



The Land Has Memory
Rev. Kim Mason
November 13th, 2022
Order of Service

Welcome and Announcements

Adam Lunter

Prelude *In Dir ist Freude* by Paul Manz

Earl Naylor, organ

Call to Worship

Rev. Kim Mason

Opening Hymn #324 Where My Free Spirit Onward Leads

*Where my free spirit onward leads, well, there shall be my way;
by my own light illumined I've journeyed night and day;
my age, a time-worn cloak I wear as once I wore my youth;
I celebrate life's mystery; I celebrate death's truth.*

*My family is not confined to mother, mate, and child;
but it includes all creatures be they tame or be they wild;
my family upon this earth includes all living things
on land, or in the ocean deep, or borne aloft on wings.*

*The ever spinning universe, well, there shall be my home;
I sing and spin within it as through this life I roam;
eternity is hard to ken and harder still is this:
a human life when truly seen is briefer than a kiss.*

Chalice Lighting

Adam Lunter

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

The Water Protectors by Carole Lindstrom

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.

Special Music

Ave Verum by Mozart

Kimberly Perry, soprano

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.

Reading

A Vision by Wendell Berry

Adam Lunter

Call for the Offering

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

Rev. Kim Mason

Offertory

The River Is Flowing by Sun Bear Sung by the Muuses

Reading

from *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer

Adam Lunter

Sermon

The Land Has Memory

Rev. Kim Mason

Hymn #317 We Are Not Our Own

We are not our own. Earth forms us,

human leaves on nature's growing vine,

fruit of many generations,

seeds of life divine.

We are not alone. Earth names us:

*past and present, peoples near and far,
family and friends and strangers
show us who we are.*

*Therefore let us make thanksgiving,
and with justice, willing and aware,
give to earth, and all things living,
liturgies of care.*

*Let us be a house of welcome,
living stone upholding living stone,
gladly showing all our neighbors
we are not our own!*

Closing Words

Rev. Kim Mason

Postlude *Prelude on Ein Feste Burg, by R. Evan Copley*

Earl Naylor, organ

Serving Us This Morning

Ushers: Paula Hanssen and Hunter Hart

Greeters: Norma Vogelweid and Lisa Ross

AV Assistant: Tom Finan

Music Notes

"The River Is Flowing" was a chant written in the 1970s by Sun Bear, a member of the Chippewa Tribe. He was born in the White Earth Reservation in the North of the United States on 31 August 1926 and died on 19 June 1992 at the age of 66 in Spokane, Washington. - Additional verses were added by E. Barrie Kavash in her 2005 novel "Sacred Cave" which is set in North America's prehistoric southeast. R. Evan Copley (1930-2018) wrote this toccata while a faculty member at Iowa Wesleyan College in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. He recently retired from the faculty of Northern Colorado University. The chorale melody is primarily in the pedal line in very slow note values, so it is not always easy to follow the tune.

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**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 November 13th

10:00 am to 11:00 am Worship Service - In Person & Online

11:30 am to 12:30 pm Active Hope Project (Chapel)

11:30 am to 12:30 pm Worship Assistant Training (Sanctuary)

11:30 am to 12:30 pm Membership Committee (Library)

Tuesday November 15th

11:00 am to 12:00 pm Women's Alliance Business Meeting (online)

6:30 pm to 9:30 pm Yokota/Franklin Covenant Group (online)

6:30 pm to 8:00 pm First Church Community Fund (online)

Wednesday November 16th

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

Thursday November 17th

6:30 pm to 8:00 pm Siegrist/Milligan Covenant Group (online)

6:30 pm Policy Board Meeting (online)

Saturday November 19th

2:00 pm to 3:00 pm Bob Pierce Memorial Service (Sanctuary)

3:00pm to 5:00pm 7/8/9th Grade OWL Workshop

5:00 pm to 7:30 pm Cornbread Baking Potluck - Religious Education Families (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday November 20th

10:00 am to 11:00 am Cornbread Communion Service- In Person & Online

11:30 am to 12:00 pm Play Area Dedication

11:30 am to 12:30 pm Young Adult Group (Clark Room)

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

November Theme - Remembrance

Sunday, November 20th - Cornbread Communion with Rev. Kim Mason

Joys and Concerns

Concerns

Joys

*We celebrate with **Alison Lamothe**, who won the election for Madison County Board District 18*

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

Memorial for Bob Pierce
Saturday November 19th, 2022 2pm
Service in the Sanctuary
Reception will follow in Fellowship Hall

Upcoming Designated Collection

Sunday November 20, 2022

Trinity Episcopal Food Ministry (Hot Lunch)

This program provides a weekly hot lunch to those in need. As a fellow member congregation of the Holy Ground Collaborative, First Unitarian has regularly worked to provide three of these lunches each year.

