



Unitarian Universalist
Church of Charlotte

DISCOVER DEEPER SPIRITUAL MEANING

Dancing with the Mystery

—SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2017—

Pilgrims on the way! Where are you?
Here is the beloved, here!
Your beloved lives next door
wall to wall —
why do you wander round and round the desert?
If you look into the face of Love . . .
You yourselves become the house of God . . .

Jalāl ad-Dīn Muhammad Rūmī (1207 – 1273)
trans. Franklin Lewis

ORDER OF SERVICE
September 24, 2017

Opening Music *Sanctus (Holy)* from *A Little Jazz Mass*
by Bob Chilcott

Opening Words Jay Leach, Minister

+*Opening Song *Siyahamba* South Africa, 20th c.
ed Anders Nyberg

*We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of, the light of God,
We are marching, marching,
We are marching, marching,
We are marching in the light of, the light of God,
We are marching, marching,
We are marching, marching,
We are marching in the light of God.*

We are singing in the light of God . . .

We are praying in the light of God . . .

*Si-ya-hamb' e-ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos',
Si-ya-hamb' e-ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos',
Si-ya-hamb' e-ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos',
Si-ya-hamb' e-ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos',
Si-ya-ham-ba, ham-ba,
Si-ya-ham-ba, ham-ba,
Si-ya-hamb' e-ku-kha-nyen' kwen-kha-nyen-kwen-kos,
Si-ya-ham-ba, ham-ba,
Si-ya-ham-ba, ham-ba,
Si-ya-hamb' e-ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos'.*

***Chalice Lighting Words**

+*Chorus

We are dancing in the light of God . . .

Welcome

Readings

- by John Shelby Spong in *Why Christianity Must Change or Die*
- from Shams Ud-Dun Mohammed Hafiz

+*Song 343 [Gray Hymnal] *A Firemist and a Planet*

Sermon Dancing with the Mystery

Rev. Kathleen McTigue,
Visiting Minister

A Time for Silent Reflection

Musical Interlude *A Firemist and a Planet* (reprise)

Concerns of the Congregation

Musical Offering *Mystery from Missa Gaia*
by Jeremy R. Geffen, arranged by Jim Scott

*It lives in the sea or a tree as it grows.
You can hear it, if you listen, to the wind as it blows.
It's there in a river as it flows into the sea.
It's the sound in the soul of someone becoming free
And it lives in the laughter of children at play
And in the blazing sun that gives light to the day.
It moves the planets and all the stars that shine.
It's been the mover of mountains, since the beginning of time.*

*Oh Mystery you are alive; I feel you all around.
You are the fire in my heart; you are the holy sound,
You are all of life; it is to you that I sing.
Grant that I may feel you, always in everything.*

*And it lives in the waves as they crash upon the beach.
I have seen it in the goals that we have tried to reach.
I feel it in the light and I know it means so much.
I know it in your smile, my love, when our hearts do touch.
But when I listen deep inside, I feel best of all,
Like a moon that's glowing white and I listen to your call
And I know you will carry me, I feel like the tide
Rushing through the ocean, and my heart is open wide.*

Oh Mystery you are alive, I feel you all around . . .

Meditation and Aspiration

Choral Response by Jeremy R. Geffen, arranged by Jim Scott

*Oh Mystery you are alive; I feel you all around.
You are the fire in my heart; you are the holy sound,
You are all of life; it is to you that I sing.
Grant that I may feel you, always in everything.*

Offering Words

Music *Hymn*

by Liz Story

***An Affirmation of our Faith**

by Rev. William F. Schulz

This is the mission of our faith:
To teach the fragile art of hospitality;
To revere both the critical mind and the generous heart;
To prove that diversity need not mean divisiveness;
And to witness to all
that we must hold the whole world in our hands.

***Closing Song** 189 [Gray Hymnal] *Light of Ages and of Nations*

***Closing Words**
and Extinguishing the Chalice

Closing Music *I'm Gonna Sing/Ain't-a That Good News?*

Traditional Spiritual, setting by Larry Shackley

Service Notes

John Herrick, Jay Leach and Kathleen McTigue contributed to the planning of this service. John Herrick plays the piano and organ. The Adult Choir sings under the direction of John Herrick and is accompanied by Scott Whitesell on piano. Ben Gatti, Fred Hutchinson and Phil Singer assist with A/V for today's services. Large print copies of the Order of Service and personal hearing assistance devices are available on the table at the entrance to the Sanctuary.

The images displayed in today's service are from the German artist Paula Modersohn-Becker (1876 - 1907). In her tragically short life, she became an important early representative of both expressionism and, along with Picasso and Matisse, of modernism. Rainer Maria Rilke's well-known poem "Requiem for a Friend" is in memory of Paula Modersohn-Becker. Today's images include"

- 1.** "Girl in a Birch Forest" (1903)
- 2.** "The Moor" (circa 1900-1902)
- 3.** "Sand Dune in Weyerberg" (1899)
- 4. – 5.** "Aconite" (circa 1898-1899)
- 6.** "Landscape with Windblown Trees" (Date unknown)
- 7.** "Still Life with Leaf Plant, Lemon and Orange" (1903)
- 8.** "Still Life with Blue Box" (1907)
- 9.** "Birch trunks against a red farm" (circa 1901)
- 10.** "Evening Landscape with Tracks"(circa 1900)
- 11.** "Landscape with Birches" (circa 1901)
- 12.** "Moonlit Landscape" (circa 1900)
- 13.** "Landscape with a Bog Canal" (1899)
- 14.** "Lee Hoetger and Her Sister (1906-1907)
- 15.** "Worpsweder Landscape" (circa 1908)
- 16.** "Avenue of Birch Trees in Autumn" (circa 1901)