

*Christmas at 114 S Street  
& Winter Solstice Celebration*



**Wiesbaden Unitarian Universalists  
21 December 2014**

**The Seven Principles**

The inherent worth and dignity of every person

Justice, equity and compassion in human relations

Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations

A free and responsible search for truth and meaning

The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and  
in society at large

The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all

Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part

# Wiesbaden Unitarian Universalists

21 December 2014

*Love is the spirit of this church, the quest of truth its sacrament, service its prayer.*

## Centering Thought:

At the Sun's Rebirth, Bring Peace on Earth and Peace Within

## Welcome and Announcements

**Prelude: "The Seasons" sung by Brenda Barbour**

## Opening Reading

To go in the dark with a light is to know the light.  
To know the dark, go dark. Go without sight,  
and find that the dark, too, blooms and sings,  
and is traveled by dark feet and dark wings.

*Wendell Berry*

**Hymn #224 *Let Christmas Come* in Singing the Living Tradition**

## Chalice Lighting #447 Singing the Living Tradition (read in unison)

Come we now out of the darkness of our unknowing  
and the dusk of our dreaming;  
Come we now from far places.  
Come we now into the twilight of our awakening  
and the reflection of our gathering.  
Come we now all together.

We bring, unilluminated, our dark caves of doubting;  
We seek, unbedazzled, the clear light of understanding.  
May the sparks of our joining kindle our resolve,  
brighten our spirits, reflect our love, and unshadow our days.  
Come we now; enter the dawning. *Annie Foerster*

## Sharing of Joys and Concerns

We invite you to light a candle at this time as an expression of your joy or concern that you'd like to share.

## Story for All Ages

*The Night Tree* by Eve Bunting

*Illustrated by Ted Rand*

*"Go now in peace, go now in peace/May the spirit of love surround you/  
Everywhere, everywhere/ You may go."*

**First Reading "The Gift" by Charles Johnson**

**Hymn #241 *In the Bleak Midwinter* in Singing the Living Tradition**

**Second Reading & Meditation** (See back of bulletin)

## Homily

*Christmas at 114 S Street*

Reverend Mark Morrison-Reed

**Hymn #248 *O We Believe in Christmas* in Singing the Living Tradition**

## Closing Words

As we part now one from another, let these be our thoughts:

If that which is most holy lies within the human person, and if the greatest power in the world shines flickering and uncertain from each individual heart, then it is easy to see the value of human associations dedicated to nurturing that light: the couple, the family, the religious community.

For the power of good in any one of us must at times waver. But when a group together is dedicated to nurturing the power of good, it is rare for the light to grow dim in all individuals at the same moment.

So we borrow courage and wisdom from one another, to warm us and keep us until we're together again.  
Rev. Eileen B. Karpeles

## Extinguishing the Chalice In unison:

"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."

## Postlude

## Calendar

### 4 January Hainerberg Chapel

14:00 UU Orientation/Discussion & Questions

### 18 January

14:00 Sunday Service Hainerberg Chapel

**The Seasons Loreena McKennitt**

Come all you lads and lasses, I'd have you give attention  
To these few lines I'm about to write here,  
'Tis of the four seasons of the year that I shall mention,  
The beauty of all things doth appear.  
And now you are young and all in your prosperity,  
Come cheer up your hearts and revive like the spring  
Join off in pairs like the birds in February  
That St. Valentine's Day it forth do bring.

Then cometh Spring, which all the land doth nourish;  
The fields are beginning to be decked with green,  
The trees put forth their buds and the blossoms they do flourish,  
And the tender blades of corn on the earth are to be seen.  
Don't you see the little lambs by the dams a-playing?  
The cuckoo is singing in the shady grove.  
The flowers they are springing, the maids they go a-Maying,  
In love all hearts seem now to move.

Next cometh Autumn with the sun so hot and piercing;  
The sportsman goes forth with his dog and his gun  
To fetch down the woodcock, the partridge and the pheasant,  
For health and for profit as well as for fun.  
Behold, with loaded apple-trees the farmer is befriended,  
They will fill up his casks that have long laid dry.  
All nature seems to weary now, her task is nearly ended,  
And more of the seasons will come by and by.

When night comes on with song and tale we pass the wintry hours;  
By keeping up a cheerful heart we hope for better days.  
We tend the cattle, sow the seed, give work unto the ploughers,  
With patience wait till winter yields before the sun's fair rays.  
And so the world goes round and round, and every time and season  
With pleasure and with profit crowns the passage of the year,  
And so through every time of life, to him who acts with reason,  
The beauty of all things doth appear.

**Second Reading-Meditation**

Nothing is lost; the universe is honest,  
Time, like the sea, gives all back in the end,  
But only in its own way, on its own conditions:  
Empires as grains of sand, forests as coal,  
Mountains as pebbles. Be still, be still, I say;  
You were never the water, only a wave;  
Not substance, but a form substance assumed.

Elder Olson -- Great Occasions, edited by Carl Seaburg,  
Beacon Press, 1968, p. 388