Nominated by Sam Hunt.

As a way of putting our faith into action, our church periodically dedicates Sunday collections to worthy non-profits or church programs.

Church Events

Cornbread Baking Dinner
Saturday November 19th 5pm

All are welcome to this dinner! We will provide pasta dishes and salad. After we eat we will work together in the kitchen to make the cornbread for the Sunday Service Thanksgiving inspired Communion. Please complete the RSVP form or email Danielle at dkozem@firstuustlouis.org so I can order the right amount of food.

Thanks!

Save the Date!
Seven Spaces Play Area Dedication
Sunday, November 20, 2022 - 11:30am to 12:00pm

Hanging of the Greens
Sunday, December 4th (after the morning service)

Start your holidays with this fun gathering at the church. Make a yummy purchase at the Partner Church Bake Sale. Then have lunch at the sandwich buffet in Fellowship Hall (\$10 per adult, \$5 for 12 and younger, \$25 cap per family unit) Make a Christmas craft and decorate the tree in the Sanctuary. Sing Christmas tunes and welcome a chubby visitor in red who resides at the North Pole!

You will have a jolly good time.

SAVE the Date!
First UU Christmas Pageant
Sunday December 11th 10am
Rehearsal will be Saturday 12/10 in the morning

Project Active Hope

We are beginning the process of reaching out to congregants to get your input on the idea of congregational social action, and what that might look like, as we explore what we mean by "advancing social justice" in our mission statement. There are 2 ways you can participate, and we encourage you to take part in both.

The first is a series of facilitated listening circles which will be held on

Sunday November 13th 11:30am

Sunday December 11th 11:30am

Sunday January 15th 11:30am

The second is an individual conversation with one of us. We are hoping to talk to as many of you as possible, and will be reaching out by phone to schedule a time.

Minister's Column
November 2022

One week ago I went into a minister's Facebook group and typed "gun violence vigil." After last Monday's school shooting at Central Visual and Performing Arts High School, I was looking for advice and resources. What I found was heartbroken ministers struggling to find something new to say in the face of recurring tragedy. I had come to the group looking for wisdom because my own grief and anger was overwhelming. I found instead that my colleagues were also struggling. What made me think I was any different from any other

minister? Or any of you for that matter? We are sitting with fear and frustration, anguish and impotence. I hear the heartache in the questions: what can I do? What can we do? How do we change this?

I hear the hopelessness in statements like, “Thoughts and prayers are not enough.” I too want more. I was in college when Columbine happened. How is this even still a thing that happens in our country?? When did we become accustomed to active shooter drills and kevlar backpacks? No one disagrees that mass shootings are a horrific trauma that needs to stop, and that within the category of mass shootings, school shootings are particularly tragic. And I just wrote a sentence containing the words “Within the category of mass shootings...” I too want more...

I was recently reminded of the power of prayer. The power, not to move an omnipotent being into action, but to move ourselves into action. The Danish philosopher and theologian Soren Kierkegaard said, “Prayer does not change God, but it changes him who prays.” So I have been praying. I have prayed for the children of CVPA. I prayed for their teachers and the staff. I prayed for the people protecting the children and caring for the children. I prayed for their parents and families. I prayed for our city. I prayed for their safety and well-being, and ours too. I prayed for their healing and the healing of our city.

By praying, I let myself be present with my sorrow and my rage. I could feel it in my body. I cried. By praying, I let myself feel. When we are constantly bombarded by tragedy, it is a struggle not to let yourself despair, to be desensitized. In this way prayer changes our relationship to the events and the people. Every parent who raced to CVPA on Monday, every parent who kicked off their shoes and ran to find their child, has been changed by the shooting. We too should be changed, changed enough that we are not OK with this ever happening again. One term for such a change is maladjustment. Martin Luther King Jr. said “there are certain things in our nation and in the world (about) which I am proud to be maladjusted and which I hope all men of good-will will be maladjusted until the good societies realize.” It is time for us to be maladjusted and stay maladjusted.

Prayer can open you up to your own maladjustment. When I sit in prayer, when I allow myself to be present with my emotions, when I reject despair and desensitization, I am maladjusted to the horror of gun violence and I remember that I can act. There are things I can do. I can support organizations working to end gun violence. I can vote for politicians working to end gun violence. I can talk to local and national officials about ending gun violence. I can talk to my friends and neighbors about ending gun violence. I can show up to events advocating the end of gun violence. Let prayer be a practice that keeps you feeling, that keeps you maladjusted, that keeps you motivated - and then follow up on it.

