

Opening Reading

Do not stand at my grave and weep
I am not there. I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning's hush
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there. I did not die.

Mary Elizabeth Frye

Second Reading

Spring: A Reiteration (1973)

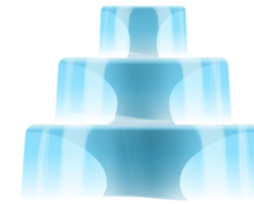
There is a temptation to say, as May spreads the leaves and opens the blossoms, that spring has come again just as it has come for untold aeons. But the fact is that no two springs are exactly alike. Man contrives machines that turn out countless duplicates; but nature is not a machine. Change is the one constant in this living world...

We go to the meadow to pick violets, but there are only a few where they were profuse a year ago; this year they are at their best a hundred yards away. We look for wild columbine on the rocky ledge, but the ledge itself has been split and diminished by winter frost. We walk beside the brook and see that the spate has filled one cove with silt, widened another. We cut across an abandoned hillside pasture, all grass five years ago, now dotted with seedling pines, a new woodland in the making.

Bloodroot still blooms beside the old stone wall, and anemones. But the wall is tumbling... Field mouse and chipmunk that sheltered there have had to find new homes. The ever-shifting balance has been changing again. The wind plants thistles and milkweed, the birds plant briars and wild grapes, the squirrel plants oaks.

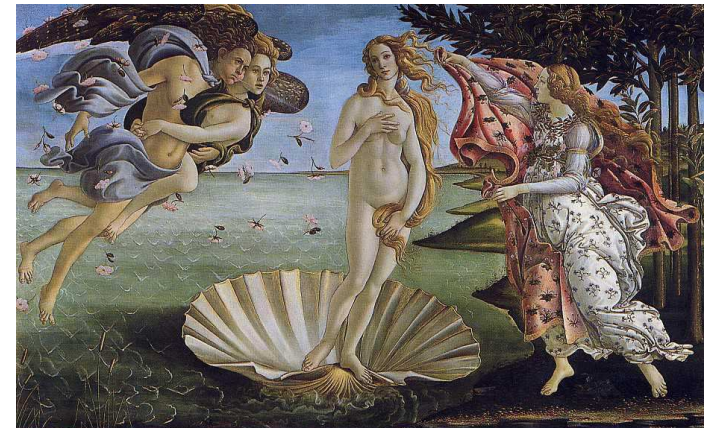
Change, constant, unending change within the framework of the familiar, the enduring. Another May, another spring, eternal but unlike any other that was or shall be.

- Hal Borland



WIESBADEN
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS

Rebirth



April 19, 2015

Wiesbaden Unitarian Universalists

19 April 2015

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

Centering Thought:

“He not busy being born is busy dying” Bob Dylan

Prelude #1038 STJ 23rd Psalm arr. Bobby

McFerrin

Opening Reading

Do Not Stand At My Grave And Weep

Mary Elizabeth Frye

Hymn #188 Singing the Living Tradition (SLT)

Come, Come Whoever You Are

Chalice Lighting

The chalice is lit within our souls each time that we: pray for vision, long for healing, forgive our enemy, comfort our neighbor, and prepare for justice's day.

In its light, our hope and compassion are renewed and the covenantal ties that bind each to all become clear.

Now, by its sacred flame, the path before us is brightened: Love prepares our way, Harmony is in view, there is no East or West, no South or North. Only a world to greet, and bless with more light still.

--- (Rev.) Eric M. Cherry

ICUU Global Chalice Lighting April 2015

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.

“I light this last candle for all joys and concerns left unspoken this day.”

Story for All Ages

Frederick by Leo Lionni

“Go now in peace, go now in peace/May the spirit of love surround you/

Everywhere, everywhere/ You may go.”

Second Reading

Spring: A Reiteration

Hal Borland

Meditation

Anthem *Probably Not* Susan Werner Sung by Teresa Zink

Homily

“The Afterlife: Immortality, Reincarnation, and Rebirth”

Carolyn Burmedi

Discussion

What would a UU Heaven look like?

What important moments of rebirth have you experienced?

Hymn #123 Singing the Living Tradition (SLT)

Spirit of Life

Extinguishing the Chalice In unison:

“I give you this to take with you:

Nothing remains as it was. If you know this, you can begin again, with pure joy in the uprooting.”

— Judith Minty, Letters to My Daughters

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Please join us for refreshment and conversation after the service.

**Upcoming Events**

**3 May 14:00** Discussion Group,

Hainerberg Chapel Topic: #5 The Philosophy of Membership

**17 May 14:00** Sunday Service, Hainerberg Chapel

Led by: Rabbi David Rudermann, Jewish Chaplain for the Wiesbaden Military Community

**23 May Saturday** Field Trip Hildegard of Bingen, Part 2

a walk on the Hildegard trail in Bingen, to include Museum, Ruins of Ruppertsberg, Healing Botanical Garden, and her still existing monastery above Rüdesheim. (more info to come!)