

Beginning Again in Love

Rev. Alan Taylor

September 24, 2023 10:00 AM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wendy Levy

OPENING WORDS

Rev. Alan Taylor

CHALICE LIGHTING

Crosby Staub

HYMN

We Begin Again in Love (Eller-Isaacs)

We forgive ourselves and each other. We begin again in love.

COVENANT

Love is the spirit of this community, and service its gift.

This is our great covenant: to dwell together in peace,

To seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

STORY FOR ALL

Nate Pawelek

SING THE CHILDREN TO THEIR CLASSES

Peace before us, peace behind us, peace under our feet.

Peace before us, peace above us, let all around us be peace.

ANTIPHON FOR ATONEMENT

Open the gates of Righteousness, enter them and give thanks. The sacred gate is in our minds and in our hearts. We have sometimes left the gate closed, forgetting what is most dear, neglecting what is most important.

We have, all of us, failed from time to time. We have, all of us, revealed our human weakness and fallibility. We are not perfect. We wrestle with the forces of good and evil which are in us all.

Choir: Hashiveinu (let us return)

We are brothers and sisters, children of one family. We have known the sting of remorse, inadequacy and guilt. Our minds have sometimes grown weary. We have known days of anguish and nights of despair.

May we open the gates of righteousness by opening our minds and hearts to new insights into ourselves and one another. When that gate is open in us may we usher out old hatreds and bitter resentments and allow fresh, cool breezes of atonement to come to us.

Choir: Pitchuli (open the gate of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks)

We have sometimes committed the sin of idolatry, thinking we know more than it is ours to know. We have sometimes put too much value on material possessions and worldly wealth.

What is most important is near at hand--simple acts of kindness, expressions of human compassion, and our own deep, sincere desire for wholeness, authenticity and integrity.

Choir: Hashiveinu

We are children of the Universe. We have a right to be here. May our faults, failures and limitations remind us of our need for humility, even as we reject the humiliation of calling ourselves unworthy sinners in the hands of an angry god.

Let peace come into our hearts and refresh our spirits.

Choir: Pitchuli

The Kingdom of Heaven is within. May we enter it and know peace, and may we rededicate ourselves to the tasks which remain before us, helping to make our world a better place to live today, tomorrow and for all time.

CANDLE LIGHTING

Eileen O'Reilly, Chaplain

PRAYER AND MEDITATION

Rev. Alan Taylor

MUSIC

"Eli, Eli" (Zehavi)

The Choir

SERMON

"Beginning Again in Love"

Rev. Alan Taylor

OFFERING <https://vop.tucw.org/> OR VENMO (The Unitarian Church in Westport, TUCW-1)

OFFERTORY MUSIC

"Samacht" (Osborne)

The Choir

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

Let us be grateful when we are able to give,
For many do not have that privilege.
Let us be grateful for all those who share their gifts,
For we are enriched by their giving.
And let us be grateful even for our needs,
So that we may learn from the generosity of others.

CLOSING WORDS

Words by Eller-Isaacs

Rev. Alan Taylor

I forgive you. I forgive myself. We begin again in love.

O Source of All Goodness

Thompson

A.W.Binder

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a time signature of 6/8. It consists of seven staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "O Source of all good - ness, O Source of all mer - cy, 1. for all who have wronged us and all whom we've wronged, may 2. for each word and ges - ture, for each thought and ac - tion we 3. may we be in - scribed in the pag - es of Life for this we for - give and be for - giv'n. For all of life we sum - mon com - pas - sion and strenth. sea - son and for this new year. pray and hon - or each new day; may all of earth's peo - ples, both young and the old, hold all life as sac - red and whole. O all life as sac - red and whole." There are three first endings: one at measure 13, one at measure 16, and one at measure 17. The score ends with a double bar line.

O Source of all good - ness, O Source of all mer -
4 cy, 1. for all who have wronged us and all whom we've wronged, may
2. for each word and ges - ture, for each thought and ac - tion we
7 3. may we be in - scribed in the pag - es of Life for this
we for - give and be for - giv'n. For all of life we
sum - mon com - pas - sion and strenth.
10 sea - son and for this new year.
pray and hon - or each new day; may
13 all of earth's peo - ples, both young and the old, hold all life as sac - red and
16 whole. O all life as sac - red and whole.

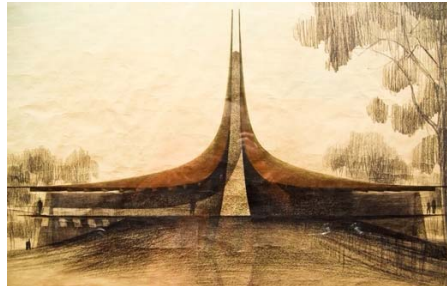
FLOWERS

Are given today by Leigh Gage in honor of her mother,
for her 104th birthday, September 19.

We're glad you're here with us today! If you're new, we'd love to get to know you better.
Please identify yourself to an usher and ask them about filling out a yellow welcome card.

Or, you can email Jerusha Vogel at membership@uwestport.org

For questions about the congregation, reach out to Ruth Fontilla at ruth@uwestport.org



The Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Westport

10 Lyons Plains Road, Westport, CT 06880 203-227-7205 www.uwestport.org

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: *The Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Westport is a diverse and welcoming religious community, free of creed and dogma, and open to people of all backgrounds and beliefs. We **inspire** and support individual spiritual growth. We **connect** through worship, music, learning, and caring ministries. We **act** in the service of peace and justice.*