

Lyrics

#220 Bring Out the Festal Bread

Bring out the festal bread, and sing songs of freedom.
Shout with the slaves who fled, and sing songs of freedom.

What modern pharaohs live in arrogance crownéd?
Who shall be sent to challenge folly unbounded?

Bring out the festal bread, and sing songs of freedom.
Shout with the slaves who fled, and sing songs of freedom.

Chains still there are to break; their days are not finished.
Metal or subtle-made they're still not diminished.

Bring out the festal bread, and sing songs of freedom.
Shout with the slaves who fled, and sing songs of freedom.

Still does resentment bind each brother and sister.
Still do the plagues affect us red as the river.

Bring out the festal bread, and sing songs of freedom.
Shout with the slaves who fled, and sing songs of freedom.

Long be our journeying, yet justice is worth it;
dance, sister Miriam, and help us to birth it.

Bring out the festal bread, and sing songs of freedom.
Shout with the slaves who fled, and sing songs of freedom.

O people, lift your heads and look to the mountains;
bushes aflame still call us, rocks still gush fountains!

Bring out the festal bread, and sing songs of freedom.
Shout with the slaves who fled, and sing songs of freedom.

The Welcome Table

A service of poetry, music, and reflections, echoing the Jewish Passover and Christian Holy Week, including a traditional Universalist communion.

Thursday, April 14, 2022 | 7:00pm



First Unitarian Universalist Church | Rochester, Minnesota

*And the table will be wide.
And the welcome will be wide.
And the arms will open wide
to gather us in.*

*And our hearts
will open wide to receive.
And we will come
as children who trust
there is enough.*

*And we will come
unhindered and free.
And our aching
will be met with bread.
And our sorrow
will be met with wine.*

*And we will open our hands to the feast
without shame.*

*And we will turn toward each other
without fear.
And we will give up
our appetite for despair.
And we will taste and know of delight.*

*And we will become bread
for a hungry world.
And we will become drink
for those who thirst.*

*And the blessed
will become the blessing.
And everywhere
will be the feast.*

– Jan Richardson

Gratitude

*For help in preparing and leading the service,
including readings, music, and providing wine,
our thanks to Joe Mish, Austin Ferguson, Trish Braga, and Joe Lobl.
A special thanks to Ann Hutton for making our communal bread.*

Gathering Music

Austin Ferguson

Welcome

Rev. Luke Stevens-Royer

Lighting of the Chalice *And the Table will be Wide*, by Jan Richardson

Trish Braga

Prayer

Sung Refrain:

May peace dwell in our hearts, may peace dwell in our world.
May love dwell in our hearts, may love dwell in our world.

Reading

Jewish Prayer by Rabbi Rami Shapiro

Ann Hutton

Hymn #220

Bring Out the Festal Bread

Reflection on Passover

Joe Lobl

Interlude

Let Us Break Bread

Universalist Ritual of Communion

All are welcome to participate in this ritual. There is red wine and white grape juice.

Hymn

Let us break bread together on our knees. *(repeat)*
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O, God, have mercy on me.

Let us share the cup together on our knees. *(repeat)*
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O, God, have mercy on me.

Let us sing songs together on our knees. *(repeat)*
When I rise, from my knees, with my heart to the rising sun,
May love fall gently on me.

Benediction

Reading

from *The Gospel of Luke 23:44-47*

Music

Hashiveinu

Silence and Darkness

*In the tradition of holy week, the service ends in silence and near darkness.
You are invited to quietly exit the Sanctuary after the music.*