

Order of Worship: Cantata Sunday

THE WOUND IN THE WATER [2015]

Music by Kim André Arnesen (b. 1980), Poetry by Euan Tait

Susan K. Navien, soprano; Jeffrey Mead, piano; Beth Welty, violin; Stacey Alden, violin;
Edward Wu, violin; Rebecca Katsenes, violin; Noralee Walker, viola; Rebecca Strauss, viola;
Sandi-Jo Malmon, cello; Johann Soultis, cello; Caroline Doane, double bass

Prelude

The Wound in the Water: The Cry of the Sea

Welcome

Rev. Judy Arnold

Moment of Silence

The Call to Worship

Ben Pulaski

One: The Prophet Isaiah writes “from new moon to new moon and from sabbath to sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, says the Lord.” And so another sabbath dawns today and a new moon arises Thursday and as the earth spins and the seasons change we faithful return here to this sanctuary week after week and month after month to worship the Lord our God.

All: **May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to God, our sheltering rock and redeemer.**

*Opening Hymn

Immortal, Invisible (vv. 1-3) red-covered Pilgrim Hymnal #7
(During the opening hymn, we invite children in pre-k through 5th grade to follow their teachers to their classrooms for Stepping Stones.)

*Gathering Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

Kathleen Zagata

(based upon a prayer by the Anglican Church in New Zealand)

Loving, Creator God, watch over us this day and keep us and all your children in the light of your presence. May our praise continually blend with the song of all creation and lift us above our daily trifles - when we are caught and distracted by unnecessary things - until eventually in moments of pure grace we come to those eternal joys which you promise in your love. Hear us as we pray in the words of Jesus Christ:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever, amen.

The Wound in the Water: Part 1: The Cry of the Sea

Mammon in the Mind’s Ocean
I Call to You
Interlude 1: Spirit, Help Us

Scripture

Matthew 6:19-24

Liturgist: Lucy Sanders
NT pg.6, LP NT pg.5

Reflection

“On Desire”

Rev. Will Burhans

Quiet Time for Reflection

The Wound in the Water: Part 2: The Cries of Exile

The Shadow of the Boat
The Song of Love
Interlude 2: Spirit, Help Me

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Judy Arnold

The Wound in the Water: Part 3: The Heart of the Singer

The Singer’s Dance
Sea-singer

Benediction

Rev. Will Burhans and Rev. Judy Arnold

One: Nothing worth doing is completed in our lifetime;

All: Therefore we must be saved by hope.

One: Nothing true or beautiful makes complete sense in any immediate context of history;

All: Therefore we must be saved by faith.

One: Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone;

All: Therefore, we are saved by love.

Epilogue (“Spirit, the cry has erupted”)

Instead of our usual passing of the plate for the Offering this morning, we would invite you to come forward to the altar area after the service has concluded to contribute to the work of our church, if you feel moved to do so.

Today’s offering of *The Wound in the Water* has been funded by donations made to the music program in memory of John Mutterperl, as well as by other generous Anonymous donors. We thank you.

Today's Worship Service

Sanctuary Flowers

Today's Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of deceased friends and members of this congregation.

Meet Our Church

First Congregational Church in Winchester, UCC, *An Open and Affirming Congregation*

21 Church Street, Winchester, MA 01890 781-729-9180

www.fcc-winchester.org

We are a Christ-centered, nurturing community: growing in faith, serving in love, welcoming all with joy.

The Congregation, Ministers To The World

Rev. William Burhans, Lead Pastor

Rev. Ms. Judith B. Arnold, Associate Pastor

Ms. Kathleen Zagata, RN, MS, CS, Minister of Congregational Health & Wellness

Ms. Jane Ring Frank, Minister of Music & Worship Arts

Mr. Ben Pulaski, Minister of Faith Formation: Children & Youth

Ms. Sarah Marino, Office Manager

Mr. Jeffrey Mead, Organist

Mr. Tyler Campbell, Sexton

The Rev. Dr. Kenneth Orth, Pastoral Counselor (Affiliate)

May 21, 2017

Sixth Sunday of Easter

10:00 Worship Service

Welcome!

We are happy you have joined us today for worship. We hope that in the coming hour of quiet, song, prayer, sacred scripture, and communal gathering, you will awaken more fully to God's presence in your life and the world around us.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located down the stairs as you first enter the front doors of the church.

Accessibility

Listening devices are available in the back of the sanctuary for the hearing impaired. An after-worship coffee hour is held in Chidley Hall on the bottom floor of the church building. An elevator is located out the doors to the right of the front chancel area and down the hall. Please ask a greeter if you need assistance.

Childcare

Children are always welcome in the sanctuary! We appreciate the sounds of little ones among us. If you'd prefer, there is a professionally staffed nursery on the floor beneath the sanctuary. Ask a greeter if you need help finding it.

