowship Hall) Bake Sale Prep!

There will not be an OWL class this Sunday

Youth 7th - 12th grade will be preparing for the Boston Trip Fund Bake Sale this Sunday, including baking fresh cookies, packaging items, making signs, pricing items, etc.

Announcements

Policy Board Update

As you know, we recently adopted a mission statement for the church:

We strive to be a welcoming congregation, inspiring lives of loving kindness and integrity by nurturing spirituality, building community, and advancing justice

Last year, the Policy Board began to address the question how the church should “advance justice”, specifically looking at the role of Social Activism in the Church. Certainly our individual members are engaged in numerous activities that promote justice, but there is no one issue that is focused on by the church as a whole. After many, many discussions, the board determined we should seek input from the congregation to determine if we should be focusing on specific social action issues, and, if so, what issue or issues we should be focused on.

By focusing on a particular social action issue, our hope is we can make a bigger impact working together and making a stronger impact. Much like our focus on themes within our worship services, by focusing on specific social action issues, we can take more time to look at an issue in depth. Our hope is that such a focus will allow us to learn about the problems associated with it, discover what resources and opportunities are currently available in our broader community, and what we can contribute as a church to helping them.

Certainly finding an issue our membership can agree on will take great effort. Our hope is to not divide us, but find the bonds that makes us stronger.

In the coming weeks and months, we will be conducting focus groups, listening circles, and direct contact from our taskforce looking into this issue. Kim will be offering further details in her sermon this week.

Sincerely,

Stephen A Wilke, Policy Board President

In the spirit of regeneration

Restarting First UU Young Adults' Group

Sam Rezansoff & Brad Coleman would like to invite other 20 to 30-year-olds to restart the First Unitarian Church of St Louis young adults' group. We would like to revive some of the old traditions while creating new ones along the way. If you are interested in joining, please sign up on the sheet (paper or via the Google form).

With enough interest, we can begin planning some meetings, activities & identify ways to move forward in

community. Please note that Brad & I have not organized a group like this before, so we appreciate your patience as we navigate this new realm. Google Form: <https://forms.gle/s8Bajdh8Nf3KbCtTA>

2022 First Unitarian Auction: Rekindle the Flame

November 12, 2022

Your Auction Team Needs You!

The 2022 auction, like any big endeavor, is way more fun when everybody helps, and everyone who reads this can find a way to participate. We are looking for **Operations Volunteers**, including tech-comfortable volunteers to help with the multiplatform app, help with Check-in and check-out, and physical set-up and take-down the day of the event. You can Sign-Up to Volunteer here: <https://forms.gle/Dpuw21A7h2bGPb8t5!> **We need auction items**, including silent auction items, live auction items, member's handiwork, wine for the cork pull, and of course sign-up experiences. You can Donate Auction Items here:

<https://forms.gle/7b9oXpogzyo864AL8>

Flowers for Sunday Services

Many of you remember that in the before times (i.e., before the pandemic) we regularly had fresh flowers in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings. These flowers were donated by members and friends of the church – often in memory of loved ones or in honor of a special person or occasion. We are returning to this tradition beginning in October. Are you willing to help? Donating is easy – Dottie Kinscherf can take care of ordering the flowers for you and arranging for delivery. If you are interested in learning more or signing up for a specific Sunday, contact Dottie at flowers@firstuustlouis.org

Social Responsibility

Black Lives Matter Social Witnessing

Join us every Saturday at 10am

The weekly Black Lives Matter Social Witnessing will restart on Saturday March 12th. Gather on Kingshighway alongside our church building. Bring signs, water and sunscreen. Masks and social distancing required. Kevin Kellogg is the on-site coordinator. This event is coordinated by the Toward Justice Group.

The Little Free Pantry Needs You!

We need people who can check on the pantry and make sure it's stocked! Please consider grabbing something for the pantry when you do your shopping. Pop top cans are preferred. Plastic utensils, bottled water, and personal care items like deodorant, sunscreen, and soap are needed. Remember that you or a group you are in can support our parking lot pantry. Visiting once during the week is fine - including on a Sunday. Thank you in advance for your support of this effort to feed our neighbors!

Community Events

Fall Moppet Swap

Saturday October 15, 1p - 3p

A free children's clothing and gear swap!

First Unitarian Church of St. Louis

5007 Waterman, 63108

You can schedule pastoral appointments with Rev. Kim at your convenience. Click on this link <https://calendly.com/kmason-7> and choose the date that works best for you - no account necessary.

First Unitarian Church of St. Louis

314-361-0595

Rev. Kim Mason, Minister (kmason@firstuustlouis.org)

Danielle Kozemczak, Director of Religious Education & Communications (dkozem@firstuustlouis.org)

Lynn Hunt, Administration & Programs (lhunt@firstuustlouis.org)

Augustine Underwood, Office Asst. (aunderwood@firstuustlouis.org)

Earl Naylor, Music Director/Organist (enaylor@firstuustlouis.org)

Joel Knapp, Choir Director

Moe Hurst, A/V Technician (mhurst@firstuustlouis.org)

Policy Board

Board President – Steve Wilke

Vice President – Erin Milligan

Secretary – Alison Lamothe

Treasurer – Jeremy Colton

Member – Becca McBride

Member – Norma Vogelweid

Member – Luke Steffen

Member – Joel Hickman

Member – Susan Lammert

Church Council

Cathy Rauch, Chair

Clint Cruse, Facilities

Kathy Wire, Stewardship

Lisa Ross, Social Responsibility

Kevin Kellogg, Outreach & Engagement

Sue Herzberg, Programming Cluster