A Natural Rhythm: Coming Together, Falling Apart

—SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2019—

White dew
poised at the tips of
grass, fluttering
in the autumn wind-
What a fragile, fleeting world

Semimaro
Japanese poet and musician
of the Heian period (794 – 1185)
from the *Shin Kokin Wakashū*
(commissioned in 1201 by the retired emperor Go-Toba)
Order of Service
Sunday, September 22, 2019

+Opening Music Autumn Leaves
   by Jacques Prévert, Johnny Mercer and Joseph Kosma

Welcome and Opening Words
   Jay Leach, Minister

+*Opening Song 347 [Gray Hymnal] Gather the Spirit

*Chalice Lighting Words
   Melissa Schropp, Lay Service Leader

   +*Chorus
   by Jim Scott

      Gather in peace, gather in thanks.
      Gather in sympathy now and then.
      Gather in hope, compassion and strength,
      Gather to celebrate once again.

Reading
"Thank You" from Against Which
   by Ross Gay

+*Song 163 [Gray Hymnal] For the Earth Forever Turning

+latecomers may enter; *please stand as you are able
Reading  “What Else" from *The Place We Become* by Carolyn Locke

+Music  *September in the Rain* by Al Dubin and Harry Warren

Sermon  A Natural Rhythm: Coming Together, Falling Apart

A Time for Silent Reflection

Musical Interlude *Autumn in New York* by Vernon Duke

Personal Reflection and Welcome to Our Guests

Concerns of the Congregation

Music  *Autumn Nocturne* by Kim Gannon and Joe Myrow

+latecomers may enter; *please stand as you are able
A Responsive Prayer

by Nancy Wood

from War Cry on a Prayer Feather

Earth teach me stillness
As the grasses are stilled with light.
Earth teach me suffering
As old stones suffer with memory.
Earth teach me humility
As blossoms are humble with beginning.
Earth teach me caring
As the mother who secures her young.
Earth teach me courage
As the tree which stands all alone.
Earth teach me limitation
As the ant who crawls on the ground.
Earth teach me freedom
As the eagle who soars in the sky.
Earth teach me resignation
As the leaves which die in the fall.
Earth teach me regeneration
As the seed which rises in spring.
Earth teach me to forget myself
As melted snow forgets its life.
Earth teach me to remember kindness
As dry fields weep with rain.

Offering Words

+latecomers may enter; *please stand as you are able
Offering Music  *New Orleans Slow Dance*  by George Winston
From album *Gulf Coast Blues & Impressions*  
(a Louisiana Wetlands Benefit)

*We invite anyone to light a candle of celebration, concern or remembrance as all honor this time with respectful silence.*

*An Affirmation of our Faith*  
Anonymous

May we know once again that we are not isolated beings but connected, in mystery and miracle, to the universe, to this community and to each other.

*latecomers may enter; *please stand as you are able
*Closing Song  What a Wonderful World  
by Bob Thiele and George David Weiss

I see trees of green, red roses too;
I see them bloom for me and you,
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world.

I see skies of blue and clouds of white,
The bright blessed day, the dark sacred night,
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world.

The colors of the rainbow so pretty in the sky,
Are also on the faces of people going by.
I see friends shaking hands saying, "How do you do?"
They're really saying, "I love you"

I hear babies cry, I watch them grow.
They'll learn much more than I'll never know,
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world.
Yes, I think to myself, what a wonderful world.

*Closing Words  
and Extinguishing the Chalice

*Closing Music  When the Saints Go Marching In  
New Orleans Jazz Standard

+latecomers may enter; *please stand as you are able
Service Notes

Thank you to the pledging members of our congregation who made this morning’s service possible. John Herrick, Jay Leach and Melissa Schropp contributed to the planning of this service. Our guest musicians from JazzArts Charlotte are Sean Higgins on piano, Mike Gudbhar on bass and Ocie Davis on percussion. John Herrick plays the piano and organ. Fred Hutchinson, Paul Nisely and Greg Schropp 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.

Images

The images projected in today’s services are all photographs by Jay Leach.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Service: September 29
Service Times: 9:15 & 11:15 AM
Service Title: “We are all broken”: A Service in the Spirit of Yom Kippur
Service Leader: Jay Leach, Minister

ALL events and classes held here at the UUCC will have childcare available upon request.
Contact Kathleen Carpenter at Kathleen@uuccharlotte.org to sign up.

