

River of Grass Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Love-stream Worship!

February 21, 2021 – 10:30 am

Roses, Thorns & Cultivating Beloved Community:

Bending the Arc 6

*Beloved community is formed
not by the eradication of difference but by its affirmation,
by each of us claiming the identities and cultural legacies
that shape who we are and how we live in the world.*

-- Bell Hooks

Do roses have thorns, or do thorns have roses? Whichever way we may be inclined to answer, what do those answers tell us about ourselves growing Beloved Community through the long-haul work of liberating love that calls us? As we celebrate River of Grass' Charter Sunday! we'll conclude this year's Bending the Arc series with a deeper look at how we got here, and where we go from here to keep bending the arc of the Universe toward justice in our time.

Come as you are to gather with us for this Sunday's love-streamed service, remembering only the medium is virtual; the connections, the love, the spirit are real. Following the service, we will share virtual Hospitality time with a live chat and small groups where we can relish each other's beautiful faces and voices together once again.

Follow the link below to join us in Zoom – or if you'd like, we'll be simulcasting on our Facebook page. Tune in there for the service, then log onto our Zoom link for hospitality time afterward. And now that we have a larger Zoom space ready to welcome all who will join us from over this world – who will we meet this week?

Sunday morning, gather with us at the River – on your computer, your tablet, your phone (with video or only audio if you like, we'll miss your face!) -- just click or dial into our River of Grass Meeting Room at the link or numbers below. We'll be watching for you!

Topic: Worship February 21, 2020

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/961564350?pwd=cFpKY2RtRk4wVE5NbDczdTU5THViQT09>

Meeting ID: 961 564 350; Password: 873805

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/ab3E9JRtb9>

We'll be watching for you, and happier than ever to see you!

Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Roses, Thorns & Cultivating Beloved Community: Bending the Arc 6

Oh, Let Us Gather

Welcome

Reading

Theme Hymn – “Meditation on Breathing” Words & Music: Sarah Dan Jones; Arranged: Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Chalice Lighting

*We light this candle for strength
for determination
for courage
for faith
that by our own lives
the unwavering flame of justice
shall reach the far corners of every human heart. (Webb)*

Covenant

*Love is the spirit of this congregation and service is its law.
This is our great covenant:
to dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.
El Amor es el espíritu de esta congregación, y el servicio su ley principal.
Esta es nuestra gran promesa:
vivir juntos en paz, buscar la verdad a través del amor, y ayudarnos mutuamente.*

Hymn – “We Would Be One” Words: Samuel Anthony Wright; Music: Jean Sibelius; Performed by: Brenda Parker, and Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Candles of Community

Pastoral Response

Thank You!

Offering Hymn – “Building a New Way” Words & Music: Martha Sandefer; Performed by: Brenda Parker, and Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Offering – Give digitally and via text: <https://riverofgrassuu.org/donations.html>

Wisdom Story – “Sulwe” Written by: Lupita Nyong’o, Illustrated by: Vashti Harrison; Read by: Rob Giblin-Davis

Music Meditation – “Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire” Words: Hal Hopson; Music: Traditional English melody; Performed by: Rev. Amy Carol Webb and Aaron Stang

Message – Roses, Thorns, Cultivating Beloved Community - Bending the Arc 6 – Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Closing Music – “The Rose” Music & Words: Amanda McBroom; Performed by: Brenda Parker, and Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Extinguish Chalice

Closing Words and Carry the Flame

Hospitality Connection