

Today's Music

Prelude:	<i>Adoration</i> Florence B. Price (SEE BELOW)
Choir Anthem:	<i>The Gift to Be Simple</i> Shaker Tune/ arr. Bob Chilcott
Musical Meditation:	<i>A Pleasant Thought</i> Florence B. Price (see below)
Offertory:	<i>The Supremes Medley</i> Brian Holland, Lamont Dozier and Eddie Holland
Recessional:	<i>Give Me A Clean Heart</i> Margaret P. Douroux (see below)

We Shall Overcome is credited in our hymnals as an African American Spiritual. However, new research in the book *We Shall Overcome: Sacred Song On The Devil's Tongue* written by Isaias Gamboa, strongly suggests that the original source of We Shall Overcome was a gospel hymn, "If My Jesus Wills", composed sometime between 1932 and 1942 and copyrighted in 1954 by an African-American Baptist choir director named **Louise Shropshire**. Shropshire's hymn uses the lyrics "I'll Overcome, I'll Overcome, I'll Overcome Someday. If My Jesus Wills, I Do Believe, I'll Overcome Someday."

Florence Beatrice Smith Price (1887-1953) composed over 300 hundred works and was the first black woman to be recognized as a symphonic composer by having a work performed by a major orchestra-- the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Price was from a mixed race family, and initially pretended to be Mexican, to avoid the stigma of being African-American, while she attended the New England Conservatory of Music. **Dr. Margaret P. Douroux** is a living legend and has composed hundreds of Gospel music renditions. She is founder and CEO of The Heritage Music Foundation Gospel House, the world's first complete Gospel music center that will preserve and perpetuate the centuries-old cultural heritage of Gospel music. Her Ph.D. was earned at the University of Beverly Hills in education.

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: Bill McKnight Edie McKnight

Today's Greeters: Aletha Oberdier Chloe Lundine

Hearing Assistance devices are available from any of our ushers.

Large Print Hymnals are available from the **Greeters**.

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.

First Unitarian-Universalist Church

February 21, 2016

"Sisters in the Wilderness"

Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray



Liberate Truth ~ Radiate
Kindness ~ Love
Courageously

**First Unitarian-Universalist Church is an urban center for
spiritual renewal and social justice in Detroit**

ORDER OF SERVICE

ENTERING

Lighting of Candles

Singing Together #1024 *When the Spirit Says Do*

#172 *Siph' Amandla*

Stand Up Now and Clap (see insert)

WELCOME

Irene Brisson, Worship Leader

CENTERING

Prelude

Calling To Worship

Kindling the Flame

Opening Hymn* #169 *We Shall Overcome*

Choir Anthem Todd Ballou, 1st UU Choir Director

DEEPENING

Invocation

Silent Meditation

Musical Meditation

Responsive Reading

Message

RETURNING

Offering

Closing Hymn* #1001 *Breaths*

Benediction

Announcements and Events – February 21, 2016

The February Vespers will be at 6pm February 24th in the Parlor and feature a newish church member ...here's what she says about her performance: "My Voice is My Instrument" - Anita Jones will share original songs and poems along with the story of her alter ego, Ruby Woods. She will sing acapella and bring along her bag of percussion instruments. Come and enjoy and relax.

Al Acker

Chancel Flower Donations

Today's flowers are given by Lencha Acker in celebration of Chris Acker's birthday.

Share the Plate Collection for Water

On Sunday, February 28, following Rev. Murray's sermon on water, we will split the proceeds of our offering with the People's Water Board of Detroit, to help them provide water for our neighbors suffering water shutoffs. In the past, in taking special collections for charitable organizations, we have generally taken two collections; this time, we will try a new method, taking a single collection and sharing the proceeds. We invite you to give generously.

Group Read: "Between the World and Me"

The Social Justice Committee invites the congregation to read and discuss "Between the World and Me" by "Atlantic" writer Ta-Nehisi Coates, described by Toni Morrison as James Baldwin's intellectual heir. Like Baldwin's "The Fire Next Time," Coates' book is a reflection on race in America, written in the form of a letter to Coates' son. The discussion will take place after service on Sunday, March 20, at 12:30 pm, in the parlor.

Center for Progressive Leadership Training

The Center for Progressive Leadership will be holding a training session in the Social Hall today. Please plan to enjoy coffee and conversation in the Parlor.

Sunday Sermons

- 2/28 11:00 a.m. Sermon, "Water: A Tale of Two Cities"**
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray
The Michigan cities of Detroit and Flint have made international headlines over water issues, and both situations beg questions regarding political economy and race in America.
- 3/6 11:00 a.m. Sermon, "Feminist Theology"**
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray
As we enter into Women's History Month, I want to offer a brief review of feminist theology and its responses to the first wave, second wave, and third wave of feminist thought.
- 3/13 11:00 a.m. Sermon, "Defining Spirituality"**
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray
One of my charges for this year is to offer programs on "spirituality." This is an almost infinitely broad term, intentionally capacious in its scope. Today, I will speak to various approaches to spirituality and how we, as a congregation, might explore spirituality together through engaging programs in the months ahead.
- 3/20 11:00 a.m. Sermon, "Women and Ordination"**
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray
Unitarians and Universalists were among the first denominations to welcome women to join the ranks of ordained clergy, and indeed women always have been at the forefronts of these two, not twinned, religious movements. In conversation with research done by Danny Rebb at our church's archives at the University of Michigan, I will discuss some of the influential UUA women who have moved through our church in Detroit.
- 4/3 11:00 a.m. Sermon, "On Stewardship"**
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Stephen Butler Murray
How do we participate in the mission of our church? What are the ways that we ensure the present and future of a church that rightfully celebrates its proud past? How do we use our gifts to expand our capacities beyond ourselves and for the betterment of others and the world?

SAVE THE DATES of April 16 and April 17 for the 100-year anniversary celebration of our historic sanctuary.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

2:00 – 5:00 PM

Historic tour tracing our Unitarian and Universalist roots from the 1830s – when free thinkers first began to dream of a liberal religious denomination in Detroit. Who organized first, the Unitarians or the Universalists? Which major figures in Detroit's and Michigan's early history were involved in the founding of our liberal churches? What locations did they choose? Why? Where did civil rights martyrs, ground-breaking African-Americans, icons of women's and workers' rights movements, politicians, poets and peace activists worship, meet and organize? How long have we actively supported the LGBTQ community?

5:30 – 8:00 PM

Dinner and drinks at a local restaurant to celebrate each other and what we've seen and learned.

TICKET PRICES FOR THESE EVENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Centennial worship service in our historic sanctuary – come home for a reunion or come to learn about us!

12:30 – 2:30 PM

Celebratory luncheon in our historic social hall – main courses provided with our traditional potluck side dishes.

We welcome all to join us in celebrating 100 years at the corner of Cass and Forest. **PLEASE PASS ON THIS INVITATION** to anyone interested in a **history of liberal religion in Detroit**, to all UUs who wish to celebrate our **joint history**, and to current and former First Churchers near and far who **made that history**.

For more information, email:

uudetroitcentennial@gmail.com

or call the church office, 313-833-9107, and leave a message.

Sing Along: Stand Up Now and Clap
Anita “Ruby” Jones

Stand up now and clap (3X), Clap along! Clap along!

Sing a song with me (3X), Oh yeah, yeah! Oh yeah, yeah!

We can change the world (3X), With our song! With our song!

Everybody clap (3X), Clap along! Clap along!