Today—Credo: A Personal Spiritual Journey
In these thirty-minute sessions the presenters speak about what they give their hearts to. Next speaker, Margie Storch at 10:30 a.m. in the Bernstein room. Margie will share her journey as a feminist, member of a long-term women’s spiritual circle, Green Party and/or Democratic organizer, AIDS advocate, mother, UUCC member since 1998, candidate for NC House, and board member of Health Care Justice – NC

Today—What’s in a Name? UUCC to Reconsider Congregation’s Name
Dr. Spencer and the Focus 2020 task group will lead another interactive dialogue on our congregational name today at 1:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
September 27—Stephanie Ann Ball & Pianist John Herrick in Concert
Guest soprano Stephanie Ann Ball, accompanied by John Herrick along with narration by UUCC Member Michael Amy Cira, will take us on a journey through opera, art song, jazz, and spirituals. Entitled “Renaissance & Remembrance, A Musical Celebration of Black History.” A 6:30 p.m. community potluck (please bring a dish to share) will precede the 7:30 p.m. concert, and a free-will offering will be collected at the end. Be sure to invite your family and friends!

Today—Operation Sandwich
All ages are invited to make sandwiches to be donated to the Urban Ministry Center next Sun, Sep 29 at 12:45 p.m. in Freeman Hall. Contact Kathleen Carpenter with questions.

Today—Getting to Know Us
Every 1st Sunday after each service, visitors are invited to an informal Q&A with a UU Church of Charlotte member. Grab a cup of coffee from Freeman Hall and meet downstairs in the Conference Room immediately following either service.

Ongoing—Don’t Miss the Vestibule Display!
Each month Judy Love creates a new exhibit reflecting a theme or featuring a member/artist in our congregation. Don’t miss this month’s display—the beautiful craft-wire tree sculptures created by Donna Fisher.
Ongoing—Help us have fresh flowers in the Niche
Commemorate a birthday, an anniversary or acknowledge a special person or event by donating fresh flowers for the niche. Call Alesia in the office (704) 366-8623 to reserve the Sunday you want.

Children and Youth (CYRE)

Today—Parent Orientation(s): Learn more about the programming for our children and youth today at 10:30 a.m. in the Schweitzer Room. There will be a second Parent Orientation on Sun, Oct 6 after the second service, as well. Children’s Choir is still welcoming new members. Join Mrs. Donna in the Priestly Room at 10:30 a.m. for rehearsals and more information. All children K-5th are welcome! The registration link is on the church webpage.

September 27—Middle School Youth Group: Fri, Sep 27 at 6:30 p.m. They will be planning their haunted house for the Nov 2, UUCC Halloween party. RSVP to Kathleen Carpenter by Thursday.

October 4—Kids in a Box: Mark your calendars for Fri, Oct 4, for this homeless awareness event. Details have been sent to all registered families and are available in Currents.

Ongoing—Registration for the CYRE Program is now open and available on the UUCC website. The link was sent via email to all families registered in 2018-19. Our Program Prospectus is available on the table immediately inside the education wing.
Adult Religious Education/Spiritual Development (ARE/SD)

Sundays—Lotus Path at 8:00 a.m. in the Priestley Room.

October 6—Religious Humanism at 12:45 p.m. in the Schweitzer Room.

October 7—The Open Mind Book Club will be meeting on Mon, Oct 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room. We will be discussing Beloved by Toni Morrison. Please RSVP to Gwynne Movius at (704) 366-9409 if you plan to attend.

October 8—Straight Spouse Support Group offsite. Contact Sage Brook at sagebr69@gmail.com if you plan to attend.

October 9—Senior Connections at 1:00 p.m. in the Bernstein Room.

October 11—UUCC Film Series at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Upcoming Film: Loving (2016)

October 13—Second Sunday Dialogue at 10:30 a.m. in the Bernstein Room.

October 14—Healing Threads: A Prayer Shawl Ministry at 7:00 p.m. off site. Contact Kathleen Moloney-Tarr at krmt1923@gmail.com for more information or to RSVP.