

Prayer for Jordan, Robin, and the Little One*

Offered by Rev. Abbey Tennis

Fall, 2015

First Unitarian Church of Oakland

Spirit of Life and Love, Holy Oneness, Eternal Comforter, Dear God,

Today, we lift Jordan and Robin in prayer as they wait in the hospital. It is frightening for Jordan's body to begin to prepare for labor when Jordan and Robin are not yet prepared for their little one's arrival. It is frightening to think that their little one's first days and weeks in this world will likely have to be lived in a hospital rather than at home with Robin and Jordan. But perhaps most jarring of all, it is hard for Jordan and Robin to be forced into a hospital birth; a way of welcoming their child into the world that is so different from what they wanted for their family. This is a hard time.

And yet we are also grateful. We are grateful for Jordan and Robin's housemates, friends, family, and communities who have already begun to rally around them, and who will walk with them through this hard time and through the rest of their lives. We are grateful for modern medical care that can help their baby develop quickly, and keep Jordan and the baby safe until it is time for the baby's birth. We are grateful for Jordan's health, and for the baby's health, and for the knowledge that, in all likelihood, their child will ultimately be ok – strong, healthy, and safe. And most of all, we are grateful for this love between Jordan and Robin that has so nourished their souls these past three years, this love which sustains them in this difficult time, this love which is bringing forth a new life into the world.

Little one, we do not know you yet, but already you are so beloved. Already, you have family. Already, you have community. Already, your life is precious, holy, and worth more than anything else that Robin and Jordan could imagine. You are loved and beloved. You will be welcomed into the world with ecstatic joy.

Spirit of life, help Jordan and the baby to stay safe as they wait. Help this beloved little one to stay in Jordan's womb until it is the right time to join the world. Help Robin and Jordan to be present to each other and to each moment's beauty, even in this dreary place, even in this hard time, even under these difficult circumstances. Help the medical team care for them with expertise and gentleness, an ability to listen deeply, and access their truest wisdom. Help Jordan and Robin's family, friends, and community care for them in a way that serves them – present but not overbearing, helpful but honoring their boundaries.

May Robin and Jordan find a way to experience the freedom of relinquishing attachment to the plans that can no longer come to fruition. May Jordan and Robin find unexpected blessings in this new path of bringing their child into the world. May they both stay present to each other, present to love, present to this miracle that will arrive sooner than they had hoped.

As they wait, may Robin and Jordan be surrounded by oceans of peace, supported by mountains of love, and held in the closeness of Your sacred embrace.

Amen, Ashe, and Blessed Be.

* Names have been changed to protect confidentiality