

**Unitarian Universalist Society  
of Martha's Vineyard  
April 28, 2024  
Rabbi Lori Shaller and  
Kohenet Batya Diamond**



***The Seder Plate and Other Items on the Table***

- **Parsley** (*karpas*) – symbolizes spring and rebirth
- **Haroset** – a mixture of chopped apples, nuts, grape juice and spices. Symbolizes the mortar that was used to cement the bricks in Egypt
- **Bitter herbs** (*maror*) – bitter herbs, horseradish or romaine lettuce
- **Egg** (*beytzah*) – symbolizes the sacrifice that was made in the Temple times at this festival
- **Roasted lamb shank**– bone symbolizing the Passover sacrifice in Temple times.
- **Salt Water** - symbolizes the tears we cry from living in slavery.
- **Matzah** - the bread we eat that had no time to rise because we had to leave Egypt, *Mitzrayim* - the “narrow” place - so quickly.

***Singing together:***

Avadim hayinu, hayinu. Atah beney horin, beney horin.

Avadim hayinu, atah, atah beney horin. (2x)

[We were slaves, You made us free!]

**Blessings**

**Candle and Chalice Lighting**

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech H'Olam, asher kidishanu b'mitzvotav vitzivanu, lichad lik ner shel yom tov

Blessed are You, Eternal One our G!d, (or "Spirit of the World") sovereign of all worlds, who makes us holy with our connection to You and has taught us to kindle the festival lights.

***The Path to Liberation***

**Together:** The liberation of humanity as a whole  
will come about only  
when each and every person  
has undergone such a liberation.

*(B'er HaHasidut: Sefer Ba'al Shem Tov 124; Teshuot Hen, Vaera; Degel Mahane Efrayim,  
Balak)*

**Wine/Grape Juice**

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech H'Olam, boray pri ha gaffen.

Blessed are You, Eternal One our G!d, (or "Spirit of the World"), who created the fruit of the vine.

*Drink some wine or grape juice.*

**Karpas – Dipping the Parsley**

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech H'Olam, boray pri ha'adamah.

Blessed are You, Eternal One our G!d, (or "Spirit of the World"), who created the fruit of the earth.

*Eat a bit of parsley, which you can also dip into the salt water representing the tears we shed for those oppressed.*

### **Blessing for the Maror – Bitter Herbs**

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech H'Olam, asher kideshanu bemitzvotav vetzivanu al ahilat maror.

Blessed are You, Eternal One our G'd, (or “Spirit of the World”), who makes us holy with our connection to You and instructs us to eat *maror*.

*Put a little bit of the maror on some matzah and eat.*

### **Blessing for the Matzah**

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech H'Olam, ha'motzi lechem min ha'aretz.

Blessed are You, Eternal One our G'd, (or “Spirit of the World”), who brings bread forth from the earth.

*Eat a piece of matzah.*



### **The Afikomen**

We take the matzah and break the middle piece on our plate in half. We wrap that in a napkin and hold it until the end of the meal when we will eat it. We take the other half and wrap it in a napkin to be hidden and hopefully found, before we leave today.

*No prayer is recited before we break the middle matzah on the seder plate. This is a silent act. We realize that, like the broken matzah, we are all incomplete, with prayers yet to be fulfilled, promises still to be redeemed.*

*We hide part of this broken matzah and hope it will be found by the end of our seder meal, for we recognize that parts of ourselves are yet unknown. We are still discovering what makes us whole.*

*We hide the larger of the two parts of the middle matzah because we know that more is hidden than is revealed. With the generations that have come before us and with one another, our search begins.*

*Rabbi Harold Schulweis*

## Magid – Telling the Story

As we recite each of the plagues together, we dip a finger into the juice in our cups and dot a drop onto our plates, imagining the plague in the form of the drop:

<b>Blood</b>	<b>Frogs</b>	<b>Lice</b>	<b>Beasts</b>	<b>Cattle</b>
<b>Plague</b>	<b>Boils</b>	<b>Hail</b>	<b>Locusts</b>	<b>Darkness</b>
<b>Death of the Firstborn</b>				

