

## River of Grass UU Congregation

November 21, 2021 – 10:30 am

### *Holding History, Holding Hope - 2021*

*Hard times, hard times, come again no more...*

Stephen Foster wrote that in the year 1854.

These hard times we endure together now are not new in the passages of human history – they are new only to some of us. Yes – only to some of us – for the black, brown, poor, queer and others among us, they are nothing new even now. And it's not that our system is broken. No... actually, our system is working exactly as it was designed – to keep power and wealth in the hands of the few, while too many go hungry ... in body and in spirit. Things have not been getting worse, they have been getting revealed.

Let's think about those hard times, as Rev. Amy reflects on what has been revealed since we were together last year at this time. Rob Giblin-Davis will read Rev. Amy's message. Please bring a bit of bread or cracker to the Zoom Room, something that represents nourishment and communal sharing.

Please join us on Sunday at 10:30 am or a little before to chat. Join us as you are from wherever you are in Zoom or on FaceBook live for both our service, and Hospitality in Zoom following the service. (If you tune in on Facebook, c'mon over at Hospitality time with the link below!). We can't wait to see you!

#### **Topic: Worship November 21, 2021**

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>

We'll be watching for you, and happier than ever to see you!

Rita Cherubini, Worship Chair

# Holding History, Holding Hope - 2021

River of Grass – November 21, 2021

## Order of Service

**Oh, Let Us Gather**

**Welcome**

**Opening Words**

**Theme Hymn** – “We Are” Words & Music: Dr. Ysaye Barnwell; Performed by: Dr. Ysaye Barnwell and the GA Choir

**Chalice Lighting**

*We light this chalice today  
With the very gladness of our hearts  
To gather again in this River of Life  
To be made whole and holy  
In the power and promise of  
Beloved Community. (Webb)*

**Covenant**

*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.*

**Music** – “Tis a Gift to be Simple” Words: Joseph Bracket; Music: American Shaker tune; Performed by: River of Grass Virtual Choir

**Announcements**

**Candles of Community**

**Response**

**Thank You**

**Offering Hymn**

**Offering** – Give digitally and via text: <https://riverofgrassuu.org/donations.html>

**Wisdom Story** – “Giving Thanks” Written by: Chief Jake Swamp; Told by: Diane Diaz

**Music Meditation** – “Hard Times Come Again No More” Words & Music: Stephen Foster; Sung by Mindy Simmons, Lisa Bohn, Amy Carol Webb

**Message** – “Holding History, Holding Hope” - Written by: Rev. Amy Carol Webb; Read by: Rob Giblin-Davis

**Music** – “A Beautiful Noise” Words & Music: Brandi Carlile; Performed by: Alicia Keys and Brandi Carlile

**Extinguish Chalice**

**Carry the Flame**

**Hospitality Connection**