

"Our Authentic Selves"

Sunday, June 18, 10:50 AM, 2023

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco



"The Johnson Family" Mural by Bob Gayton
Location Minna Street (at 6th St.) SF, CA 1993



Order of Service
Sunday June 18, 2023
10:50 AM - 12:15 PM

Livestreamed at bit.ly/uusfmedia

New to UUSF? Complete Our Connections form at <https://bit.ly/uuconnections2023>

Welcome to the Worship!

UUSF will no longer require masks indoors on our premises,
following the lead of the San Francisco Department of Health.

We do, however, encourage people to wear masks or do anything else
that protects and respects their own health and comfort.

There is a designated mask-only area on the far right side of the Sanctuary.

Prelude How Beautiful Are the Feet from *Messiah* Georg F. Handel
Michele Kennedy, soprano; Mark Sumner, pianist

Opening Words and Welcome Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister

Unison Chalice Lighting

We light this chalice for the light of truth,
the warmth of love,
and the fire of commitment.
We light this symbol of our faith
as we gather together.

*Hymn 128

For All That Is Our Life

SHERMAN ISLAND

[\(CLICK HERE OR TURN TO PAGES 6 & 7 TO VIEW HYMN\)](#)

Brief Invitations

Greeting One Another

Unison Covenant

Love is the spirit of this church, and service is its prayer.
This is our great covenant: to dwell together in peace,
to seek the truth in freedom, and to help one another.

Doxology

TALLIS' CANON



From all that dwell be - low the skies; let songs of hope and
De to - dos ba - jo el gran sol; sur - ja, es - pe - ran - za

5
faith a - rise; Let peace, good - will on earth be sung through
fé, a - mor; ver - dad, y be - lle - za can - tan - do, de

8
ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue.
ca - da tie - rra, ca - da voz. A - men.

Ritual of Remembrance and Commitment

Reflection

Richard Davis-Lowell, Worship Associate

Music

To My Little Son

Julia Johnson Davis, text; Florence B. Price
Michele Kennedy, soprano; Mark Sumner, pianist

In your face I sometimes see shadowings of the man to be
An eager dream of what my son shall be in twenty years and one.
When you are to manhood grown and all your manhood ways are known,
Then shall I, wistful, try to trace the child you once were in your face

Reading "A Season of Advent... and Authentic Beginnings" by Rev. Manish Mishra-Mirzetti
from (Little Did I Know: An Anthology on Loving and Companionship Young Lives
by Vanessa Rush Southern)

Prayer

Offering

This morning's offering will benefit the work of **The Equal Justice Initiative**. EJI is committed to ending mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the United States, to challenging racial and economic injustice, and to protecting basic human rights for the most vulnerable people in American society. Learn more at <https://eji.org/about/> To make a donation on Vanco (bit.ly/uusfpayments) or using the Donate Button (below) & on our website, please select the "Offering" choice to make your gift. If you are sending a check, please mark in the memo today's date and "special offering" 06-18-23.

[DONATE](#)

Offertory Music *She's Got the Whole World In Her Hands* arr. Margaret Bonds
Michele Kennedy, soprano; Mark Sumner, pianist

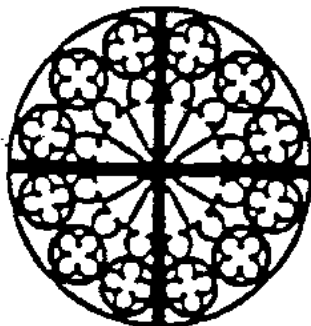
Sermon "Our Authentic Selves" Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern

*Hymn 311 *Let It Be a Dance* MASTEN
([CLICK HERE OR TURN TO PAGES 8 to 11 TO VIEW HYMN](#))

*Benediction

Postlude *Fanfare for the Common Man* Aaron Copland
Reiko Oda Lane, organist

*Please rise in body or spirit.



PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leaders

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister
Richard Davis-Lowell, Worship Associate

Sunday Support

Shulee Ong; Eric Shackelford, Livestream Cameras
Santana Gonzalez Gomez, Live Chat Moderator
Jonathan Silk, Communications Director
Matias Salazar, Sexton
Tony Miller, Sexton
Judy Payne, Flowers
Linda Messner, Head Usher

