

Decorah ♦ Unitarian ♦ Universalist ♦ Fellowship

Sunday, December 6, 2020
Otter Dreaming, Fellowship Coordinator

Gathering virtually since 2020!

decorahuu.org
387-6050 or otterdreaming@gmail.com

Welcome and Announcements

Chalice Lighting We light our chalice this morning, grateful for the love that we experience in this beloved community. May the flame light the way for all who seek such abundance.

...Rev. Dawn Skjei Cooley

Opening Song *Our Father*

...Karen Esterl/Susan Werner

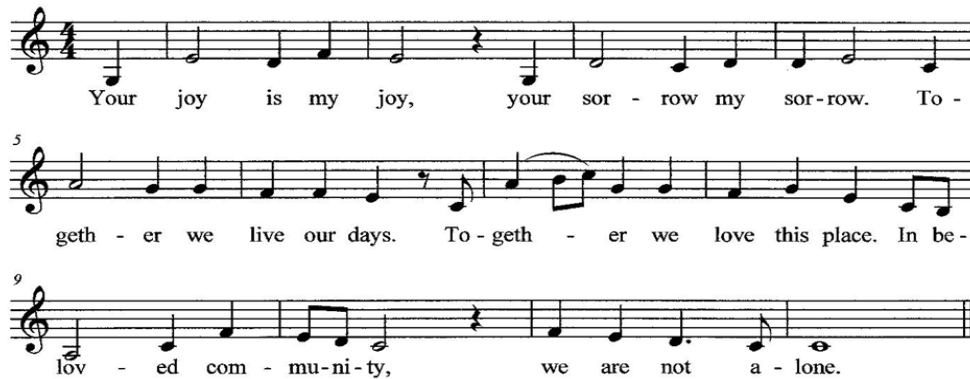
Land Acknowledgement

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

Ellen Rockne



Offering/Offertory 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/Patrick Rickey

Auction Intro

Song *Probably Not*

...Karen Esterl/Susan Werner

LIVE Auction

Closing Song *GRATEFUL: A Love Song to the World*

...Nimo Patel & Daniel Nahmod

Extinguishing the Chalice It is our work, shared with each other in covenant, That creates and sustains this beloved community. We extinguish this chalice, but its light lives on in the directions we have chosen today. The light of this faith lives on in us, together, in our hearts, minds, bodies and spirits.

...Krista Taves



Announcements

Thank you to all those involved in our auction and our service today: **Julie Ohde, Carolyn Corbin & Karen Esterl.** ♦ After our gathering, please treat yourself to a little some-thing. We'll be in touch soon!

Share-the-Plate – Our plate recipient for November-December is *Friends of the Decorah Public Library*. To donate to the plate recipient, see Decorah UU Giving, below. Or if you prefer to mail a check, please note “Share the Plate” in the memo line, and mail to PO Box 382, Decorah, IA 52101.

Upcoming Sundays

December 13 – No service.

December 20 – *Winter Play / Burning Bowl Ceremony*. Karen Esterl, service leader.

Holiday Gift Program - Please look for detailed directions about the gift program in a recent Decorah UU email.

Burning Bright Community Benefit Concert - Since it's 2020, our annual benefit concert will be a virtual affair, posted to Youtube on **Wednesday, December 23**. More info to come!

Decorah UU Board of Trustees - Board members for 2020-2021 are Matthew Alexander (chair), Beth Wahlberg (treasurer), Maggie Hayden, Julie Ohde and Lynn Pleggenkuhle.

Use Your UU Voice - If you're interested in recording a story, poem, or song for upcoming UU services, Carolyn is happy to help you with tech support. Contact carolyn@corbingroup.biz. Ideas: Original songs, stories, or poetry related to UU Principles. Songs, stories, or poems by favorite artists related to UU Principles. Children's stories that relate to UU Principles.

Decorah UU Board of Trustees - The next meeting of the Board is Tuesday, December 1, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Board members for 2020-2021 are Matthew Alexander (chair), Beth Wahlberg (treasurer), Maggie Hayden, Julie Ohde and Lynn Pleggenkuhle.

Defending the Democratic Process: A Faith Community Call to Awareness and Action - At their meeting on October 13th, the Decorah UU Board of Trustees voted to add Decorah UU's name to an inter-faith statement calling for a peaceful transfer of power. The statement, originally from thirteen Protestant, Catholic and Jewish leaders, is also available [here](#) for individuals to sign.

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. We'll all need support of one kind or another during this time. Please don't hesitate to ask.

Decorah UU Giving - 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 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. Donations can also be mailed to PO Box 382, Decorah, IA 52101.

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, or 563-419-5396.

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.

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

Decorah Community Food Pantry - The Decorah Community Food Pantry Volunteers and Board members extend their gratitude to the many congregations and members who have donated financially to the Food Pantry. Such generosity allows us to keep serving those in need. In September there were 356 client visits with 1024 family members. Currently we are in need of small bottles of cooking oil and dish soap and we stress *small*. Because many congregations are not meeting onsite, please bring your items directly to the Food Pantry any day between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at 110 Railroad Street. Donations can be sent to PO Box 26, Decorah.

Mail Cheer - Green Iowa Americorps has made a program for people who feel isolated during the pandemic. To give or receive these friendly letters, call *Green Iowa Americorps* at 563-293-5075, or visit the *Decorah & Winneshiek County Mutual Aid Network*.