Family Room

There is also a comfortable room with sofas, chairs, carpet and an audio link to the service for when you need more room to attend to your family. It is located just outside the doors to the right of the front chancel area.

Children (Stepping Stones) and Youth Church School

Classes for children and youth in pre-k through 12th grade are taught during worship. Families begin the worship service together in the sanctuary. Children are then invited to join us at the front (if they are comfortable) for the Time for the Young. Afterwards, the children and youth are led to their classrooms by their teachers.

Get connected!

Please tell us about yourself and/or request a prayer by filling out a Welcome/Prayer Request Card found in each pew and place it in the offering plate when it passes. We look forward to getting to know you at Coffee Hour, held downstairs immediately following the service. You can also learn more about our community through our website and Facebook page:

www.fcc-winchester.org

[facebook.com/fccwucc](https://www.facebook.com/fccwucc)

Text FCCW to 22828 to join our email list

People for Whom We Are Praying ...

<u>Names</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Dory Cole Ogden, niece of Stephen W. Cole	For healing
Joyce Mills	For strength and healing
The family of Bradley Ross	In their grief
Gary Hogg, Natalie Roche's brother	For comfort and healing
Janice Richardson Snowden	Strength, comfort, & healing
Bob McIndoe	For strength & healing
Daniel Lillie, great-nephew of Mike Redding	For healing
Bob Shirley	For strength and healing
Jessica Brand	For healing

Please let the Deacons or Ministry Team know if you have someone to add or remove from this list.

Spring Fellowship Tea Wednesday, May 31st from 2 pm -4 pm in the Palmer Room.

Hosted by Health Ministry for our church Elders, their families and friends. The Sounds of Grace will provide music as we enjoy conversation over tea. RSVP: 781 729-9180, ext 106. Rides are available on request by Sunday, May 28th.

Summer Preachers Sought

A highlight of our summer worship tradition is the preaching. Members of our congregation share faith experiences and their interpretation of scripture with us. This makes worship an opportunity for church members to get to know each other better and to deepen our faith by hearing about the struggles and triumphs of those who share the pews throughout the rest of the year. These preaching spots are open to anyone in the congregation. Without exception, these sermons have been received with appreciation and encouragement. Perhaps you have a message to share. If you do, call or talk with Judy.

Who Will Represent Us?

The Christian Church unfortunately continues to be an institution in many places around our country and world that fosters misunderstanding and mistreatment of our LGBTQ brothers and sisters, interpreting God's word in scripture as unequivocally condemning homosexuality. 16 years ago when the First Congregational Church in Winchester voted to be an Open and Affirming Congregation we made it unequivocally clear that we do not accept this perspective as true to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and instead we "welcome all people - people of all races and ages, mental and physical abilities, gender or sexual orientation, from different backgrounds of economic class, ethnicity, and religious tradition - to join us in worship and to participate in the full life and ministry of our church." This is why for many years now we have had members of our church walk in the Gay Pride Parade in Boston, to make our stance public and clear. Given where many other churches land on this issue, it's particularly important that we show up! So please consider representing our church on Saturday, June 10 and join Rev. Will, Anne Hoenicke, Peter Woolford, Kaye and David Nash and others as we walk in solidarity with members of the LGBTQ community through the streets of Boston. We will attend the Pride Interfaith Service at 10 am at Old South Church and then walk in the parade at 12.

For those of you who missed our final Tuesdays with Jesus,

Deirdre Giblin offered a beautiful talk on her faith and her work with refugees. While we are not posting it onto the website, her talk is available upon request. Please email Sarah in the office for a link. Bruce and Linda Alexander also collected names at the end of the talk of those in our church who are interested in exploring further what our church might do to support immigrants and refugees. Please let them know if you too are interested.

CANTATA SUNDAY

May 21, 2017

10:00 a.m. WORSHIP

"Spirit, the cry has erupted and now falls away
into the silence of the seeking deaths
In the warm, bright waters.
Love, have mercy.
Love, say we knew you.
Love, that you knew us." (Euan Tait)

THE WOUND IN THE WATER [2015], Music by Kim André Arnesen (b. 1980), Poetry by Euan Tait
Scored for Chorus, Soprano Soloist, String Orchestra and Piano

Mammon, noun: material wealth or possessions especially as having a debasing influence, as in "you cannot serve God and *mammon*" — Matthew 6:24

This morning's cantata, *The Wound in the Water*, develops the theme of Mammon, the traditional symbol of the love of greed and money. This new cantata explores this complex theme by singing of our exile and the wounding of our world, of the beauty of the earth, and of the struggle of profoundly divided humanity towards a shared song. Mammon is a force that divides us, spiritually from a loving God, internally from ourselves and from our capacity to love, and communally from one another. Our relationships with ourselves, others, and a vividly living planet, slowly erode and collapse – and we come to live as homeless exiles in this threefold sense. *The Wound in the Water* recognizes a long journey towards healing and offers a fragile and tender attempt at shared song and reconciliation.

