

River of Grass UU Congregation

June 2, 2024 – 10:30 AM

Loosen, Baby: Flowers for Ferdinand ... and You Annual Flower Ceremony

*All the other little bulls would run and jump
and butt their heads together, but not Ferdinand.
He like to sit just quietly and smell the flowers.*

- Munro Leaf

One hundred and one years ago in June 1923, amidst a world of despair and destruction, the Rev Norbert Čapek held the first Flower Ceremony with his congregation in Prague, Czechoslovakia to celebrate beauty and joy in the power of loving community.

Over eighty years ago, with World War 2 brewing, the author Munro Leaf gave us the story of Ferdinand, a peace-loving little bull who didn't want to fight, but smell the flowers.

How might these two threads be woven together in our own time?

This Sunday we, too, gather in beauty, love, and delight with our own annual Flower Ceremony — while we welcome new members and carry on our traditions of hope and resilience in our own troubled world.

Folks joining us on zoom or facebook, be sure to bring a flower into your screen for the celebration!

Come as you are at 10:30 this Sunday morning – either in-person at our new location in Davie (info below) or virtually on Zoom and Facebook Live. Come a bit before and we can chat prior to the service. We'll be watching for you!

In person at:

- **11850 W State Road 84, Suite A9, Davie, FL 33325** ([Click for Directions](#))
- Service will begin at **10:30 AM**
- Childcare will be provided.

Use the Zoom link below to gather with us virtually in Zoom. Catch us on Facebook live on our [Facebook page](#).

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/961564350?pwd=cFpKY2RtRk4wVE5NbDczdTU5THViQT09>

Meeting ID: 961 564 350; Password: 873805

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/ab3E9JRtb9>

Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Loosen, Baby: Flowers for Ferdinand ... and You

Annual Flower Ceremony

River of Grass – June 2, 2024 – Order of Service

Prelude – “Spirit of Life” Words & Music: Carolyn McDade; Performed by: Renato deMoraes, flute

Welcome – Karen Gonzalez

Call to Worship – “If I Were a Flower” Written by: Carol Martignacco

Theme Hymn – Performed by: River of Grass choir; Theo Lucas, Director

Chalice Lighting –

*We light our chalice today
for the hope
that blossoms anew in our hearts
Like flowers ever reaching for the Sun,
That we, too, may keep our faces
Toward the warmth and light
of Truth. (Webb)*

Covenant

*In the light of love, let us renew our covenant as we say together:
Love is the spirit of this congregation and service is its law.
This is our great covenant:
to dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.
El Amor es el espíritu de esta congregación, y el servicio su ley principal.
Esta es nuestra gran promesa:
vivir juntos en paz, buscar la verdad a través del amor, y ayudarnos mutuamente.*

Deepening Music – “There Is a Love” Words & Music: Elizabeth Norton; Performed by: Rev. Amy Carol Webb and Gary Gonzalez

Candles of Community

Stones of Reflection

Pastoral Response

Sung Response Music #371, text #381 – Music: Genevan Psalter, 1551; Words: Composite Based on Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Heritage and Hope

Offering Music – “Open My Heart” Words & Music: Henry S. Flurry

Offering – [Sunday Plate Donation](#)

Growing our Beloved Community

Birthday Video

Wisdom Story – “The Story of Ferdinand” Written by: Munro Leaf; Told by: Karen Gonzalez

Message – “Loosen, Baby: Flowers for Ferdinand... and You” Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Closing Music #38 – “Morning Has Broken” Words: Eleanor Farjeon; Music: Gaelic melody; Performed by: Rev. Amy Carol Webb and Gary Gonzalez

Announcements

Closing Words

Extinguish the Chalice

Shine On

Invite to Hospitality
Music Reprise

This Week's Team:

Monthly Theme:	Play	Audio Tech:	Gary Gonzalez or Aaron Stang
Worship Co-chair:	Kathy Jens-Rochow	PPT Builder/Runner:	Brit Lundell
Worship Leader:	Rev. Amy Carol Webb	Story Builder:	n/a
Worship Host:	Karen Gonzalez	Tech Broadcast:	Rebecca Rice
Musician:	Rev. Amy Carol Webb; Gary Gonzalez	Ushers:	Bev Kaufman
Storyteller:	Karen Gonzalez	Office OOS:	Sandy Blair Chibnick
Zoom Host:	Susan Juncosa	Media Librarian:	Brit Lundell