

Celebration of the Life of Gordon P. Kempe

June 13, 1952 – October 12, 2022

12 pm Sunday, January 22, 2023

Springfield, Vermont

Gathering Music “Get Together” by The Youngbloods (words below)

Words of Welcome Rev. Dr. Mellen Kennedy

Welcome to Flight 2023 Read by Steve Kempe

Highlights from Gordon’s Life Rev. Mellen

Sharing of Stories and Memories of Gordon

Starting with Steve? Slide show here perhaps?

Lucy, Mike Vengruskas, Gordon’s friend from boyhood

Music: My Back Pages by Bob Dylan

Continued Sharing of Memories

Song “Sisters of Mercy” by Leonard Cohen

Prayer & Blessing Rev. Mellen

Recitation “We Remember Him” (below)

Closing Song “Turn, Turn, Turn” (words below)

Blessing Rev. Mellen

Luncheon after the service.

Responsive Reading

Officiant: In the rising of the sun and its going down,
Gathered folks: We remember them.

O: In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,
G: We will remember him.

O: In the opening buds and in the rebirth of spring,
G: We remember him.

O: In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer,
G: We remember him.

O: In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn,
G: We remember him.

O: In the beginning of the year and when it ends,
G: We will remember him.

O: When we are weary and in need of strength,
G: We remember him.

O: When we are lost and are sick of heart,
G: We remember him.

O: When we have joys we yearn to share,
G: We remember him.

O: So long as we live, they too shall live,
For they are now a part of us,
All: and we remember him.

(Traditional Jewish Prayerbook remembrance).

Get Together The Youngbloods

Love is but a song we sing
Fear's the way we die
You can make the mountains ring
Or make the angels cry
Though the bird is on the wing
And you may not know why

Come on, people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another right now

Some may come and some may go
He will surely pass
When the one that left us here
Returns for us at last
We are but a moment's sunlight
Fading in the grass

Come on, people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another right now

Come on, people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another right now

Come on, people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another right now

If you hear the song I sing
You will understand, listen
You hold the key to love and fear
All in your trembling hand
Just one key unlocks them both
It's there at your command

Come on, people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another right now

Come on, people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another right now

I said come on, people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another right now
Right now
Right now

Turn! Turn! Turn!

Ecclesiastes adapted by Pete Seegar

To everything turn, turn, turn
There is a season turn, turn, turn
And a time to every purpose under Heaven

A time to be born, a time to die
A time to plant, a time to reap
A time to kill, a time to heal
A time to laugh, a time to weep

To everything turn, turn, turn
There is a season turn, turn, turn
And a time to every purpose under Heaven

A time to build up, a time to break down
A time to dance, a time to mourn
A time to cast away stones
A time to gather stones together

To everything turn, turn, turn
There is a season turn, turn, turn
And a time to every purpose under Heaven

A time of love, a time of hate
A time of war, a time of peace
A time you may embrace
A time to refrain from embracing

To everything turn, turn, turn
There is a season turn, turn, turn
And a time to every purpose under Heaven

A time to gain, a time to lose
A time to rain, a time of sow
A time for love, a time for hate
A time for peace, I swear it's not too late