Musicians

Reiko Oda Lane, Organist
Mark Sumner, Pianist
Michele Kennedy, Soprano

ABOUT

Praised by The Washington Post as “a fine young soprano with a lovely voice” possessing “a graceful tonal clarity that is a wonder to hear” (SF Chronicle), **SOPRANO MICHELE KENNEDY** is a versatile specialist in early and new music. Her recent concert venues include Carnegie Hall, Davies Symphony Hall, Getty Museum, Lincoln Center, and Washington National Cathedral. A lifelong advocate of new works, Michele has sung premieres with Experiments in Opera, Harlem Stage Opera, Mimesis Ensemble, Five Boroughs Music Festival, and The New York Philharmonic. This season, she is part of a world premiere tour of Julia Wolfe’s Her Story - a celebration of women’s civil rights - with Lorelei Ensemble and the Nashville, Chicago, Boston, and San Francisco Symphony Orchestras. She is also a member of Kaleidoscope Vocal Ensemble: a group of early and contemporary music specialists that champions the voices of women and artists of color on the stage, and in the field at large. (<https://www.michele-kennedy.com/>)

OFFERTORY UPDATES

The offering for the **SF Jazz Center's "Our Schools Program"** on Sunday, June 11 raised \$900. SF Jazz Center's OUR SCHOOL PROGRAMS serves all San Francisco and Oakland public and charter middle schools. Provides over 25,000 hours of instruction each year.

The offering from the plate collection on Sunday, June 4 benefited the **SCW Scholarship Committee**, and we raised \$1260.92. Scholarships are awarded to San Francisco high school students who will be the first generation in their family to attend college.

$\text{♩} = 76$

1. For
2. For
3. For
4. For

all that is our life we sing our thanks and praise; for
needs which oth - ers serve, for ser - vic - es we give, for
sor - row we must bear, for fail - ures, pain, and loss, for
all that is our life we sing our thanks and praise; for

all life is a gift which we are called to use to
work and its re - wards, for hours of rest and love; we
each new thing we learn, for fear - ful hours that pass: we
all life is a gift which we are called to use to

⊕ Words: Bruce Findlow, 1922-
Music: Patrick L. Rickey, 1964- , © 1992 Unitarian Universalist Association

SHERMAN ISLAND
6.6.6.6.6.6.

LOVE AND COMPASSION

build the com - mon good and
 come with praise and thanks for
 come with praise and thanks for
 build the com - mon good and

1.-3.
 make our own days glad.
 all that is our life.
 all that is our life.
 make our own days

4.
 glad.

Let It Be a Dance

$\text{♩} = 56$

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a single staff and a piano accompaniment on two staves (treble and bass clef). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 2/2. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 56. The lyrics are: 'Let it be a dance we do. May I have this dance with you? Through the good times and the bad times, too, let it be a dance.'

Let it be a dance we do. May I have this

dance with you? Through the good times and the

bad times, too, let it be a dance.

May be sung unaccompanied

⊕ Words & music: Ric Masten, 1929–, © 1977 Mastenville Music (BMI), MASTEN
 ⊕ arr. by Betty A. Wylder, 1923–, © 1992 Unitarian Universalist Association Irregular

HUMANITY: WOMEN AND MEN

1. Let a danc - ing song be heard.
 2. Ev - ery - bod - y turn and spin,
 3. Morn - ing star comes out at night,

Play the mu - sic, say the words,
 let your bod - y learn to bend,
 with - out the dark there is no light.

and fill the sky with sail - ing birds.
 and, like a wil - low with the wind,
 If noth - ing's wrong, then noth - ing's right.

Let it be a dance. Let it be a dance. Let it be a
 let it be a dance. Let it be a dance. Let it be a
 Let it be a dance. Let it be a dance. Let it be a

The first system of the musical score features a vocal melody in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are repeated three times across the system.

dance.
 dance.
 dance.

Learn to fol - low, learn to lead,
 A child is born, the old must die;
 Let the sun shine, let it rain;

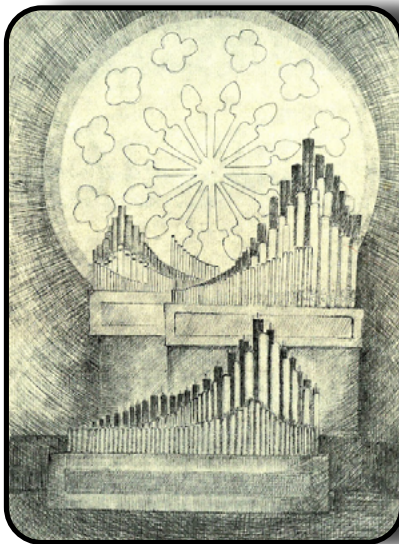
The second system continues the musical score. The vocal melody includes a triplet of eighth notes. The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines in both hands. The lyrics continue from the previous system.

feel the rhy- thm, fill the need
 a time for joy, a time to cry.
 share the laugh- ter, bear the pain,

The third system concludes the musical score on this page. It follows the same instrumental and vocal structure as the previous systems, with the piano accompaniment providing harmonic support for the vocal line. The lyrics conclude with a comma, suggesting the song continues on the next page.

to reap the har - vest, plant the seed.
 Take it as it pass - es by.
 and round and round we go a - gain.

