

The Unitarian Church in Westport

July 4, 2021

Finding the Sacred in the Secular

Using sacred reading practices to find meaning in “Kin” by Bruce McAllister

Led by Mary-Megan Marshall

“The alien and the boy, who was twelve, sat in the windowless room high above the city that afternoon. The boy talked and the alien listened.”

What does it mean to belong? The feeling of belonging comes with safety and trust. We belong when we feel a connection—a kinship—with others. Belonging is the invisible thread that tethers us to those we love and love us in return. To belong is to be accepted and seen as our full selves.

OFFERING



<https://vop.tucw.org/>

Sacred Reading Practices

Florilegium is the practice of collecting passages from previous work to find a new meaning in the text. We gather our “sparklets”—words or phrases that stand out to us—and arrange them in new ways. In the service, we will write our sparklets on notecards to more easily arrange and rearrange them.

Lectio Divina is the practice of re-reading a passage at least three times with different intentions in order to hear what the Divine is saying to us. We will be re-reading the passage aloud together, but this practice can also be done alone.

Sources:

“Kin” by Bruce McAllister, <http://www.spacewesterns.com/articles/100/>

Florilegium information, <https://www.harrypottersacredtext.com/resources>

Lectio Divina information, <https://www.beliefnet.com/faiths/catholic/2000/08/how-to-practice-lectio-divina.aspx>