

Unitarian Universalist Society of Martha's Vineyard

May 25, 2025



"The Ecospirituality of Pope Francis"

With

Dr. Ursula Goodenough

"We are profoundly joined to everything that is. Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or as a mere setting in which we live. We are part of nature, included in it and thus in constant interaction with it, joined in a splendid universal communion." -Pope Francis

Ring the Bell

Welcome and Community Connection

Liz Loucks

Prelude

Jeremy Berlin

Opening Words #436 Congregation Join in Responsive Reading

Liz Loucks

Chalice Lighting *For the Web of Life* by Paul Sprecher

Liz Loucks

Hymn #203 *All Creatures of the Earth and Sky*

Candles of Joy and Concern

Liz Loucks

Hymn Response #123 *Spirit of Life* (while seated)

Prayer

Ursula Goodenough

The Mother Nature's Prayer

Our Mother, who art within us,

Hallowed be thy name.

Thy ways evolve,

Thy will calls forth

This earth that is now our heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

And fill us with tenderness

As we repair our trespasses.

And lead us forth into communion

And deliver us from dominion,

For thine is our wellspring

And our grounding and our glory

Forever and ever, amen.

— Ursula Goodenough

Offering
Offertory

Liz Loucks
Jeremy Berlin

Soloist Performance *O Viridissima Virga*, Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179),
sung by Jessica Goodenough Sanseverino

1. O viridissima virga,
ave, que in ventoso flabro sciscitationis
sanctorum prodisti.
2. Cum venit tempus quod tu floruisti in
ramis tuis,
ave, ave fuit tibi, quia calor solis in te sudavit
sicut odor balsami.
3. Nam in te floruit
pulcher flos qui odorem dedit
omnibus aromatibus que arida erant.
4. Et illa apparuerunt omnia in viriditate
plena.
5. Unde celi dederunt rorem super gramen
et omnis terra leta facta est,
quoniam viscera ipsius frumentum
protulerunt et quoniam volucres celi nidos
in ipsa habuerunt.
6. Deinde facta est esca hominibus
et gaudium magnum epulantium.
Unde, o suavis Virgo, in te non deficit ullum
gaudium.
7. Hec omnia Eva contempsit.
8. Nunc autem laus sit Altissimo.

1. O branch of freshest green,
O hail! Within the windy gusts of saints
upon a quest you swayed and sprouted
forth.
2. When it was time, you blossomed in your
boughs—
“Hail, hail!” you heard, for in you seeped the
sunlight’s warmth like balsam’s sweet
perfume.
3. For in you bloomed so beautiful a flow’r,
whose fragrance wakened all the spices from
their dried-out stupor.
4. They all appeared in full viridity.
5. Then rained the heavens dew upon the
grass and all the earth was cheered,
for from her womb she brought forth fruit
and for the birds up in the sky
have nests in her.
6. Then was prepared that food for
humankind, the greatest joy of feasts!
O Virgin sweet, in you can ne’er fail any joy.
7. All this Eve chose to scorn.
8. But now, let praise ring forth unto the
Highest!

Responsive Reading #536 *Morning Poem*

Ursula Goodenough

Sermon/Message *The Ecospirituality of Pope Francis*

Ursula Goodenough

Note: A sermon I offered at UUSMV in 2017 on the Laudate Si of Pope Francis can be uploaded
here: <https://shorturl.at/AIdqu>

Closing Hymn #1064 *Blue Boat Home*

Benediction/Blessing

Ursula Goodenough

Thank you to our volunteers, Bill Bridwell, Doris Troy and Jenifer Parkinson for service support and Joni Merry providing refreshments and Nancy and Stephen Cofer-Shabica for visual arts/flowers.

Worship Committee (WC)

The members of the Worship Committee (WC) are always open to hearing your thoughts, concerns, and ideas for the congregation. Please don't hesitate to reach out to any of the following committee members:

Sheila Hanley: sheilahanley4@gmail.com,

Mary Jane Aldrich-Moodie: maryjaneam@gmail.com,

Liz Loucks: botanicliz@gmail.com,

Linda Moffat: lindacmoffat@gmail.com,

Bill Bridwell: sbilbo92@yahoo.com

They look forward to hearing from you and working together to strengthen our community!

Pastoral Coverage and Care

Rev. Vicki Hanjian will provide pastoral care. She can be reached at 508-696-8225 or av.hanjian@verizon.net

Need Someone to Listen?

In addition to pastoral care being available from Rev. Vicky, your Lay Ministers (Bill Bridwell, Jan Casey, Kevin Longval) are available to lend support to anyone in our USMV community in their time of need by being available to listen and offer comfort.

You can reach them individually by calling: Jan Casey (508-942-3643),

Bill Bridwell (774-563-8542), Kevin Longval (781-249-4712) or reach out to

uu.society.mv@gmail.com

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Share the Plate – June 8th

The “Share the Plate” committee is pleased to announce that our next collection will take place on **June 8th**. This month’s recipient is **The Trevor Project**, the nation’s largest organization dedicated to suicide prevention and mental health support for LGBTQ+ youth ages 13 to 24. Founded in 1998, [The Trevor Project](https://www.thetrevorproject.org/) works to affirm the value of every young person, sending a powerful message that they are worthy of love, support, and pride in who they are.

