

## Meditation

## Hymn No.2

“Bring Many Names”, Part 1 — (#23, Singing the Journey)

## Homily

“Bridging the God Gap” by Rev. Chris Schriener

## Hymn No.3

“Bring Many Names”, Part 2 — (#23, Singing the Journey)

## Benediction

“Whether I am an accident of nature or the design of a god, it is I who must give dignity to my life if I am to be worthy of the design or build upon the accident.”

—Rev. Nick Cardell

## Hymn No.4

“Blue Boat Home” — (#1064, Singing the Journey)

## 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.”*

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Please join us for a Workshop after the service, lead by Rev. Schriener!

The discussion group for August has been postponed for our summer break, but we look forward to seeing all of you at our next service on August 16th.



## “Bridging the God Gap”



SUNDAY SERVICE  
19th JULY 2015

Led by  
Rev. Chris Schriener  
and Emily Searle-White

## Prelude

Nils Frahm & Ólafur Arnalds (live improvisation, Berlin 2011)

## Centering Thought

“May we not be of one heart,  
though we are not of one opinion?”

—John Wesley

## Hymn No.1

“Spirit of Life” — (#123, Singing the Journey)

## Welcome

## Opening Reading

“We want life to be our ally: helping us, empowering us, enabling us to be safe and happy. We want good things to come our way: our wounds healed, our loneliness banished, our power restored, our fears allayed. We want alienation to be replaced with belonging, impoverishment with abundance, bondage with liberation, and darkness with light.

—David Spangler

## Sharing of Joys and Concerns

## Story for All Ages

“The Carrot Seed” (by Ruth Krauss)

## Second Reading (responsive)

Regardless of our differences, there are a host of affirmations that we embrace as the basis for our faith. Whatever we think the holy may be, Creation itself is holy.

*We make no distinctions between the natural and the supernatural, the secular and the sacred. We simply cherish the earth and all its creatures, the stars in all their glory.*

Life's gifts are available to everyone, not just the chosen or the saved.

*Only human artifice or blind ill fortune can separate us from the source of our blessings.*

That which is Divine, Precious, or Profound is made evident not in the miraculous or otherworldly, but in the simple and the everyday.

*We look not to the heavens or an afterlife for our meaning, but to the exuberance of this life's unfolding.*

Human beings themselves are responsible for the planet and its future.

*Social and environmental justice is a religious obligation. The future is never fated.*

Every one of us is held in Creation's hand. We share its burdens and its radiance. Hence strangers need not be enemies.

*The earth is our cherished home; all its inhabitants our companions.*

Though death confronts us all, we love life all the more, perhaps because we lose it.

*An honorable and impassioned life may not deny death its due, but it can surely deny it of its victory.*

—William F. Schulz