



Ingathering Water Communion

September 13, 2020

Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church
Founded in 1821

Celebrating Diversity, Encouraging Spiritual Growth,
and Promoting Social Responsibility

Please visit www.A2U2.org to learn more about us!

Order of Service

RINGING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN #361 *Enter, Rejoice and Come In*

LIGHTING THE CHALICE *A Chalice Lighting for Ingathering*
Rev. Janet Parsons

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES [Higgins: A Drop with a Dream](#)

ANTHEM *Building Bridges* arrangement by Chris Malcolm

PRAYER/MEDITATION *A Prayer for the Beginning of the Congregational Year*
Rev. David Miller

MUSICAL REFLECTION

READING *Choose to Bless the World* Rev. Rebecca Parker

HYMN # 113 *Where is Our Holy Church*

REFLECTION Rev. Donna Dolham

CLOSING HYMN #1064 *Blue Boat Home*

BENEDICTION

EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

Please join us after the service for online [community conversation](#) (coffee hour).

Break out groups will be facilitated and focused on the following questions:

- What do you need from the church right now?
- What are you looking forward to this church year?
- What do you hope for, given that we are in a primarily remote & online church model?

About the authors and resources for today's service

Rev. Greg Pelley's call to ministry came from the deepest tradition of our congregational polity, where parish ministers were called up from the church's own membership. For him it began with fellow congregants at the Unitarian Church of Des Moines pulling him aside and asking, "Have you ever considered being a minister?" When it began to happen repeatedly, he wondered what those people saw in that moved them to encourage him in this way. Somewhere in that discernment I was moved by their faith and trust in me.

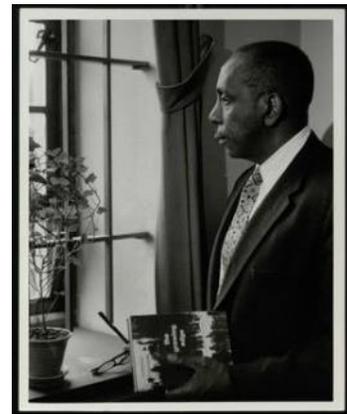


Rev. David A. Miller is Unitarian Universalist Church of Fairfax's senior minister. In that role, he is the congregation's lead minister and is responsible for the programs and staff related to worship, social justice and stewardship.

David was raised Jewish in the Skokie/Evanston area just north of Chicago. He has a B.S. degree in political science from the University of Utah and received his master of divinity degree from the Claremont School of Theology in 2008 with an emphasis in social transformation.

[The Reverend Dr. Howard Washington Thurman](#) (1899–1981) was an author, philosopher, theologian, educator, and civil rights leader. As a prominent religious figure, he played a leading role in many social justice movements and organizations of the twentieth century.

Thurman, Howard, *Meditations of the Heart*, Beacon Press, MA, 1953, 1981 by Anne Thurman.



The Rev. Dr. Rebecca Ann Parker is a theologian who served as president of the Unitarian Universalist Starr King School for the Ministry in Berkeley, California, from 1999 to 2014. She is the co-author with Rita Nakashima Brock of *Proverbs of Ashes: Violence, Redemptive Suffering, and the Search for What Saves Us* (Beacon Press, 2001) and *Saving Paradise: How Christianity Traded Love of This World for Crucifixion and Empire* (Beacon Press, 2008) and co-author, with John A. Buehrens, of *A House for Hope: The Promise of Progressive Religion for the Twenty-first Century* (Beacon Press, 2011). A collection of her essays, *Blessing the World: What Can Save Us Now*, appeared in 2006 (Skinner House Books).

Today is September 13, 2020

For links to all ONLINE meetings and programs, please refer to the [Breeze Calendar](#)

SHARE THE PLATE

Every week, A2U2 shares a percentage of the week's non-pledge offering to a local organization whose mission and vision aligns with Unitarian Universalist Principles. This week's organization is **Greater Portland Family Promise**.

Greater Portland Family Promise (GFPF), an affiliate of the national Family Promise program, is dedicated to helping homeless and low-income families in the Greater Portland area achieve sustainable independence through a community-based response. Through our shelter program, we provide housing, meals, case management and community for children and their families experiencing homelessness. Through our housing stabilization program, we help families to maintain their housing by assisting with food, personal care and household needs, and other key resources and supports. Our organization is adapting to address the unique needs and circumstances of the pandemic. Allen Ave UU Church was one of the first faith organizations to step up to support GFPF and continues to be an eager participant. To learn more about the Greater Portland Family Promise refer to this [link](#).

UPCOMING

For More Information about the Unitarian Universalist Water Ritual [History](#)

The creation of services takes a team!

Thank you to our Music Director, Dale Churchill and the A2U2 choir.

Thank you to Rick Kimball for the anthem photos, Annegret Baier on the hand drum and Mike Luce on the flute.

Thank you Joe Seale for the service tech and coordinating for today's service.

Thank you George Hixon for posting the service information for today's service and community conversation.

Thank you Erica Bartlett for creating the announcement for this weekends events and service.

Thank you Jane and Keith Prairie for the Blue Boat Home composition and music and photos.

Thank you to Alice Alexander for setting up our zoom link.

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Vacant at this time, Director of Religious Education...**