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*Celebrating Sixty-Eight Years of Liberal Ministry*

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# Mount Vernon Unitarian Church

Unitarian Universalist

Affirming Respect for All People and the Earth

July 7, 2024, 10:00 a.m. Online

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## THE ORDER OF SERVICE

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### **Black Moses: The Lay Community Ministry of Harriet Tubman**

Ebony C. Peace

We know Harriet Tubman as one of the most recognized icons in American History. In celebration of the legacy and impact of Lay Community Ministry, we will reflect on how faith, family, and community empowered Harriet Tubman to live a purpose driven life. We will explore her multi-vocational career, ministry, and confront the obstacles she faced that continue to be fought today. As a spirit-led leader, Harriet's holy work leaves an inspiring trail of lessons learned and spiritual practices that resonate for lay leaders, clergy, and social justice warriors.

**At this symbol ▲, please rise in body or spirit.**

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The music begins. Worship emerges. Let our bodies and hearts be present.  
Let us give our attention to the moment.

### **Ingathering**

“America the Beautiful,” by Samuel A. Ward Arr. Mark Hayes ..... Ria Yang

**Welcome and Announcements** ..... Becky Brandt

### **Offertory**

Sharing Our Gifts ..... Artemis House

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**Introit:** “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot,” Spiritual, arr. Paul Johnston” ..... Ria Yang

**Chalice Lighting and Opening Words** ..... Becky Brant

**▲ Hymn: N<sup>o</sup> 116, “I’m on My Way”**

Trad. African American folk, arr. Mary Allen Walden

1. I’m on my way to the freedom land.  
I’m on my way to the freedom land.  
I’m on my way to the freedom land.  
I’m on my way, great God, I’m on my way.
2. I asked my sister, come and go with me . . .
3. I asked my brother, come and go with me . . .
4. If they say no, I’ll go anyhow . . .
5. I’m on my way, and I won’t turn back . . .

**▲ Our Covenant**

Love is the teaching of this church.  
The quest of truth is its daily task,  
And service is its prayer.  
To dwell together in peace,  
To seek knowledge in freedom,  
To serve life in community  
To the end that all souls shall grow in harmony—  
This is our Covenant, with each and with all.

**Meditation and Prayer** ..... Ebony Peace

**Candle Lighting**

Music: “Andare,” Ludovico Einaudi ..... Ria Yang

**Singing Our Children Out (by Kathleen Tracy)**

We hold you in our love as you go, as you go.  
May your heart be at peace as you go.  
To nurture the spark of your precious life,  
We hold you in our love as you go.

**Anthem:** “Go Down Moses,” arr. Ivan Lohvin ..... Ria Yang

**Sermon:** “Black Moses: The Lay Community Ministry of Harriet Tubman”

Ebony Peace

**Musical Reflection**

▲ **Hymn: N<sup>o</sup> 153, “Oh, I Woke Up This Morning”**

African American spiritual

1. Oh, I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom.  
Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom.  
Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom,  
Hallelu, Hallelu, Halleluia.
2. I was walking and talking with my mind . . .
3. I was singing and praying with my mind . . .
4. Oh, I woke up this morning with my mind . . .

▲ **Extinguishing the Chalice (N<sup>o</sup> 456)**

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.

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

“I’ve Got Peace Like a River,” Arr. Mark Hayes ..... Ria Yang

~ **When our worship ends, our service begins.** ~

Next Week: July 14, 2024, 10:00 a.m. In Person and Online

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Ebony C. Peace

“Annie Bizzell Jordan: Faith Formation for Transformation”

“It takes a village,” is a well-known African proverb often applied to raising children, and yet adults also need community to thrive. Faith formation and spiritual development for adults, youth, and children matter more than ever. What do our new values call us to learn? How can we serve the larger world with certainty when our faith tradition continues to shift and change? By reflecting on the religious education ministry of Annie Bizzell Jordan Willis, we will explore leadership and Faith Formation for Transformation.

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**Mount Vernon Unitarian Church**

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