You have probably not heard of composer Kim André Arnesen. He is a young Norwegian musician, and finds himself heir to a long line of prolific and important composers including Arvo Pärt, Morten Lauridsen, and Ola Gjeilo. He was educated at the Music Conservatory in Trondheim. As a composer he had his first performance in 1999 with the Nidaros Cathedral Boys' Choir. Since then he has written music that has been performed by choirs all over the world. His music is anything but dissonant and oblique; it is lush, romantic, tonal and musically accessible.

Arnesen has chosen a text by Euan Tait, of Welsh-Scottish heritage, born in Berlin in the late 1960s to a Scottish soldier and a Nairobi-born book editor and teacher. An experienced trainer, retreat leader and librettist, Tait leads Quiet Days and Praying with Music retreats for parishes and other groups in the United Kingdom. He is currently a Lecturer in English and Creative Writing in Swindon. Tait says, "I believe passionately in getting to know the other; tolerance is not enough; an active respect means we engage and learn."

We thank you for joining us this morning for this **very special** musical and spiritual offering. With the support and leadership of Susan Navien, soprano soloist, and Jeffrey Mead, pianist, the choir has worked tirelessly to bring this enduringly beautiful and prayerful piece to life. As always, the texts are available for prayer and reflection.

In faith,
Jane Ring Frank, Minister of Music and Worship Arts

THE WOUND IN THE WATER
LIBRETTO: EUAN TAIT, August, 2015

PART 1: THE CRY OF THE SEA

Mammon in the Mind's Ocean
In the depths of our human ocean
under the immense pressure
of the mind's suppressing waters,
desire, our own private Mammon,
what we think we want, stirs in us,
the broken creature of our lives roars,
and with its bellow tears the waters
and leaves them wounded, poisoned.

I Call to You

I call to you, like a creature
caught in a nylon net,
and you call back: "What
is your name, what
is my name?" All night,
we sing to each other
as creatures of our minds,
we ululate, weep, whisper
across miles of damaged ocean
this mourning call, that you too,
all of you, know well: it sounds
with the agonised cry
of our wounded seas,
while our minds reel
with broken desire.

O sweet sister sea,
O damaged one,
O harm in ourselves,
We, children of Mammon.

Interlude 1: Spirit, Help Us

Spirit, help us to hear
their cries like a coming storm
surging across the waters,
from boats packed with fear.

PART 2: THE CRIES OF EXILE

The Shadow of the Boat
The shadow of the boat
though the bright beauty
of the exiles' clear water.
The body of the boat
and the voices streaming,
terrified, into the sea.

The quiet harbour,
the vacated houses,
and the trail of voices
evaporating, who cried
to the boat, carry me,
bear me like a child,
reborn, to another shore.

The Song of Love

I return again to the burning sea,
again to the sea alive with sunlight,
the fire water teeming
with the voices that travel to me
light-fast through the deep,
drowning voices,
voices seeking home.
Victims of mammon,
victims of my desire
that erupts as all our wars,
wars that send our hearts,
our whole being,
into permanent exile.
Here is the seashore
I once knew, now
unknown to me:
the air howls
with the cries of the estranged:
what is the sea? What now
are the seasons?
Where will we go
to be at home
as the ground melts
under our feet?
Where will we go
to heal our broken song?
Where be at home
except in a shattered music?

Interlude 2: Spirit, Help Me

Spirit, help me to see
their broken stories
behind their eyes: a chair
overturned, the faint smear
of a last shared meal
in their abandoned room.

PART 3: THE HEART OF THE SINGER

The Singer's Dance
The leaves have fallen away, and dance
to the wind-song in the garden,

and through new naked trees, we see
the two great rivers in their beauty

and restless power. The driven clouds
burn like comets in our aerial ocean,

the air is alight with the cries of birds
flocking southwards like the music

once exiled from the heart, yet our hearts
erupt and here, on this wind-driven hill

we are drawn to the centre of the dance,
and we know we are helplessly singing,

and seeking whatever in us we cannot stop,
the song ceaseless, leaping, our utter yes.

Sea-singer

It is not you alone, seasinger,
in the end, your voice
fizzing
into the oncoming waves,

but it is the grain of your
voice
like a choral thread in the
rock
linking you song to song,

and we are gathering, all of
us,
choir, at the Tromsø* shore:
Arctic church,* Hovig's spine,*
bucks

like a horse-herd of
mountains,
and among us all, a singing
laughter
erupts like an unbroken sea.

*The text refers to the Arctic Cathedral by the
architect Jan Inge Hovig in Tromsø, a city in the
northern part of Norway

Epilogue

Spirit, the cry has erupted
and now falls away
into the silence
of the seeking deaths
in the warm, bright waters.
Love, have mercy.
Love, say we knew you.
Love, that you knew us.