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Schuyler Vogel

Fourth Universalist Society, New York City

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**INVOCATION:
KATE MILLET MEMORIAL SERVICE**

Reverend Schuyler Vogel

Fourth Universalist Society, New York, USA

GOOD AFTERNOON AND WELCOME. Today we gather to remember, honor, and celebrate the life of Kate Millett. Whether you are Kate's family, friends, or just an admirer, thank you for being here. I am the Rev. Schuyler Vogel, the Senior Minister here at the Fourth Universalist Society, and it is a great privilege to be with you on this special day.

Today we mark the passing of someone who was deeply loved, not only for her accomplishments, which were many but for the person she was. Kate helped lay the foundation for a new kind of feminism, and yet she was also kind, unassuming, and a loyal friend. She was a fierce advocate for the marginalized and the underdog, a lover of the arts, and she possessed an open-minded, brilliant intelligence that led her to identify structures of inequality in revolutionary ways.

We here at Fourth Universalist are especially touched to host Kate's service. It is a reunion of sorts; 52 years ago, Kate was married here. But beyond that, this congregation, our values and our Unitarian Universalist faith tradition, we hope, represent the kind of community that Kate could believe in. Our tradition was the first to ordain women into the clergy, all the way back to 1863 and has counted among its members, feminists like Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony.

It is in this radical and remarkable spirit of Kate's life that we gather today. And while we will mourn for Kate, today, let us also celebrate the person she was and affirm the life she lived. Let us remember that so long as we embody the spirit of her life, she is never truly gone, and lives within us.

In this sacred and special time, we can find comfort in these words by the Unitarian Universalist minister, Kenneth Collier:

I do not know where we go when we die;
And I do not know what the soul is
Or what death is or when or why.
What I know is that
The song once sung cannot be unsung,
And the life once lived cannot be unlived
And the love once loved cannot be unloved.

May our time together today pay tribute to Kate's memory, for the love and light she brought into this world and to us all. Thank you for being here and again, welcome. Our service begins with a song.

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

Reverend Schuyler Vogel serves as the Senior Minister of the Fourth Universalist Society in New York City. <http://4thu.org/about-us/our-minister-and-staff/>

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