

# Decorah ❖ Unitarian ❖ Universalist ❖ Fellowship

Sunday, May 17, 2020

Gathering virtually since 2020!

[www.decorahuu.org](http://www.decorahuu.org)

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## Welcome and Announcements

**Today's service reminds us of our 5<sup>th</sup> principle** The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large.

**Opening Words** *The Story of Lisa Kalvelage*

...Pete Seeger

**Chalice Lighting** We light this chalice knowing that it is not enough to merely call for justice and truth to prevail. Our Unitarian Universalist faith urges us to be a people who make good on this promise; this is the time and now is the hour. May we find the courage to follow our calling.

**Opening Song** *O God of All the Nations* ...new lyrics to an old hymn: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2019

**Joys and Sorrows** Please raise your Zoom hand to share any personal joy or concern with the Fellowship.

**Silence/Response** *Your Joy Is My Joy* ...sung today by its author, Decorah UU member Ellen Rockne

**Offering/Offertory** #128 For all that is our life, we sing our thanks and praise; for all life is a gift that we are called to use to build the common good, and make our own days glad. ...Bruce Findlow

**Reading** *Religion and Justice* ...Wm. Schulz, adapted

## **Politics & Moral Commitments: Using & Critiquing Power** Dr. Laura Wright

**Closing Song** We are a people at the full height of our power. This is the place, and now is the hour. We recognize our sacred worth. We have the power to transform the earth.

**Extinguishing the Chalice** We extinguish this flame, remembering that we have a calling in this world: We are called to continue our search for truth and meaning, and to act on it with all of the courage we can summon. May we be known as caretakers of all that is good and honorable. Peace be with us all!



## Announcements

**Thank you** to our speaker this morning, **Laura Wright**. Dr. Wright came to Northeast Iowa after finishing a PhD at Johns Hopkins in archaeology. During her time in Israel and Palestine, she came to value more deeply the inherently political nature of academic pursuits. She came to Northeast Iowa to be a professor of Religion at Luther College. Once here, she became involved in local politics, assisting with the campaign of Kayla Koether. Until recently, she was the interim pastor of Decorah UCC and explored how to be the voice of a local faith community within local and national political settings.

**Share-the-Plate** - Our plate recipient for May-June is the Decorah Community Food Pantry. To support the plate recipient, see Decorah UU Giving, below.

**May 24** - Casual/social Sunday.

**Member Emergency Fund** - Unforeseen troubles come our way from time to time. If you or someone you know in the fellowship could use some help, please let Otter know. We may be able to provide support or short term monetary assistance. Confidentiality will be respected.

**Decorah UU Support** - As we continue to find our way through this challenging time, please remember: **if you need help**, let Otter know via phone 563-387-6050 or email [otterdreaming@gmail.com](mailto:otterdreaming@gmail.com). We'll all need support of one kind or another during this time. Please don't hesitate to ask.

**Decorah UU Circles** - We are practicing physical distancing to stay safe in these times, but that doesn't mean we must be disconnected socially. Check in with folks in your Circle or others as well, and know that together we care for our UU family and friends. Contact Sue Otte if you have questions or comments: [sueotte@gmail.com](mailto:sueotte@gmail.com) or 563-419-5396.

**Decorah UU Giving** - Decorah UU has set up online payment primarily for donations you might otherwise make in person at fellowship. Go to our [Decorah UU](#) homepage and click on the "Give Online" button, which will take you to the Giving page. There, you'll find the "Donate" button which will send your payment through PayPal. You do NOT need a PayPal account. You'll be asked to choose whether your donation is for **Share-the-Plate** or for **Decorah UU**. You can only choose one, so if you want to donate to both, you will have to repeat the process. You can use a debit or credit card. Below the "Donate" button on the Giving page, you may also consider two options for recurring donations. **Please note:** We deeply appreciate the gracious gifts of our members and friends, whether given on a weekly, monthly, or annual basis. We understand that present circumstances and uncertainty may affect your ability to make a financial commitment to Decorah UU. Know that we value your "gracious gifts" to our fellowship, in whatever form they may be.

**Decorah UU Service Archive** - Did you miss a service we conducted by Zoom? Or did you attend but would like to watch it again? You can! Go to [Decorah UU](#). There are two links to our new YouTube channel: a small YouTube icon in the upper right and a button in the middle that says "Watch past services on YouTube." Once on the YouTube channel page, you can choose the service you want to watch. We will try to post the link within one week of each service. Tip: If you want to see the bulletin or other information about the service, you can click on the SERVICE ARCHIVE button on the homepage. From there you can click on a service and then the "read more" link.

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**Decorah UU online** - For more information, please visit our website [Decorah UU](#) or our [facebook](#) page.

**Decorah Community Food Pantry** - The Decorah Community Food Pantry has received a generous response from the community during this time of COVID-19. Individuals, businesses, the Board of Supervisors, and granting agencies have all contributed to our need as we serve growing numbers of individuals with food insecurity. Younger volunteers have stepped up to help so that our older volunteers can avoid risk. When we transition to a different "normal" operation, we'll continue to have financial need in order to purchase an upright freezer. However, currently we just want to express our gratitude.

# Your Joy Is My Joy

Ellen Rockne

Your joy is my joy, your sor - row my sor-row. To -

5  
geth - er we live our days. To - geth - er we love this place. In be -

9  
lov - ed com - mu-ni - ty, we are not a - lone.

