

**MARQUETTE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION**

**Sunday, December 29, 2024 - 11:00 A.M.**

**"Who Tells Our Story?"**

**Presenter: Rev. Greta Jo Seidohl**

*Words to all the songs and readings, including congregational songs,  
are on the pages following this one.*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING MUSIC:** #1003 Where Do We Come From

**OPENING WORDS**

**CHALICE LIGHTING: (unison)** (see below)

**OPENING HYMN:** #1014 Answering the Call of Love (see below)

**TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART:** "How Evil Came into the World." Based on a story told by Lisa Silko and Thomas King

**READING:** "V'ahavta," by Aurora Levins Morales

**SERMON:** Who Tells Our Story? - Rev. Greta Jo Seidohl

**UNISON OFFERTORY READING** (see below)

**OFFERTORY MUSIC:** "Crowded Table," by the Highwomen

**DISCUSSION/REFLECTION**

**JOYS AND SORROWS**

**CLOSING HYMN:** #1021 Lean on Me (see below)

**EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE (unison)** (see below)

**CLOSING WORDS**

**MUSIC FOR CLOSING:** "Everything is Holy Now," by Peter Mayer

## #1003 WHERE DO WE COME FROM

Where do we come from? What are we? Where are we going?

Where do we come from?

Mystery. Mystery. Life is a riddle and a mystery.

Where do we come from? Where are we going?

## CHALICE LIGHTING (unison)

May the abundance of this place,

The faith of its people,

Its songs of compassion and joy,

Bring wholeness and wisdom and indwelling light,

That all may find here a constant homelight

In a world full of trouble and fear.

## #1014, ANSWERING THE CALL OF LOVE

The promise of the Spirit: faith, hope and love abide.

And so ev'ry soul is blessed and made whole;

The truth in our hearts is our guide.

### CHORUS:

We are answering the call of love:

Hands joined together as hearts beat as one.

Emboldened by faith, we dare to proclaim

We are answering the call of love.

Sometimes we build a barrier to keep love tightly bound.

Corrupted by fear, unwilling to hear,

Denying the beauty we've found.

### CHORUS

A bright new day is dawning when love will not divide.

Reflections of grace in ev'ry embrace,

Fulfilling the vision divine.

### CHORUS

### UNISON OFFERTORY READING

This congregation is the community of ourselves

Its energy and resources are our energy and resources.

Its wealth is what we share.

As we contribute to the life of this community,

We affirm our lives within it.

## #1021 LEAN ON ME

Sometimes in our lives we all have pain, we all have sorrow.  
But if we are wise we know that there's always tomorrow.

### CHORUS:

Lean on me when you're not strong and I'll be your friend,  
I'll help you carry on, for it won't be long  
'Til I'm gonna need somebody to lean on.

Please swallow your pride if I have things you need to borrow,  
For no one can fill those of your needs that you won't let show.

### CHORUS

If there is a load you have to bear, that you can't carry,  
I'm right up the road, I'll share your load if you just call me.

### CHORUS

### BRIDGE:

Just call on me brother when you need a hand.  
We all need somebody to lean on.  
I just might have a problem that you'd understand.  
We all need somebody to lean on.

## EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

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

## EVERYTHING IS HOLY NOW

Peter Mayer

When I was a boy, each week, on Sunday, we would go to church  
And pay attention to the priest, he would read the holy word  
And consecrate the holy bread and everyone would kneel and bow  
Today the only difference is everything is holy now

Everything, everything, everything is holy now

And when I was in Sunday school we would learn about the time

Moses split the sea in two and Jesus made the water wine

And I remember feeling sad miracles don't happen still

Now I can't keep track 'cause everything's a miracle

Everything, everything, everything's a miracle

### BRIDGE 1:

Wine from water is not so small, but an even better magic trick

Is that anything is here at all.

So the challenging thing becomes not to look for miracles

But finding where there isn't one

When holy water was rare at best it barely wet my fingertips

But now I have to hold my breath like I'm swimming in a sea of it

It used to be a world half there, Heaven's second rate hand-me-down

But I walk it with a reverent air 'cause everything is holy now

Everything, everything, everything is holy now

### BRIDGE 2:

Read a questioning child's face and say it's not a testament

That'd be very hard to say

See another new morning come and say it's not a sacrament

I tell you that it can't be done

This morning, outside I stood and saw a little red-winged bird

Shining like a burning bush singing like a scripture verse

It made me want to bow my head, I remember when church let out

How things have changed since then - everything is holy now

It used to be a world half-there, Heaven's second rate hand-me-down

But I walk it with a reverent air, 'cause everything is holy now