

# The Rev. Dr. John Cummins

September 8, 1926 – December 11, 2021

Cummins, Rev. Dr. John, age 95 of Minneapolis, died peacefully at home on December 11. Retired minister of First Universalist Church of Minneapolis. A lifelong leader in liberal religion, social justice and nonviolent action. He marched in Selma with Martin Luther King; protested the Vietnam war and counseled young men facing the draft; championed women's rights, one-world government and the sanctuary movement for refugees; mentored women and men entering the liberal ministry. He humbly made the world a better place. Survived by daughter Carol (Suzanne Born), son Clyde, and brother David. Preceded in death by wife Dru, son Christopher and brother Robert. Services in-person (vaccinated if eligible/masked/ distance between families) at First Universalist Church, Tuesday, December 21 at 10 AM and live-streamed at [firstuniversalistchurch.org/cummins-memorial](http://firstuniversalistchurch.org/cummins-memorial). Memorials preferred to John & Dru Cummins Ministerial Internship Fund c/o First Universalist Church of Minneapolis or Planned Parenthood of Minnesota.



First Universalist Church of Minneapolis



*In Memoriam*

## The Rev. Dr. John Cummins

Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2021, at 10 a.m.

### WHEN THE TIME COMES

*John Cummins*

When the time comes,  
And if it's summer,  
Find an upland field,  
Its face turned to the sun.

Or if it's winter,  
Cast me on the wind,  
Dark dust on snow,  
And I will wait for Spring  
To take me home.

**Music for Gathering** Franco Holder

**Processional**

**Welcome** Rev. Jen Crow

**Lighting the Chalice**

Love is the Spirit of this Church  
And service is its law;  
This is our great covenant:  
To dwell together in peace,  
to seek the truth in love,  
And to help one another

**Music** Aimee K. Bryant  
*Morning Has Broken* Franco Holder

**Words on Grief** Rev. Jen Crow  
written by Rev. Dr. John Cummins

**Musical Interlude** Franco Holder

**Reading** Rev. Arif Mamdani  
written by Rev. Dr. John Cummins

**Musical Interlude** Franco Holder

**Prayer** Rev. Kate Tucker

**Music** Aimee K. Bryant  
*This Is My Song* Franco Holder

**Reflection** Rev. Kate Tucker

**Musical Interlude** Franco Holder

**Reflection** Rev. Harlan Limpert

**Musical Interlude** Franco Holder

**Reflection** Rev. Meg Riley

**Music** Aimee K. Bryant  
*We Shall Overcome* Franco Holder

**Closing Words** Rev. Jen Crow

**Benediction** Revs. Harlan Limpert & John Cummins, 1986

**Recessional**  
*This Little Light of Mine*

**Participants in today's service:**

Franco Holder, Pianist, First Universalist Church  
Rev. Jen Crow, Senior Minister, First Universalist Church  
Aimee K. Bryant, Artist in Residence, First Universalist Church  
Rev. Arif Mamdani, Minister of Membership and Spiritual Care  
Rev. Kate Tucker, Minister Emerita, First Universalist Church  
Rev. Harlan Limpert, Former Chief Operating Officer, UUA  
Rev. Meg Riley, Co-Moderator of the Unitarian Universalist Association

*Please join the family downstairs in the Social Hall for a reception  
hosted by the First Universalist Memorial Reception Team.*