*Now put some maror and some horseradish on a piece of matzah and cover with another piece of matzah and eat. We call this the “Hillel sandwich” after our Sage who, when asked how to learn all of Torah while standing on one leg replied “Do unto others as you would have done unto you. The rest is commentary. Go and learn.”*

### ***Singing Together:***

When Israel was in Egypt land, Let my people go;  
Oppressed so hard they could not stand, Let my people go.  
(Chorus)

Go down, Moses, ‘Way down in Egypt land;  
Tell ole Pharaoh, Let my people go!  
Thus said the Lord, bold Moses said, Let my people go;  
If not I’ll smite your first-born dead; Let my people go!  
(Chorus)

No more shall they in bondage toil, Let my people go;  
Let them come out with Egypt’s spoil, Let my people go!  
(Chorus)

We need not always weep and mourn, Let my people go;  
And wear these slav’ry chains forlorn, Let my people go!  
(Chorus)

The devil thought he had us fast, Let my people go;  
But we thought we’d break his chains at last, Let my people go!  
(Chorus)

***Singing Together:***

Mi chamocha, b'elim Adonai            The water is wide, I can't cross over  
Mi chamocha neder bakodesh        And neither have I wings to fly  
Nora tehilot, oh say, fela            Build me a boat that can carry two  
Shira hadasha, shibhu g'ulim        And both shall row, my love and I.  
L'shimcha al sfat hayam  
Yachad culam, hodu, v'himlihu,ve'ameru. Adonai yimloch, l'olam va'ed.

**Raise One Voice**

by Batya Diamond

The Torah tells the story of when we were enslaved  
God sent a prophet to face the Pharaoh, our ancestors were saved  
Why did God need Moses? Perhaps to show  
That people have the power and we're all part of the whole

**Chorus**

Raise one voice, the truth that is your own  
Raise one voice, you are not alone  
For from the one comes many  
And from the many – one  
For justice to be done raise one voice

At times we've been the pharaoh, and other times enslaved  
Now our task is to remember that in God's image we're all made  
So where we see oppression it's up to us  
To stand up and speak out  
When power's not merciful and just

**[Choruss**

Defending human dignity's divine  
We soar when we help every soul to shine

**[Chorus]**

Thank you to our volunteers Bill Bridwell, Stephanie Michalczyk and Sue Streeter for our service support and Lucinda Sheldon for providing refreshments and Stephanie Michalczyk for visual arts/flowers.

### **Need Someone to Listen?**

In addition to pastoral care being available from Rev. Janet, your Lay Ministers (Bill Bridwell, Jan Casey, Kevin Longval) are available to lend support to anyone in our USMV community in their time of need by being available to listen and offer comfort. You can reach them individually by calling: Jan Casey (508-942-3643), Bill Bridwell (774-563-8542), Kevin Longval (781-249-4712) or reach out to [uu.society.mv@gmail.com](mailto:uu.society.mv@gmail.com)

### **Upcoming Events**

**Sunday, April 28, 8:30 - 9:30 pm:** Young Peoples AA (Stevens Chapel)

**Sunday, May 5, after service:** Member Brainstorming for our 2024 Auction. May 31 - June 9th with Potluck and Silent Auction on Sunday June 9!

**Sunday, May 5, 4- 5:30 pm:** Musical Sunday Afternoons with Nancy Jephcote and Group, free, all are welcome!

**Wednesday, May 8, 6 pm:** Conversation on the Proposed Changes to Article 2 with Rev. Janet (on Zoom)

## **The Unitarian Universalist Society of Martha's Vineyard**

P.O. Box 1236

238 Main Street, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

**Minister: Reverend Janet Newton**

(508)693-8982 [uu.society.mv@gmail.com](mailto:uu.society.mv@gmail.com)

[www.uusmv.org](http://www.uusmv.org)

A Welcoming Congregation