

River of Grass UU Congregation

December 12, 2021 – 10:30 am

Finding a Stillness: Season of Waiting

The paradox of this season is how stressful we may find it, how pressed to “hurry up and get ready” for the holidays upon us, at the same time we come into a time of waiting -- each year our Christian beloveds wait for the birth of Jesus, our Jewish beloveds wait to see if the lamp oil will last, our Pagan beloveds wait for the Sun to return, our Buddhist beloveds await new understanding, as every tradition marks the passing of mid-winter in the ways that give meaning to their lives. Again this year we continue in the midst of the pandemic with the new strains and the illness and loss of too many we love. We wait to see what parts of our lives can be restored to us and what can't. To finally get to that moment we can gather consistently as Beloved Community, while we endure this weary and painful separation. How do we find a moment of sacred stillness? A moment to breathe and bear witness to our own lives and those we love?

Gather with us this Sunday to breathe, to bear witness to and be with one another, to rest and reflect and restore ourselves for the days to come, assured that love always wins -- when we make it so.

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.

We'll be live on Zoom at the link below, as well as on our facebook page.

Topic: Worship December 12, 2021

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

Find a Stillness: This Season of Waiting

River of Grass – December 12, 2021

Order of Service

Oh, Let Us Gather

Welcome

Opening Words

Theme Hymn – “Meditation on Breathing” Words & Music: Sarah Dan Jones

Chalice Lighting

For a world so much in shadow

We kindle this flame

For life born anew

On the earth

And in our hearts

For this is the Season of Light. (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.

Music Hymn – “For All That Is Our Life” Words: Bruce Findlow; Music: Patrick L. Rickey

Candles of Community

Pastoral Response

Announcements

Guest at Your Table

Offering Hymn – “A River Flows in You” by: Yiruma; piano: Brenda Parker

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

Wisdom Story – “The Seven Days of Chalice” – A New UU Holiday – Karen Gonzalez

Music Meditation – “Find a Stillness” Words: Carl G. Seaburg; Music Transylvanian hymn tune;
arr. Donald Milton III, UUCA touring choir in Székelyudvarhely, Transylvania

Message – “Find a Stillness: This Season of Waiting” – Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Hymn – “Reasons for the Season” Words and Music: Amy Carol Webb

Extinguish Chalice

Closing Words

Carry the Flame

Hospitality Connection