

ORDER OF SERVICE

October 5, 2025

Ingathering Music *The Swan* Camille Saint-Saëns

Introit “Counterpoint of The Animals” Adriano Banchieri

Opening Words

Welcome and Invitation to Engagement

Opening Hymn* “Morning Has Broken” No. 38 [STLT]

Chalice Lighting

Unison Affirmation

In the bonds of community,

Guided and called forth by the Spirit of Love,

We gather to celebrate the blessings and joys of our lives,

To support each other in the challenges and hardships that
are also part of it,

To care for the Earth and its all its creatures,

And to nurture reverent hearts and open minds.

Sharing in Community

Story

“The Case of The Animals Versus Man: Toward An Ecology of Being”
Zayn Kassam

Hymn The Lone, Wild Bird No. 15 [STLT]

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

A Litany for Our Animal Relations

Maureen Killoran

READER: For the blessing of animal companions we give thanks.
For the beautiful ones, those whose fur is silky and whose tails are
long; whose feathers are brilliant or whose voices are splendid...we
give thanks.

CONGREGATION: For the frantic ones, the runts and the hungry,
who run for a food bowl or a pat as though this is life's last possible
gift, we give thanks.

READER: For the obnoxious ones, the heads that butt against us as
we're trying to sleep; the bodies that refuse to learn discretion as they
make digestive gifts... we give thanks.

CONGREGATION: For those who bark and purr and growl and
mew, for all who squeak or squawk or snarl or hiss, we give thanks.

READER: For the animals unknown to us, those whose niche in life's
web is fragile; whose lives are insecure; for all who care for them and
wish them well, we give thanks.

ALL: Blessed are the animals. Blessed are the creatures who live with
us and need our care. Blessed are the mammals and the reptiles and
the birds who teach us we are not alone. Blessed are all living things
from whom we learn to love.

Anthem “The Creatures We Love” Amanda Udis-Kessler

Candles of Remembrance for Our Animals

Offertory *A Hermit Thrush at Morn* Amy Beach

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, so our 50/50 split for
this month will benefit **Healing Abuse Working for Change (HAWC)**.
Their mission is to create social change by taking action against personal
and societal patterns of violence and oppression. HAWC provides
services to survivors of domestic abuse residing in 23 cities and towns
on Massachusetts' North Shore in order that they may make informed,
independent decisions about their futures. More at <https://hawcdv.org>.

We share our Sunday morning offering each month with an organization that is dedicated to alleviating human suffering or oppression. The collection will benefit both the church and organization:

- all loose cash in the collection plates will be split on a 50/50 basis between the church and the organization
- checks payable to the church will go only to the church—and toward your pledge—unless otherwise designated (e.g. writing “50/50” on the memo line)
- all checks payable to the organization will go to the organization

Homily “Enchanted By the Untamed”
Rev. Dr. Victoria Weinstein

Commission of the Helpers followed by Blessing of the Animals

Richard Graham, Mira Hakstian, Shaylah Kilroy,
Heidi Dorian Maaskant, Lola Grace Maaskant, Declan Philbrick

*Recessional “We Celebrate the Web of Life” No. 175 [STLT]

Please bring your animals outside and queue by the Perennial Garden. Blessing helpers will assist you after everyone is gathered.

Those who wish to go directly to Fellowship Hour may go directly to the Parish Hall (to your right as you exit the Sanctuary) for coffee and conversation.

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Rev. Dr. Victoria Weinstein, Worship Leader
Destiny Cooper, Interim Director of Music
David Collins, Keyboard
The UUCGL Choir
Molli Freeman-Lynde, Worship Associate
Anne-Marie Hakstian, Livestream Operator
Margot Abels & Dave Innis, Ushers
Allison Deese, Greeter

JOIN US!

(Visit uucgl.org for more information and additional announcements.)

Sound Healing

TODAY! | 2-4pm | Sanctuary

Join us for this voyage into the bliss, wellness, and healing that can come from profound relaxation via deeply therapeutic sound and tone. More at uucgl.org.

From Stage to Sanctuary:

A Training For Worship Associates and Sunday Readers

Monday, October 6 | 6:30-8pm UUCGL Sanctuary

In this workshop, we will learn about the meaning and intention of each element of the worship service, address vocal expression and projection and embodiment and transitions in ritual. Sign up at uucgl.org.

Native Plant Gardening Group

Thursday, October 9 | 6pm | In-person and on Zoom

All are welcome, regardless of gardening experience. More at uucgl.org.

Church History Ministry Team Meeting

Sunday, October 12 | 11:30am | Fellowship Room

“Drumagic” Community Drum Circle

Saturday, October 12 | 1:30-3:30pm | Sanctuary

Sunday Evening Meditations

Sunday, October 12 | 5:15-6pm | Sanctuary

Open to everyone; no experience necessary. More at uucgl.org.

Youth Group

Sunday, October 12 | 6-8pm | Parish Hall

Open to all 9th-12th graders, whether a member of the church or not.

Wisdom Circle

Tuesday, October 14 | 11:30-1:30pm | North Andover

The group will visit the beautiful Merrimack College Labyrinth on this date!

Family History Group

Tuesday, October 14 | 2:30-4pm | Parish Hall

Open to anyone interested in their family history and in tracing their ancestry.

Dialogue Group

Tuesday, October 14 | 5-6pm | Zoom

Plant-Based Cooking Group

Thursday, October 16 | 5-7pm | Kitchen

Saturday Craft Circle

Saturday, October 18 | 10am-2pm | Skylight Room

A Don White Concert to Benefit KIC

Saturday, October 18 | 7:30pm

This concert benefits Kids in Community (KIC) in Lynn. Tickets at uucgl.org.