

**Universalist Unitarian Church of Joliet  
Sunday, December 18, 2022 - 10:30 A.M.  
"Winter Rest and Grace"**

**Presenters: The Bittersweet Christmas Band  
(Phil Cooper, Kate Early, Margaret Nelson & Susan Urban)**

*Please feel free to sing at home at any point in the service  
where you feel moved to do so!*

Words to all the songs and readings, including congregational songs,  
are on the pages following this one.

**RINGING OF THE OPENING CHIME**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME**

**INVITATION TO WORSHIP**

**PRELUDE:** "I Wanna Be Sedated," by Joey Ramone

**OPENING RESPONSIVE READING:** "Winter Solstice," by Barbara Knight Katz

**\*OPENING CONGREGATIONAL SONG:** "Voices of Winter," by Anne Hills

**UNISON CHALICE LIGHTING** (see below)

**COVENANT** (see below)

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

**SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS**

A time for joys and sorrows from the personal lives of members and friends.

**TIME FOR ALL AGES:** "Wintersong," by John McCutcheon

**OFFERTORY**

**OFFERTORY MUSIC:** "Cold Frosty Morning," Trad. Arr.

**SONG:** "Long Winter's Night," by Heidi Muller

**HOMILY 1:** Blessed Dormancy

**SONG:** "Northern Rest," by Susan Urban

**HOMILY 2:** Rest and Renewal

**SEASONAL GUIDED MEDITATION** by Judith Laura (adapted)

**\*CLOSING CONGREGATIONAL SONG:** "Turning Toward the Morning," by Gordon Bok

**CLOSING WORDS:** "Winter's Resurgence," by K. McCauley

**UNISON CHALICE EXTINGUISHING** (see below)

**\*Rise in body or in spirit**

# I WANNA BE SEDATED

Joey Ramone

Twenty twenty twenty-four hours to go, I wanna be sedated

Nothing to do, nowhere to go-o, I wanna be sedated

Get me to the airport, put me on a plane

Hurry hurry hurry, before I go insane

I can't control my fingers, I can't control my brain

Oh no oh oh oh oh

Twenty twenty twenty-four hours to go, I wanna be sedated

Nothing to do, nowhere to go-o, I wanna be sedated

Put me in a wheelchair, get me on a plane

Hurry hurry hurry, before I go insane

I can't control my fingers, I can't control my brain

Oh no oh oh oh oh

Twenty twenty twenty-four hours to go, I wanna be sedated

Nothing to do, nowhere to go-o, I wanna be sedated

Put me in a wheelchair, get me to the show

Hurry hurry hurry, before I go loco

I can't control my fingers, I can't control my toes

Oh no oh oh oh oh

Twenty twenty twenty-four hours to go, I wanna be sedated

Nothing to do, nowhere to go-o, I wanna be sedated

Put me in a wheelchair, get me to the show

Hurry hurry hurry, before I go loco

I can't control my fingers, I can't control my toes

Oh no oh oh oh oh

Ba ba baba, baba ba baba, I wanna be sedated

Ba ba baba, baba ba baba, I wanna be sedated

Ba ba baba, baba ba baba, I wanna be sedated

Ba ba baba, baba ba baba, I wanna be sedated

## OPENING RESPONSIVE READING:

"Winter Solstice," by Barbara Knight Katz

LEADER: At the farthest point of long winter darkness, the Solstice moment that lies outside time, the world seems to stop.

CONG: Stillness infuses all living things before we wheel again toward the light.

LEADER: Look into the darkness where night holds a mirror reflecting the shape of our deepest ground.

CONG: See, layered in shadows, the source of our longing, before the sun lingers and swallows the night.

## VOICES OF WINTER

Anne Hills

Listen to voices of winter, bright as the snow,

Clear as the wind, warm as the fire within.

Longest of nights, darkest of days,

We come singing winter's praise.

Walk with the voices of winter, hear how your tread

Shatters the ground, stirring no other sound.

Yet through the chill, sweet songs of old,

And memories rich as gold.

Speak with the voices of winter, snowy owl's flight,

Mother wolf's cry, deep as the winter sky

We offer rest, virgin white nest

Endless and ever blessed

Blessed the north, blessed the south,

Blessed the east, blessed the west, blest

## UNISON CHALICE LIGHTING:

We light this flame as a symbol of the new life enlightening our way,

As a symbol of the warmth in every human heart.

Let the lighting of this flame rekindle in us the inner light of hope,

Of peace, of love; may we share that light with all people.

## COVENANT:

Love is the doctrine of this church.

The quest of truth is its sacrament, and service is its prayer.

To dwell together in peace, to seek knowledge in freedom,

To serve humanity in fellowship,

To the end that all souls shall grow into harmony with the Divine,

Thus do we covenant with each other and with God.

