

UU Church of Saco and Biddeford

Saco, Maine

January 16, 2021

Greetings & Announcements – Dianne Eiker

Sounding of the Singing Bowl

Prelude – Paul Benya
You are invited to light a candle of remembrance.

Welcoming Words

Responsive Reading

One: Into this house of light we come
ALL: Into this place of love and justice.
One: Into this circle of family and friends.
ALL: Let us rejoice and be glad.
One: Let us welcome new faces, new friends.
ALL: Let us rediscover those things that matter most.
One: That our lives may be abundant and full of meaning

***Hymn #86** *Blessed Spirit of My Life*

***Lighting of the Chalice**

This is our sacred promise:
To gather together in peace
To seek truth in love
To serve human need
So that all shall grow in harmony with the divine.

Sharing from the Heart (*Joys and Concerns*)

Prayer #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.

Hymn #101 *Abide with Me*

Message *New Beginnings* – Rev. Lori Whittemore

The Work of This Church – Offertory – Paul Benya

Share the Plate – Preble Street Resource Center

While under Covid restrictions your financial gifts will gratefully be accepted in the offering plates as you leave the Sanctuary.

***Song of Gratitude and Celebration**

From all that dwell below the skies,
Let faith and hope and love arise.
Let beauty, truth and good be sung,
Through ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue. Amen.

* **Hymn #131** *Love Will Guide Us*

Benediction

Extinguish the Chalice

As we release this flame
From its faithful service today
We allow the spark in each of us to burn on;
To warm our compassion,
To fire our delight
To light our paths,
Today, tomorrow and always.

Postlude

***Please stand, as you are comfortable.**

Thanks for making our worship possible:

Usher –

Flowers – Brin Dustin in memory of Thomas Muise

Hearing assistance devices and large-print hymnals are available. Please ask an usher.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Tree of Hope

The Board of Trustees plans to decorate the Tree of Hope with your gifts through the cold Maine winter. Donations continue to be welcomed in the basket in the hall by the sanctuary door.

Covid-19 Guidelines

Masks must be worn inside

Softly singing with masks on

Masks off when speaking in pulpit area

Sit in appropriately marked pews - social distance unless in same household

Hand sanitizer stations

No coffee hour - feel free to socialize outdoors

Ushers & Flowers

We need Ushers and flower donations every Sunday. Please sign up on the schedule on the bulletin board by the restrooms. Thanks.

Hannaford Gift Cards

Ellie L. will be selling Hannaford Gift Cards in the Nursery on Sundays after church. If you buy your groceries with a Hannaford card, the church receives 5%. Please enter the Nursery one person at a time to purchase your cards.

Please e-mail announcements to Brian in the church office (uuchurch@gwi.net) by 10 AM the Wednesday prior to the Sunday they are to appear. Announcements will not be carried over to the next week unless you notify us no later than Wednesday. Thanks.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

TODAY IN OUR WORSHIP:

New Beginnings

Rev. Lori Whittemore

Rev. Lori Whittemore (Rev. Lori) serves as a contract minister for the Unitarian Universality Church of Saco/Biddeford. She holds a Master of Divinity from Bangor Theological Seminar and is ordained by Chaplaincy Institute of Maine (Chime). She is a Board-Certified Clinical Chaplain and Diplomate Supervisor certified by the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy. She is currently completing work for her doctorate in ministry from the George Fox University's Portland Seminary focusing on semiotics, church and culture. She is delighted to be with you.

NEXT SUNDAY – January 23

Spiritual Tools for the Long, Hard Winter

Rev. Lori Whittemore

Today we welcome Rev. Lori to our pulpit to share her thoughts and lead us in worship.

