

**Share the Plate** Annually, during the month of December, we share the plate to support our partner church in Firtosmartonos, Transylvania, Romania. You can find more information on our partner church in the December issue of *The Flame*, our newsletter.

**Change for Change.** Each week generous people put change in the collection plate. This change goes to our Sunday School youth who decide where the money can be best utilized. In the past they have contributed to Community Meals and International Bridges for Justice. This year youth have identified the recipient as Neighborhood Ministry Team, which purchases bus tickets, and food cards and provides blessings bags to people who come to our church requesting help. Your change makes a difference! Thank you for your generosity!

Rev. Frank Rivas, Minister ([minister@firstuuomaha.org](mailto:minister@firstuuomaha.org))

Rev. Ron Knapp, Minister Emeritus

Jan Wilson, Director of Religious Education ([dre@firstuuomaha.org](mailto:dre@firstuuomaha.org))

Carrie Helmberger, Membership Coordinator ([coordinator@firstuuomaha.org](mailto:coordinator@firstuuomaha.org))

Catharine Dixon, Church Administrator ([admin@firstuuomaha.org](mailto:admin@firstuuomaha.org))

Jenny Hastings, Nursery Coordinator

Patricia Will, Organist

William Miller, Choir Director

Elizabeth Kelly, Choir Accompanist

Stan Harper, Pianist

Robert Medrano, Custodian

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# First Unitarian Church of Omaha

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

DECEMBER 18, 2016

10:00 A.M.



Henri Matisse, window from Chapelle de Rosarre de Vence (1949-1951)

**Order of Worship**  
**December 18, 2016**  
**10:00 A.M.**

**GATHERING**

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**BELLSOUND**

**PRELUDE** "Puer Natus Est" — Titcomb

**WELCOME**

**STORY FOR ALL AGES** Kate Wiig

\* **LIGHTING THE CHALICE**

At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us. — Albert Schweitzer

\* **SINGING THE CHILDREN TO THEIR CLASSES**

Go now in peace. Go now in peace.  
May the Spirit of Love surround you.  
Everywhere, everywhere you may go.

**WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS** Sara Shunkwiler & Chris Poynor

**Congregation and New Members:** We pledge to walk together in the ways of truth and affection, as best we know them now, or may learn them in days to come; that we and our children may be fulfilled and we may speak to the world in words and actions of peace and goodwill.

**Congregation:** We welcome you into the covenant of our congregation

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** Cassi Moucka

(\*Indicates congregation stands as they are able.)

**OFFERTORY** "Austrian Shepherd's Carol" — Wood

*The Share the Plate beneficiary for the month of December is our partner church in Romania. The Change for Change beneficiary is Neighborhood Ministry.*

**REFLECTING**

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**CHORAL INTROIT** "Do You Hear What I Hear?" — Regney/Simeone

**A MOMENT OF SILENCE** concluded with a bellsound

**LESSON** — Samuel Wells

**CHORAL ANTHEM** "Amid the Cold of Winter" — Rhoades

**SERMON** "A Light in the Darkness" Rev. Frank Rivas

**AFFIRMING**

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**ADVENT HYMN (#225)** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

\* **BENEDICTION**

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE** "Amid the Cold of Winter,  
I Would Give My Heart" — Rhoades

**POSTLUDE** "Shepherd's Pipe Carol" — Wood

**Organist: Patricia Will**  
**Choir Director: William Miller**  
**Choir Accompanist: Elizabeth Kelly**