Let it be a dance.
 Let it be a dance.
 Let it be a dance.



ABOUT THE MUSIC

MARGARET BONDS (1913-1972)

Margaret Bonds was a pianist and composer noted for her musical adaptations of Shakespeare and collaboration with Langston Hughes. Bonds was the first African American soloist to appear with the Chicago Symphony and played an important role in the development of twentieth century classical and musical theater.

Bonds was born in Chicago, Illinois on March 3, 1913. Showing promise at an early age, she completed her first composition at the age of five. Her musical prowess was encouraged by her mother, who was also a musician and a frequent host to African American writers, artists, and musicians. Visitors from the local Chicago area and around the country would regularly play in the Bond home and their presence and performances there clearly had an effect on young Margaret. These encounters were so extensive that Bonds would later claim she knew every living African American composer.

After receiving bachelor's and master's degrees in music from Northwestern University in 1933 and 1934 respectively, Bonds went on to a successful career writing pieces for the Glenn Miller Orchestra and regularly performing on the radio. Although Bonds was educated as a classical musician, her work was versatile and strongly influenced by jazz and blues. Her compositions were performed by a large number of concert artists including Louis Armstrong and Woody Herman.

In 1936, Bonds also founded the Allied Arts Academy, an institution for talented African American children in Chicago. She later moved to New York, married William Richardson in 1939, and began working as an editor for the Clarence Williams Publishing House. Eventually she settled in Los Angeles where she was the director of the Inner City Repertory Theatre.

Perhaps most notable was her fruitful collaboration with the poet Langston Hughes. Bonds wrote a musical piece to accompany the Hughes poem "The Negro Speaks of Rivers" in 1941. This partnership lasted well into the 1950s and included several larger projects such as theatrical adaptations of some of Langston Hughes's works. Bonds's musical scores also featured the texts of other poets including pieces for W.E.B. Du Bois and Robert Frost.

Throughout her career Bonds produced a wide range of work, spanning orchestral compositions, theatrical accompaniments, and traditional African American spiritual arrangements. She was the recipient of the Rosenwald Fellowship and a Rodman Wanamaker award for composition. Bonds was widely credited with creating new interest in traditional African American musical forms, history, and culture. She died on April 26, 1972 in Los Angeles, California.

FLORENCE PRICE (1887–1953)

Florence Price was an American composer, pianist, organist, and teacher. Her prolific body of work includes over 300 works, including settings for orchestra, various combinations of chamber ensemble, choir, voice and piano, organ, and solo piano. Her compositions often blend Euro-American art music forms with elements from her African American heritage, such as melodies that reference those of spirituals.

During her life, Price was the first African American woman to earn major recognition as a symphonic composer. However, despite her successes, she struggled to have her works widely performed, and openly acknowledged that her being a woman and a person of colour were barriers. Much of her catalogue was neglected after her death, but in recent years, new research about her life and work and the revival of her compositions in performance have begun to more fully illuminate her contributions to American music.

Price (née Smith) was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, on April 9, 1887, during a period when white supremacy was being restored in the South. Her mother was her first music teacher, who carefully nurtured her talent. Price went on to study composition at Boston's New England Conservatory, one of the few institutions that admitted African Americans at the time. After earning diplomas in organ and piano, she returned to the South to teach and compose. In 1928, to escape growing racial oppression in Little Rock, Price and her family moved to Chicago. There, she flourished creatively; she won prizes and publication contracts for her piano pieces, penned popular songs for radio commercials, and arranged spirituals for performance. In 1931, she began writing symphonies. Her Symphony in E Minor won the Wanamaker Prize in 1932, which led to its performance by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra conducted by Frederick Stock—the first work by a Black woman composer to be performed by a major American orchestra.

The success of her E Minor symphony cemented Price's reputation and her orchestral works were subsequently performed by ensembles such as the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, American Symphony Orchestra, and Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra. Celebrated singers such as Marion Anderson and Leontyne Price interpreted her songs, and her organ and piano pieces, which she also taught, were regularly performed. Price remained active as a composer and teacher until her death in Chicago on June 9, 1953.

