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# Queer Migration

Rev. Laura Smidzik



Unity Church–Unitarian

Sunday, July 28, 2024

10:00 a.m. | [Livestream](#)

To access the Sanctuary's assistive listening system, please switch your hearing aid to "T" or request headphones or assistance from an usher. Large print orders of service are also available by request to an usher.

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**Unity Church–Unitarian**

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, July 28, 2024 | 10:00 a.m.

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

GATHERING MUSIC Ahmed Anzaldúa, piano

WELCOME Rev. Laura Smidzik

PEALING THE BELL

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP In Wholeness Peggy Lin  
Rev. Sean Parker Denison

KINDLING THE CHALICE FLAME

We light this chalice as a symbol of our faith, the light of truth and the warmth of love.

\*HYMN Here We Have Gathered #360

RESPONSIVE READING We are Called to Pay Attention  
Amanda Udis-Kessler

One: We are called to pay attention to our individual lives, to our delights and pains. We are called to understand and cherish ourselves, to take good care of ourselves, to know ourselves as loving and worthy of love. In paying attention to our lives, we give thanks for all that is good in them and work to make the best decisions we can to help us live fully and joyfully.

Many: Today and all days, we are called to pay attention.

One: We are called to pay attention to the people in our lives, to celebrate their joys with them and to tend to them in their struggles. We are called to bring our compassion, kindness, and patience to our relationships even as we are grateful for the compassion, kindness and patience others show to us. In paying attention to the people in our lives, we give thanks for their presence and work to support them to the best of our abilities.

Many: Throughout our lives, we are called to pay attention.

One: We are called to pay attention to the society in which we live. We are called to understand the ways in which the lives of people we don't know, and never will know, are made harder by political and economic policies that value some kinds of people over other kinds of people. In paying attention to our society, we give thanks for the many people who are working for justice for everyone, and we join in working with them so that all people are treated with the dignity and worth they possess.

Many: In all that we do, we are called to pay attention.

All: Love, compassion, gratitude, and the demands of justice call us to pay attention. As we pay attention, we bless ourselves, each other, our society, and the world.

EMBRACING MEDITATION | PRAYER | SILENCE

OFFERING | OFFERTORY

READING Southern Anti-Trans Laws are Uprooting Families  
Rolling Stone, March 2024

SERMON Queer Migration Rev. Laura Smidzik

\*HYMN How Could Anyone #1053, teal hymnal

\*BENEDICTION | EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE FLAME

We extinguish this flame, but not the light of truth, the warmth of community and the fire of commitment. These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.

SENDING FORTH

You are free to leave during the musical postlude or remain in the Sanctuary.

Unity Church resides on the homelands of the Dakota Nation. We honor with gratitude the people who have stewarded the land throughout the generations and their ongoing contributions to this region. We acknowledge the ongoing injustices that we have committed against the Dakota Nation, and we wish to interrupt this legacy, beginning with acts of healing and honest storytelling about this place.

This week's offering recipient, Bedő Kornélia Women's Association, is the Unitarian Women's organization in Homoródszentpéter playing a central role in village life by promoting the spiritual, cultural and social wellbeing of the local women and the congregation. While the village has fewer than 200 inhabitants, this 45 member association is the largest women's association in the Hungarian Unitarian Church. This collection will help fund participation by the women from the village in the Fourth International Convocation of UU Women and People of Progressive Faiths in September 2024 in Cluj-Napoca/Kolozsvár and help purchase a new piano for the church. Donate at [bit.ly/sundayoffering](https://bit.ly/sundayoffering)



For more information on the UUA's work related to trans migration read the article "Pink Haven Coalition Helps Transgender People Relocate and Access Gender-Affirming Care" in the *UU World* online ([bit.ly/phcrelocation](https://bit.ly/phcrelocation)) or in print.

The classical solo piano selections in today's service are all by LGBTQ+ composers from across history.

Rev. Laura Smidzik served Merging Waters Unitarian Universalist Congregation (previously Michael Servetus Unitarian Society) from 2016 until this past June. She and her spouse, Linda, raised their sons at Unity Church. Prior to ministry, Laura served as executive director of Project 515 and Rainbow Families, two statewide LGBTQ organizations.

Worship associate Peggy Lin has been at Unity Church for a long time! She was married here to her husband, Harrison, and raised her three daughters here. Peggy served on Unity's Board of Trustees, the 1999 Ministerial Search Team, and co-produced the youth musical three times. She is grateful for this opportunity to serve as a worship associate.