## WINTERSONG

John McCutcheon

Geese are flying in a ragged "V"  
Honking across the sky  
The pine trees rustle their song to me  
As the geese and the night go by  
    The owls that sweep past the swamp's dark edge  
    Hoot as they fly along  
    They're singing their song of the winter  
    They're singing their wintersong  
The old barn creaks as we pitch the hay  
To the horses who neigh down below  
Bright flames crackle in a burning field  
Helping next summer's crop to grow  
    The garden has given her final gift  
    The very last pumpkin is gone  
    They're singing their song of the winter  
    They're singing their wintersong

BRIDGE:       All for a reason, we each have a season  
                  We rise and we lay ourselves down  
                  Changing and turning, planting and learning  
                  Til, like the sun, we each come around

The trees stand traced against the sky  
Their arms outstretched and bare  
The squirrels asleep within their nests  
Find peace and comfort there  
    In months ahead the spring will find  
    The world renewed and strong  
    Now we're singing our song of the winter  
    We're singing our wintersong  
    Singing our song of the winter  
    Singing our wintersong

## LONG WINTER'S NIGHT

Heidi Muller

The sun is setting on the year, it's time to pack away  
Garden tools and summer jewels and love that didn't stay  
Count your blessings, one and all and bid the year adieu  
Winter's waiting at the door, it's best you let him through

### CHORUS:

So build a fire, catch a spark, light a candle in the dark

Settle in and rest awhile on this long winter's night

Gather all your efforts in you scattered on the tide  
However they return to you with your arms open wide  
Alder, oak and sycamore are stripped down to the skin  
And reaching up with empty arms they welcome back the wind

### CHORUS

When the ridges and the mountain peaks take on a bluish glow  
That rises up to kiss the moon reflected on the snow  
Then comes the time of year again to watch your candles burn  
And let the earth regenerate until the light returns

### CHORUS 2X

## NORTHERN REST

S.J Urban

When December comes to the Northland, and snow is falling  
Over the woods and the lakes,  
All the trees stand bare, and the pines show an icy mantle,  
Bears take their long winter break.

Then hotels shut down, and the shops and the restaurants all

Close for the respite they've earned,

And we Northern folk settle in for the quiet time, to

Rest 'til the Spring shall return.

When the longest night of the year is approaching, and  
The Northern Wind wails o'er the land,  
That's the time for books, sitting warm by the fireside, a  
Hot mug of cider in hand.

Then we trim a tree full of bright lights and ornaments, and

Friends come to share what they've learned,

And we Northern folk settle in for the quiet time, to

Rest 'til the Spring shall return.

## TURNING TOWARD THE MORNING

Gordon Bok

When the deer has bedded down and the bear has gone to ground,  
And the northern goose has wandered off to warmer bay and sound,  
It's so easy in the cold to feel the darkness of the year  
And the heart is growing lonely for the morning

### CHORUS:

Oh, my Joanie, don't you know that the stars are swinging slow,  
And the seas are rolling easy as they did so long ago?  
If I had a thing to give you, I would tell you one more time  
That the world is always turning toward the morning.

When October's growing thin and November's coming home;  
You'll be thinking of the season and the sad things that you've known,  
And you hear that old wind walking, hear him singing high and thin,  
You could swear he's out there singing of your sorrow.

### CHORUS

When the darkness falls around you and the Northwind comes to blow,  
And you hear him call you name out as he walks the brittle snow:  
That old wind don't mean you trouble, he don't care or even know,  
He's just walking down the darkness toward the morning.

### CHORUS

It's a pity we don't know what the little flowers know.  
They can't face the cold November, they can't take the wind and snow:  
They put their glories all behind them, bow their heads and let it go,  
But you know they'll be there shining in the morning.

### CHORUS

Now, my Joanie, don't you know that the days are rolling slow,  
And the winter's walking easy, as he did so long ago?  
And, if that wind should come and ask you, "Why's my Joanie weeping so?"  
Won't you tell him that you're weeping for the morning?

### CHORUS

# UNISON CHALICE EXTINGUISHING

Carry the Flame of Peace and Love Until We Meet Again

WINTERGRACE

Jean Ritchie

This is the time so well we love, the time of all the year;

When winter calls with chilling breath for fireside and good cheer.

A time for creatures all to stand and feel the season turn;

To watch the stars for secret signs, and life's true lessons learn.

CHORUS:

For the time when the corn is all into the barn,

The old cow's breath's a frosty wine,

And the morn along the fallow field doth silver shine.

And when cold morning's radiant star shines over hill and plain

We know anew that little babe is born to us again.

And human, beast and bird in tree, each one in our own place;

We bow our hearts and give our thanks for winter rest and grace.

CHORUS