

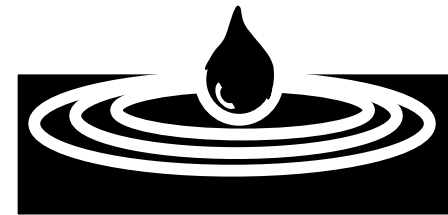
**“Bonus” Reading**

**Excerpts From “One and Universal”  
by Robert T. Wesson**

Let us dare to believe in the future;  
A future when people shall have learned to live by freedom  
And not by compulsion  
By love and not by fear,  
By adventure and not by jealously guarded security.

They shall live in peace and shared respect  
And "none shall make them afraid."  
They shall be continuously hungry for knowledge,  
And none shall say it is forbidden them;  
They shall live in trust, and none shall do them hurt.  
They shall explore without fear of what they may find,  
And the difficulties they meet shall be the stepping-stones  
upward.

This could be the future of humanity if we dare:  
The people seek to master themselves instead of others,  
And rejoice in the fruits of disciplines  
They choose for themselves.



**SMALL GROUP MINISTRY**  
FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF  
SAN JOSE

## **Wage Peace**

“I like to believe that people in the long run are going to do more to promote peace than our governments.”  
-- Dwight D. Eisenhower

“A Native American grandfather tells his young grandson he has two wolves inside of him struggling with each other. The first is the wolf of peace, love, and kindness. The other wolf is fear, greed, and hatred. ‘Which wolf will win, grandfather?’ asks the young boy. ‘Whichever one I feed,’ is the reply.”  
-- Swami Beyondananda, “Swami’s 2003 State of the Universe Address”

“I don’t believe my brother and all those other beautiful spirits made the supreme sacrifice so we can go on with business as usual. We cannot harm another without harming ourselves, and that is why the entire world awaits our response. Let our collective goal be justice for all.”  
-- Debbie Corcoran, who lost her brother on Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>, [www.peacefultomorrow.org](http://www.peacefultomorrow.org)

“Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed.”  
-- Dwight D. Eisenhower

**Preliminaries** Announcements, leader for opening reading, putting your pledges in the common bowl.

**Opening/  
Responsive Reading**  
-- Hymnal # 577,  
"It is Possible to Live  
in Peace," Mohandas  
K. Gandhi

If someone with courage and vision  
can rise to lead in nonviolent action,  
the winter of despair can, in the twinkling  
of an eye, be turned into the summer of hope.

*It is possible to live in peace.*

Nonviolence is not a garment to put on and  
off at will. Its seat is in the heart, and it must be  
an inseparable part of our being.

*It is possible to live in peace.*

If a single person achieves the highest kind of love  
It will be sufficient to neutralize the hate of millions.

*It is possible to live in peace.*

If we are to reach real peace in this world, and if we are  
To carry on a real war against war, we shall have to  
Begin with the children.

*It is possible to live in peace.*

The future depends on what we do in the present.

*It is possible to live in peace.*

**Check-in** Share one joy and one sorrow from the past week.

**Reading  
Round-the-Circle**  
-- Wage Peace, by  
Judy Hill, 2001

Wage Peace with your breath.  
Breathe in firemen and rubble.  
Breathe out whole buildings and flocks of red-wing blackbirds.

Breathe in terrorists  
Breathe out sleeping children and fresh mown fields.

Breathe in confusion and breathe out maple trees.  
Breathe in the fallen and breathe out life long relationships intact.

Wage peace with our listening: hearing sirens, pray loud.  
Remember your tools: flower seeds, clothing pins, clean rivers.

Make soup.  
Play music; learn the word "thank you" in 3 languages.

Learn to knit: make a hat.  
Think of chaos as dancing raspberries.

Imagine grief at the outbreak of beauty or gesture of fish.  
Swim for the other side.

Wage peace.  
Never has the word seemed so fresh and precious.

Have a cup of tea and rejoice.  
Act as if armistice has already arrived.

Don't wait another minute.  
**ALL:** Celebrate today!

**Sitting in Silence**

**Sharing/ Deep  
Listening**

**Pledge Ritual**

Going 'round the circle, take turns selecting a pledge paper  
and reading the pledge aloud to the group.

**Singing**

-- Hymnal #155,  
"Circle 'Round for  
Freedom"

Can be sung two or three times, if desired.

Circle 'round for freedom, circle 'round for peace  
for all of us imprisoned, circle for release,  
Circle for the planet, circle for each soul,  
for the children of our children, keep the planet whole.

**Closing/  
Extinguishing the  
Chalice**

-- Hymnal #505,  
Thich Nhat Hanh

Link arms and read in unison:

Let us be at peace with our bodies and our minds.

Let us return to ourselves and become wholly ourselves.

Let us be aware of the source of being, common to us all  
and to all living things.

Evoking the presence of the Great Compassion, let us fill  
our hearts with our own compassion--

Toward ourselves and towards all living beings.

Let us pray that we ourselves cease to be the cause of  
suffering to each other.

With humility, with awareness of the existence of life, and  
of the sufferings that are going on around us,

Let us practice the establishment of peace in our hearts and  
on earth.

**Amen.**