



Spiritual Legacies



Rabbi Lori Shaller and
Kohenet Batya Diamond

Unitarian Universalist Society of Martha's Vineyard

January 4, 2026



Prelude: "Gam Ki Eylech," (Psalm 23, verse 4) music and lyrics
by Batya Diamond

Welcome and Announcements: Linda Moffat

Opening Words: "When Death Comes" by Mary Oliver

Chalice Lighting

A Meditation on Your Spiritual Legacy

Music: "Remember Me Here" by Batya Diamond and Andy
Gundell <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fBbUusuKs5g>

on the dusty old dirt road
that leads down to the dunes
lying on the beach for hours summer afternoons
where the osprey flew and our children grew and time just dis-
appeared remember me here
In the roar of the ocean
in the rhythm of the tide
in the rush of the water
oh, I'm so alive
where we can see forever and have no fear
remember me here
I've seen the landscape change
sand shifting all around

it feels so warm with you holding me right now, right now
when the time has come and I've breathed my last
when all of our todays are in the past
look across the dunes you'll know I'm near
remember me here

Candles of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Spiritual Legacies Part 1: Rabbi Lori Shaller

Offering

Music: "Gam Ki Eylech," music and lyrics by Batya Diamond

Gam ki eylech b'gay tzalmavet, lo ira ra (x2)
Lo though I walk through the valley, no I shall not fear. (x2)

Spiritual Legacies Part 2: Rabbi Lori Shaller and Congregation

Closing Words/Benediction

Closing Music: "Cat's in the Cradle" by Harry Chapin

My child arrived just the other day
He came to the world in the usual way
But there were planes to catch and bills to pay
He learned to walk while I was away
And he was talking 'fore I knew it and as he grew
He'd say, "I'm gonna be like you, dad
You know, I'm gonna be like you"

Chorus: And the cat's in the cradle and the silver spoon
Little boy blue and the man in the moon

"When you coming home, dad?" "I don't know when
We'll get together then, you know we'll have a good time
then"

My son turned ten just the other day
He said, "Thanks for the ball, dad, come on, let's play
Can you teach me to throw?" I said, "Not today
I got a lot to do" he said, "That's okay"
And he walked away but his smile never dimmed
Said, "I'm gonna be like him, yeah
You know, I'm gonna be like him"

Chorus

Well, he came from college just the other day
So much like a man I just had to say
"Son, I'm proud of you, can you sit for a while?"
He shook his head and he said with a smile
"What I'd really like, dad, is to borrow the car keys
See you later, can I have them please?"

Chorus

I've long since retired and my sons moved away
I called him up just the other day

I said, "I'd like to see you if you don't mind"
He said, "I'd love to, dad, if I could find the time"
"You see, my new job's a hassle and the kids got the flu
But it's sure nice talking to you, dad
It's been sure nice talking to you"

And as I hung up the phone, it occurred to me
He'd grown up just like me
My boy was just like me

Chorus

Websites to visit to learn more about writing your spiritual will:

<https://www.sinaichapel.org/tools-resources/writing-ethical-will.aspx>

<https://www.funeralguide.co.uk/blog/spiritual-will>

<https://jewishsacredaging.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Expanded-A-Time-To-Prepare-Jewish-Sacred-Aging.pdf>

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For pastoral care, please contact Reverend Vicky Hanjian at 508-696-8225.