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FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH

*Distant Light*

December 24, 2020 • Virtual Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 4:00 pm

December Theme: Stillness

<i>Distant Light</i>		
Prelude	<i>Personent Hodie</i>	Austin Ferguson
Welcome		Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer
Carillon Bells	<i>It Came Upon the Midnight Clear</i>	<i>Austin Ferguson</i>
Lighting of the Chalice	Louisa & Clara Stevens-Royer, Amy Nelson	
Reading	<i>It is the Glad Season</i> by Maya Angelou  <i>Anne Black-Sinak, Mark Brutinel, Ann Hutton, Greg Wimmer, Linda Ortiz, Beth Atkinson, Paul Trewartha-Weiner, Trish Braga, Gus Braga</i>	
Music	<i>Personent Hodie</i>	<i>Walden Hill Vocal Ensemble</i>
Reading	<i>For Maia</i> by Gary Johnson	Rachel and Ani Bulbulian
Hymn	<i>Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful</i>  (1) Oh come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, Oh come, ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem! Come, and behold him, born the king of angels; Oh come let us adore him (x3), Christ the Lord!  (2) Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, glory in the highest; Oh come let us adore him (x3), Christ the Lord!  (4) Here, in the story, born anew in wonder, strangers are welcome and love is for all. All children, sacred; all souls, beloved. Oh come, let us make heaven (x3), heaven on Earth!	
Reading	<i>The Birth of Jesus</i> from the Gospel according to St. Luke, the Second Chapter Bonnie, Claudio, Charlie, and Alex Rivera	
Interlude	<i>Star of Wonder</i>	
Reading	<i>The Risk of Birth</i> by Madeleine L’Engel  Linda Miner Elaine Eberhart	

Hymn	<i>It Came Upon A Midnight Clear</i> <i>Text: Rev. Edmund Hamilton Sears, Unitarian Church of Wayland, Mass., 1849</i>	
	It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold! Peace on the earth, good will to all, from God in the heavens we bring! The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angel Sing  Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world hath suffered long; Beneath the angel-song has rolled two thousand years of wrong; And hate, at war with hate, hears not the love song which she sings: O hush the noise, ye men in power, and hear the angels sing!  For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet bards foretold, When, with the ever-circling years, Shall come the Age of gold; When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, And all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.	
Homily	Distant Light	Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer
Reading	<i>Every Name for Love</i> by Libbie Stoddard	Bonita Underbakke
Prayer		
Reading	<i>Now is the Moment of Magic</i> by Victoria Stafford <i>Read by First UU Staff</i>	
Hymn	<i>Night of Silence</i> by Daniel Kantor & <i>Silent Night</i> by Franz Xaver Gruber	
	Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright, Round yon virgin mother and child, holy infant so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace; sleep in heavenly peace.  Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight, Glories stream from heaven afar; heavenly hosts sing <i>alleluia</i> ; Christ, the Savior is born; Christ, the Savior is born.  Silent night, holy night, Son of God loves pure light. Radiant beams from thy holy face; with the dawn of redeeming grace; Jesus, Lord, at thy birth; Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.	
Benediction	<i>The Work of Christmas</i> by Howard Thurman	
Postlude		

Join our Live Christmas Eve Story Time, with cookies and candles.  
5:30 pm via Zoom. Follow the link in eNews.