

James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Winter Solstice Celebration

Based on *A Winter Solstice Singing Ritual* ©2002 by Julie Forest Middleton and Stasa Morgan-Appel

Introduction Rev. Karen Armina

Casting the Circle

“Winter Song” by Dirk Campbell

The Darkness

“Solstice Chant” by Anne Bearheart, arr. Julie Middleton

“Winter Solstice Meditation” by Judith Laura, adapted

“Dark of Winter” by Shelley Jackson Denham

“What Is This Night?” by Julie Middleton

“Though My Soul” Words by Sarah Williams, music by F.J. Hayden

“Hope is nocturnal” by David Gates

*“Song for the Winter Solstice” by Mary Pitassi **

Silent Meditation with Rev. Karen Armina

Bringing the Light

“Candles, Candles” by Lois Myers Emig

Litany: *“The Light Is Reborn” by Liz Benjamin*

“Simple Wisdom” by Susan Podebradsky

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| 1. In the darkness I can hear
Gentle whisperings in my ear
Simple wisdom that comes from within | 3. Carry forth, carry forth
What you learn in the dark
Carry forth, carry forth
The light of your spark |
| 2. And these candles that we light
Help us focus in the night
And carry forth til the light shines again | |

Sharing the Light

“Our deepest fear...” by Marianne Williamson

“Light Is Returning” by Charlie Murphy

“The Servant Candle” adapted from a reading by Judy Bressler

“The Way Is Clear” by Anni Zylstra

“Winter Solstice Meditation” by Judith Laura, adapted

“Let the Spirit Come to You” by Anodea Judith

Passing the Baskets

“Awake the Sacred Fire” by Bernice Martin

Benediction and Opening the Circle

“How the Light Comes” by Jan Richardson

“Carry It Home” by Betsy Rose, arr Karen Escovitz (Otter)

Recessional

“When We Are Gone” by Starhawk and Anne Hill, arr. Julie Middleton

* In loving memory of Jack Coe, 1935-2024



The James Reeb UU Congregation Mission

We are a faith community
rooted in Unitarian Universalist principles,
called by love to
welcome the seeker,
cultivate relationship,
nurture spiritual wholeness,
and grow justice in the world.

Gratitude to:

The JRUUC Winter Solstice Choir

Jennifer Hedstrom, Director
Margaret Dihlmann-Malzer
Marti Everett
Sarah Hallas
Sophie Hannauer
David Henry
Rand Hill
Alice Johnson
Kirsten Johnson
Sandy Ligon
Jocie Luglio
Jeanne Lydon
Molly Mitchell
Karol Niemann
Mary Pitassi
Susan Podebradsky
Elaine Pridgen
Heike Saynisch
Jean Skinner
Barbara Vedder
Stacy Wilkes

Readers

Karen Armina, Liturgist
Liz Chapa
Virginia Harrison

Tech Support

Mike Stimson

Greeters

Kelly Kearns
Elaine Morrison

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2146 East Johnson Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53704

(608) 242-8887
www.jruuc.org