Events, Meetings & Volunteer Opportunities (www.uusf.org/news)

TODAY

Forum - Sunday, June 18, 9:00 am, TSK Room. In Person & Zoom: National Equal Justice Association (NEJA)
A presentation by National Equal Justice Association (NEJA) of S.F. on The Campaign for Sustainable Recovery and Development & The fight for Environmental Justice.
Zoom: <https://bit.ly/uuforum-6-18-23> Telephone in at +1 669 444 9171. Meeting ID: 976 4137 4738, Passcode: 434147.

Art Reception "Paintings Inspired by Landscapes" - Sunday, June 18 at 12:30 pm, King Rooms

Come see the artworks of Henry David Sultan and Jenny Badger Sultan! For 53 years, I had the honor of living with and sharing a studio with Jenny Badger Sultan, writes artist Henry David Sultan. When I first met Jenny, she was painting with oil using the wet into wet-into-wet technique that was popular in the College Art Departments and Art Schools during the nineteen sixties. She visited the studios of my friends and me and saw we were painting our images and symbols in a clearly defined way, so so-called "Visionary Art." She saw that this was a path she could take which would allow her to express her dreams and imagination. Her oil paintings always had texture, and for a while, she gave that up. However, in a short time she discovered the techniques of the Surrealist's, especially the painter Max Ernst. She began to experiment with these techniques.

UPCOMING

Newcomer Orientation - Sunday, July 2 at 12:30 pm in the Fireside Room

Do you want to learn more about Unitarian Universalism? Join us in the Fireside Room on July 2 after the service to meet some of our members and learn more about our congregation and Unitarian Universalism in the community.

Black, Indigenous, & People of Color Gathering - July 2 from 9:30 am to 10:50 am, Stebbins Room

This sacred space is open to our members and friends who are Black, Indigenous and People of Color. The meeting takes place by Zoom and in-person in the Stebbins Room on the first Sunday of every month from 9:30-10:50am. If you are interested in attending or finding out more, please email bipoc@uusf.org. Please come join this space for joy, renewal, care and inspiration.

2023 UUSF Auction - Auction Planning Meeting!!!

SAVE THE DATE: UUSF 2023 Auction will be Sunday, October 15 at 12:30 pm. Last year's 'Homecoming' auction was a lot of fun and a big success. Please plan to join us that day and help make this year's auction even better!

An **auction planning meeting** will be held July 9 at UUSF at 12:30 pm. Help is needed in all aspects of the auction planning, particularly with food and tabling. Please join us to help make it a great auction! We can't do it without YOU.

Volunteer with the Interfaith Food Pantry July 15

Join fellow UUSF members and other community volunteers to help distribute groceries to 325+ households. This is a great opportunity for individuals and for families to pitch in and help feed our community. Food prices are high and we are needed now as much as ever! We lead the crew Saturday, July 15 and would love to have you join. Volunteer shifts start at 8:15 (or 7:30 if you can help unload the truck). Sign up at <https://bit.ly/foodpantryuusf>. If you have any questions, please contact Hanna Hart hanna@harts.net or Ben Bear welcome.corporate.overlords@gmail.com.

Adult Spiritual Growth Classes (www.uusf.org/are)

Morning Meditation & Equanimity Practice

Morning Meditation - Tuesdays & Thursday, 8-8:30 am: A simple, centering loving kindness meditation practice which is appropriate for all religious backgrounds and levels of meditation. **Equanimity Practice - Fridays, 8-8:30 am:** A meditation practice on cultivating equanimity—that is, accepting the reality of life's highs and lows and developing an attitude of peaceful calm abiding throughout the inevitable changes. **Both on Zoom:** <https://bit.ly/3A8Zl73>

Welcome to the First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco

1187 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109
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OUR SOCIETY'S VISION

We, The First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco, delight in our authentic, inclusive congregation that reaches across generations, ethnicities, and differences. We take care of one another, building spiritual community, knowing that we are stronger and accomplish more together. Guided by our responsibility to future generations, we take leadership in shaping a compassionate, sustainable world. Inspired by our courageous heritage and compelled by conscience, we hold one another accountable to work for racial, environmental, and economic justice and the dignity and rights of all.

OUR SOCIETY'S MISSION

As a vibrant, joyous, caring, inclusive community of diverse people, we create a nurturing space for spiritual growth and learning. Based on our shared values, we work together courageously and publicly for human rights, economic justice, and environmental salvation.

UUSF MEDIA

You can listen to our sermon-only podcasts at <https://bit.ly/SermonsUUSF>

Visit <https://bit.ly/ServicesUUSF> to listen to our complete service podcasts

Watch our videos at <http://www.youtube.com/c/UUSFMedia>

Go to our website at <https://www.uusf.org/>



“Life is Pure Jazz”
June 11

WATCH LAST WEEKS SERVICE: <http://www.youtube.com/c/UUSFMedia>