First Unitarian-Universalist Church
January 17, 2016
“The Beloved Community”
Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray

ORDER OF SERVICE

ENTERING
Lighting of Candles
Singing Together
#407 We’re Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table
#1028 The Fire of Commitment
#169 We Shall Overcome

WELCOME
Sharon Mills, Worship Leader

CENTERING
Prelude
Calling To Worship
Kindling the Flame
Opening Hymn* #149 Lift Every Voice and Sing

DEEPENING
Silent Meditation
Invocation
Musical Meditation
Reading
Message

RETURNING
Offering
Closing Hymn* #144 Now is the Time Approaching
Benediction

First Unitarian-Universalist Church
Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray, Interim Minister
Todd Ballou, Music Director
Alexis Mitchell, Office Administrator
Alyssa Bond, Social Hour Coordinator

Today’s Ushers: Jerry Williams Regina Weiss
Today’s Greeters: Deanna McGraw Sydney Schaaf
Hearing Assistance devices are available from any of our ushers.

Large Print Hymnals are available from the Greeters in the back of the church.

Please visit us at www.1stuu.org; email the church secretary, Alexis, at info@1stuu.org; or give us a call at (313) 833-9107.

Today’s Music
Prelude: The Impossible Dream from the musical “Man of La Mancha” Mitch Leigh
Musical Meditation: Take My Hand, Precious Lord Thomas A. Dorsey
Choir Anthem: A Place in the Choir Bill Staines, arr. Ed Harris
Offertory: Go Down, Moses African-American Spiritual/ arr. Fela Sowande (see below)
Recessional: I Just Feel Like Something Good is About to Happen William Gaither

Fela Sowande (1905-1987), was born in Nigeria; he studied and lived in London, and eventually settled in the United States. He became a US citizen in 1977. Although his compositions owe much to a strong Nigerian influence, he also incorporated Western techniques; in this way, he emphasized his belief that nationalism should not go unchecked, but always be a part of the greater global community. “Biographical Information compiled by James Abbington, from “King of Kings, Organ Music of Black Composers, Volume 2”
**January 2016 Vespers**

Inspired by her wonderful church service last year, the first Vespers of the new year will feature the poetic lyrics and music of songwriter extraordinaire Lee Thume on Wednesday January 27 at 6 pm in the Parlor/Memorial Hall. Please join us for an hour of quiet beauty. … Al Acker

"Lifting Up Detroit in Song and Prayer"

Detroit Interfaith Outreach Network (DION) will host "Lifting Up Detroit in Song and Prayer" today. Coffee hour will start in the Parlor, with all invited to join in a 12:30 PM potluck in the Social Hall – sponsored by DION – followed by a tour of the sanctuary at 1:30 PM. An interfaith panel discussion at 2:00 PM in the sanctuary will center on religious perspectives on violence. Participants from five faith traditions are confirmed: A.M.E., Quaker, Muslim, Jewish and UU (Rev. Kimi Riegel of Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church will provide the UU perspective). The panel is followed by an ecumenical worship service at 3:00 PM. The event is organized by Rabbi Dorit Edut as part of DION's Adult Religious Literacy Program. The mission of the Detroit Interfaith Outreach Network is to build community through interfaith collaboration to promote unity, integrity, respect, education and the successful development of our Metro Detroit youth and family.

**Chancel Flower Donations**

Today’s flowers are given by Colleen Dolan-Greene in In celebration of Colleen's birthday

**Escalating Inequality: Let’s Talk, 2016 Winter Speaker Series**

Thursday, January 21, 2016, Chuck Collins
Thursday, February 18, 2016, Hon. Marilyn Kelly
Thursday, March 17, 2016, Peter J. Hammer

At Birmingham Unitarian Church sponsored by 1st UU and four other southeast Michigan UU churches. The fee is $7 for each talk or $15 for all three. For more information or to make reservations, see Mary Lou Malone or Sharon Mills at the Social Justice table during Coffee Hour.
**Sunday Sermons**

1/24  **11:00 a.m. Sermon, “Did Jesus Mean It?”**
**Speaker:** Danny Rebb
Danny will be speaking on a book published in 1922 by Rev. Dr. Frank Durward Adams, a former minister to the Church of Our Father (the Universalist predecessor to our joined congregation). More details in the “Centennial” section of the January newsletter.

1/31  **11:00 a.m. Sermon, ”Social Justice and the Spiritual Journey: A Remembrance of Vic Schumacher”**
**Speakers:** Rev. Lynda Smith; Rev. Yvonne Schumacher Strejcek, Linda Darga
The quest for social justice is exemplified in the life of Vic Schumacher, an icon of First UU and Detroit for many years. Rev. Lynda Smith, a long time member of First UU and now minister at the UU Fellowship of Athens, Ohio will lead this service. She will be assisted by Vic’s daughter, Rev. Yvonne Schumacher Strejcek, also a UU minister, and Linda Darga, Vic’s widow. Vic’s legacy gives a context for today’s justice work.

2/7  **11:00 a.m. Sermon, “Black Theology & Black Power”**
**Speaker:** Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray
At the outset of Black History Month, I want to consider the first, ground-breaking work of James H. Cone, the father of Black liberation theology. One of the most important theological texts of the 20th century, Black Theology & Black Power opened the doors to contextual theologies in America. This is the first in a month-long series on the influence of black scholars on theology and religion in America.