



Jazz vespers moment

First Christian Church – Bloomington
September 18, 2020 6:30 pm

September Series of Jazz Meditations on the Theme: Trust
Trust in Forgiveness

Elena Escudero, singer and piano
Linda Abe, reader
Stefan Lenthe, jazz piano and bass
Sam Taylor, saxophone

Gathering In Your Compassion Elena Escudero

In your compassion you grant us forgiveness.
We trust in your patience and grace.

Words: Linda Abe, 2020 Music: Elena Escudero, 2020

Greeting and Scripture Elena Escudero

One who forgives an affront fosters friendship,
but one who dwells on disputes will alienate a friend.

- Proverbs 17: 9

Instrumental Jazz Moment Stefan Lenthe and Sam Taylor

Reading

A Saving Faith

Megan Visser

I had dreams about anywhere-else-but-here
But our faith kept me close.
I believed I had done something to deserve it.
Our faith shouted, "No!"
I tried to imagine it never happened
But our faith reminded, "Yes, grief is real."
I thought I might die
But our faith nurtured my life.
I wondered if I was worthy of love
But our faith kept loving me.
I found it impossible to forget
But our faith said, "Forgive yourself first."
I did not know there were others.
Our faith sobbed, "Many."

Jazz Meditation

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

DETROIT

"Forgive our sins as we forgive,"
you taught us, Lord, to pray,
but you alone can grant us grace
to live the words we say.

In blazing light your cross reveals
the truth we dimly knew:
What trivial debts are owed to us,
how great our debt to you!

How can your pardon reach and bless
the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs and will not let
old bitterness depart?

Lord, cleanse the depth within our souls
and bid resentment cease.
Then, bound to all in bonds of love,
our lives will spread your peace.

Words: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1969, 1983, alt.
Tune: DETROIT: *Supplement to Kentucky Harmony, 1820*

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Dismissal

Linda Abe

Closing Sung Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Stefan Lenthe and Sam Taylor

First Christian Jazz Vespers Staff

Helen Hempfling, Pastor
Linda Abe, Jazz Vespers Ministry
Elena Escudero, Director of Friday Jazz Vespers Moments
Jan Harrington, Director of Music
Jono Palmer, Video Editor

Acknowledgement

A Saving Faith: Megan Visser, poem based on her essay found in *Testimony: The Transformative Power of Unitarian Universalism*, ed. Meg Riley © 2017, Skinner House Books.
Accessed at <https://www.uua.org/worship/words/poetry/saving-faith>.

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to strictly follow guidelines regarding social distancing.*