

revelation may be forgotten, and our actions will not always reflect our true selves. But through our gratitude we may remember who we are, reflect on who we may become, and restore the balance which brings equanimity to our lives. Let us be quiet for a moment, together."

–Thomas Rhodes

Meditation

Homily

"Balance"

by Rev. Sylvia Stocker



Hymn No.2

"Blue Boat Home" (#1064, Singing the Journey)

Benediction

"Wisdom, be thou more precious than possessions without end.
Truth, be thou more sacred than the pleasing of a friend.
Courage, be thou our strength to gain the distant goal.
Beauty, send thou a cleansing wonder to our souls.
Kindness, be thou our guide upon life's way.
Peace, be thou the benediction of our day. Amen."

–Rev. Don Harrington

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."

Announcements and Upcoming Events

October 4 – 14:00 Discussion Group, Hainerberg Chapel

October 18 – 14:00 Sunday Service, Hainerberg Chapel

Please join us for coffee hour after the service!



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Seeking Balance: The Autumn Equinox



led by
John Keating



September 20th, 2015

Centering Thought

"Blessings on him who invented sleep, the mantle that covers all human thoughts, the food that satisfies hunger, the drink that slakes thirst, the fire that warms the cold, the cold that moderates heat, and, lastly, the balance and weight that equalizes the shepherd and the king, the simpleton, and the sage"

—Cervantes, Don Quixote

Prelude

"Across the Great Divide" (by Kate Wolf)

Welcome and Greeting of One Another

Chalice Lighting

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



Hymn No.1

"We Are..." (#1051, Singing the Journey)

Opening Reading

Autumn, we know,

Is life en route to death.

The asters are but harbingers of
frost.

The trees, flaunting their colors at the
sky,
In other times will follow where
the leaves have fallen,
And so shall we.

Yet other lives will come.
So may we know, accept, embrace,
The mystery of life we hold a while.

Nor mourn that it outgrows each
separate self, but still rejoice
that we may have our day.

Lift high our colors to the sky!
and give,
In our time, fresh glory
to the earth.

—Robert T. Weston ("Harbingers of Frost")

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Story for All Ages

"Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices" (by Paul Fleischman,
illustrated by Eric Beddows)

Offertory

Second Reading

"Over our heads, the great wheel of stars shifts, the autumnal (or
spring) equinox manifests itself, and for one precious instant
darkness and light exist in balanced proportion to one another.
Within our minds the great web of neurons shifts, new
consciousness arises, and for one precious instant experience
and meaning exist together as revelation and epiphany.
Within our hearts the great rhythm of our lives shifts, a new way
of being reveals itself, and for one precious instant, the nexus of
the body and the seat of the soul truly exist as one.
Let us give thanks for those times in our lives when all seems in
balance. For those times are rare. The equinox shall pass, the