



SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH
OF SAN JOSE

Unwise Purchases

Empty yourself and let the universe fill you
- Tea bag saying from Yogi tea company

Preliminaries	Announce upcoming church events; get volunteers to light the chalice and read the opening words.
Centering Practice	See Leader Notes.
Opening / Chalice Lighting <i>- Psalm 133</i>	How rare it is, how lovely, this fellowship of those who meet together.
Check-in	Take a minute or two to share briefly the high and low points in your life since we last met.
Reading	<i>Ask one person to read the poem, "Unwise Purchases"</i>
Sitting in Silence	
Sharing/Deep Listening	<i>Please respond to the following question</i> What person do your possessions describe?
Read-Round-the Circle	<i>Read the poem again, this time reading round the circle</i>
Sharing/ Deep Listening	<i>Please repond to the following question:</i> How do your things, your expectations, your pictures of yourself keep you from enjoying the moment that you are in?
Discussion	<i>This is a time to supportively respond to something another person said or to relate additional thoughts that may have occurred as others shared.</i>

Singing
- Hymnal #16

'Tis a gift to be simple, 'tis a gift to be free,
'tis a gift to come down where we ought to be,
and when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'twill be in the valley of love and delight.

When true simplicity is gained,
to bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed.
To turn, turn will be our delight,
'till by turning, turning we come 'round right.

Extinguishing the Chalice
- Hymnal #419
attributed to
Kalidasa

Join hands or link arms and read aloud together:
Look to this day!

For it is life, the very life of life.
In its brief course lie all the verities
And realities of your existence:

The bliss of growth
The glory of action,
The splendor of beauty;

For yesterday is but a dream,
And tomorrow is only a vision;
But today, well-lived, makes every yesterday
A dream of happiness
And every tomorrow a vision of hope.
Look well, therefore, to this day.