As we look ahead to recovery, as we hope for healing, I pray that like the students and staff at CVPA, you too are changed by the events that Monday. I hope that in praying to end gun violence, you are reminded everyday that you too have a role to play. In the words of Edward Everett Hale, “I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.” When I pray that “thoughts and prayers” become action and policy to end gun violence, what I am really praying is that I remain maladjusted and that you too remain maladjusted. We do not have to stay mad, or sad, we simply have to stay maladjusted. I do not have solutions, but I am here to partner with others

working to end gun violence. To crib from L.R. Knost, do not be dismayed by the immensity of the task. All things can be changed - not with time, but with intention. If enough of us remain maladjusted, then we can do something about it. May our shared maladjustment inspire action that transforms our community and ends gun violence.

Rev. Kim Mason

Religious Education This Week

Story For All Ages:

We are Water Protectors, by Carole Lindstrom

We are Water Protectors tells the story of an Ojibwe girl. When a black snake threatens to destroy the Earth and poison her people's water, she takes a stand to defend Earth's most sacred resource. Inspired by the many indigenous people led fights against oil pipelines in an effort to protect the water supply.

RE Classes This Sunday 11/13

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.

Babies and Toddlers (Nursery)

Loving childcare is available on Sunday mornings 9:45am - 11:30am.

Preschoolers (Nursery) Chalice Children

Three and four year old children will talk about helping others and how many people come to church to help others. They will enjoy the storybook Herman the Helper, by Robert Kraus and play pretend.

K-2nd Graders - (C2) Spirit Play

Children will enjoy the story Frog and Toad: The Surprise, by Arnold Lobel and talk about acts of kindness.

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

Participants will be introduced to the prominent gods and goddesses of Hinduism.

7-12th Graders - Youth Group (Clark Room)

Youth will be visiting with the Eliot Chapel Youth group, making care kits for the homeless, and filling the Little Food Pantry with donations from RE Families.

Announcements

First Church 2022 Community Grant Awards

During the Sunday, November 6th service the First Church Community Fund (FCCF) committee announced 2022 microgrants. Funded from income from a First Church endowment now in its 37th year, the grants are awarded to community nonprofits addressing issues of poverty, homelessness and the underserved in our St. Louis community.

The FCCF committee selected thirteen nonprofits to receive a portion of the \$7600 in available funds this year. Grants ranged from \$300-\$750 and were awarded based on proposals submitted from the nonprofits specifying how money would be used and anticipated outcomes.

A Designated Collection was taken during the service. Its proceeds will be added to the endowment principle to ensure that FCCF grants continue and grow. If you would yet like to donate, you may do so anytime through the church website (see “Financial Support for First Church” page) which includes information on both on-line and “Text to Give” options. Donations may also be made by check mailed to our Church Administrator, Lynn Hunt. Check should be made out to “First Unitarian Church” and specify “FCCF” on the memo line. View the Full List of Grant Awardees here:

https://www.firstuustlouis.org/sites/default/files/E-News%20First%20Church%202022%20Community%20Grant%20Awards%202022_1107.docx.pdf

Board Member Resignation

Policy Board President, Steve Wilke, recently accepted the resignation of Trustee Luke Steffen. The Nominating and Leadership Committee will make a recommendation for a replacement to fill out the rest of this existing term.

Your Auction Team Needs You!

Save the Date - Saturday February 4th, 2022

The 2023 auction will take place on Saturday, February 4, and it will be here before we know it. The planning team needs to know who can volunteer and who can donate items for either the silent or live auction. Email

Social Responsibility

Last Black Lives Matter

Social Witnessing of the Season

Saturday November 19th 10am

Due to impending winter weather and low temperatures, we will hold this year's last Saturday BLM vigil on Saturday November 19th. We plan to restart in the spring once outside temperatures are comfortable.

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!

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.

UUA News

Unitarian Universalist Association Transgender Day of Remembrance Service

Friday, November 18th @ 4pm ET / 1pm PT via Zoom

Please join us as we honor the lives lost in 2022 and celebrate the resilience of the transgender community as we grieve together, worship together, and recommit to a moving together in solidarity. Register to receive zoom link: <https://bit.ly/UUA-TransDayofRemembrance2022>

General Assembly 2023

Faithfully Becoming

Pittsburgh, PA

June 21st - 23rd, 2023

General Assembly (GA) is the annual meeting of our Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). Participants worship, witness, learn, connect, and make policy for the Association through democratic process. Anyone may attend; congregations must certify annually to have voting delegates.

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

Church Council

Cathy Rauch, Chair

Clint Cruse, Facilities

Kathy Wire, Stewardship

Lisa Ross, Social Responsibility

Member – Becca McBride
Member – Norma Vogelweid
Member – Joel Hickman
Member – Susan Lammert

Kevin Kellogg, Outreach & Engagement
Sue Herzberg, Programming Cluster