



## **SMALL GROUP MINISTRY**

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH  
OF SAN JOSE

### **The Great Turning** *How Do We Live in the World?*

For peoples, generally, their story of the universe and the human role in the universe is their primary source of intelligibility and value. ... The deepest crises experienced by any society are those moments of change when the story becomes inadequate for meeting the survival demands of a present situation.

– *Thomas Berry, in Dream of the Earth*

<b>Preliminaries</b>	Announce upcoming church events; get volunteers to light the chalice and read the opening words.	<b>Sharing/ Deep Listening</b>	Deeply listening, without response or thought of response at this time, is the gift we give and receive as we share our thoughts on the preparation for this session.
<b>Centering Practice</b>	See Leader Notes.	<b>Discussion</b>	This is a time to supportively respond to something another person said or to relate additional thoughts that may have occurred as others shared.
<b>Opening / Chalice Lighting</b> - David C. Korten	A new human era is in gestation. The choices we humans make over the next few decades will determine whether the birthing is successful. To paraphrase civil rights activist Miles Horton, "We make our road by walking."	<b>Singing</b> - Hymnal #318 (to the tune of "Finlandia")	We would be one as now we join in singing Our hymn of love to pledge ourselves anew To that high cause of greater understanding Of who we are, and what in us is true. We would be one in living for each other To show to all a new community.
<b>Check-in</b>	Take a minute or two to share briefly the high and low points in your life since we last met.		We would be one in building for tomorrow A nobler world than we have known today. We would be one in searchig for that meaning Which binds our hearts and points us on our way. As one, we pledge ourselves to greater service, With love and justice, strive to make us free.
<b>Read Round the Circle</b> - based on the book, The Great Turning by David C. Korten	Go around the circle with each person reading one line.  In Earth Community — <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Life is supportive and cooperative.</li> <li>• Humans have many possibilities.</li> <li>• People maintain order through partnership.</li> <li>• Humans cooperate and live.</li> <li>• There is a love of life.</li> <li>• The rights of all are defended.</li> <li>• There is gender balance in all areas of life.</li> </ul>	<b>Extinguishing the Chalice</b> - Rolfe Gerhardt, 1997 UUMA Worship Materials Collection; altered	Join hands or link arms and read aloud together:  We extinguish this flame, a mere wisp of matter in process, almost as insubstantial as the thought of it.  Yet our civilization has harnessed the power of such a flame to drive and shape a new world.
<b>Sitting in Silence</b>			So may it be with the power of our thoughts, that in truth and love they may drive and shape a new world.