

**ORDER OF SERVICE**  
**February 12, 2023**

Prelude *Lullaby* Bangambula Vindu

Welcome and Announcements Martha Curry, Mary Gatlin

Ingathering Chime

Introit Excerpt from “I Choose Love” Mark A. Miller

Call to Worship

\*Opening Hymn “Far Too Long, by Fear Divided” No. 160 [STLT]

Chalice Lighting

Unison Affirmation

Love is the doctrine of this church,  
The quest for truth its sacrament,  
And service its prayer.  
To dwell together in peace,  
To seek knowledge in freedom,  
To serve human need,  
To the end that all souls shall  
grow into harmony with the Divine —  
Thus do we covenant  
with each other and with God.

Community Joys and Sorrows

Pastoral Prayer

Musical Response “Find a Stillness” No. 352 [STLT]

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Offertory†

Our 50/50 split this month is for Promise the Children’s “Calm Down Corners” initiative. Promise the Children will donate all funding raised this month to Lynn Vocational Technical Institute’s SELS initiative, which builds Social and Emotional Learning Spaces (SELS) — also known as “Calm Down Corners” — for public elementary schools in the Lynn community. These spaces are used in kindergarten and elementary school classrooms to serve as an effective area within a classroom for any student to utilize when emotional regulation is needed. Please make checks payable to: Promise the Children.

Candles of Hope and Healing

*You are invited to come forward and light a candle.*

Readings “The Soul of America” Jon Meacham

Anthem “Undivided” Karen Marroli

Sermon “Does the Nation Have a Soul?”  
Rev. Art McDonald

\*Closing Hymn “This is My Song” No. 159 [STLT]

Sending Forth

Benediction

Congregational Response: *Amen*

Postlude *Barcarolle (“Morning”)* R. Nathaniel Dett

Greeting Each Other

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

†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 charity:

- all loose cash in the collection plates will be split on a 50/50 basis between the church and the charity
- 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 charity will go to the charity

## TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Rev. Art McDonald, Guest Minister  
Kenneth Griffith II, Director of Music  
David Collins, Keyboard  
Marnen Laibow-Koser, Violin  
The UUCGL Choir  
Jason Gatlin, Livestream Service  
Martha Curry, Worship Associate

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## WE ARE A SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY

that gathers to explore deeper truths together,  
to support one another through the complexities and struggles  
of daily life, and to serve the greater good by becoming  
more compassionate in our thoughts, words, and actions.

Join with us to cultivate reverence, peacefulness,  
and an ethic of loving engagement with the world.

We are so glad that you're here today,  
whether you are a devoted member or a new visitor.

We hope to be a spiritual community  
you will consider becoming part of.

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## COMMUNITY HEALTH

Given the seasonal spike in COVID cases and the spread of other infectious diseases like flu and RSV, we encourage the wearing of masks when we are together. Masks are an easy and simple way to minimize worry over sharing germs as we enjoy each other's company.

For those of you who would like to maintain social distance in the sanctuary (which has several air filters running every Sunday), the front side of the sanctuary by the wooden Lydia Breed sculpture is reserved for you.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visit [uucgl.org](http://uucgl.org) for more information and additional announcements.

### THE UUCGL WINTER FORUM: Innovation in Addressing Hunger — A Discussion about Advances in Food Security

Today | 12-2pm (\*Also livestreaming at [facebook.com/uucgl](https://facebook.com/uucgl))

We will have more substantial food offerings than usual at coffee hour today to keep your tummy satisfied so you can stay around for our winter forum! Members of our Social Justice Ministry Team have been hard at work creating this event, and it was featured in the Lynn Daily Item last week. The conversation promises to be thought-provoking and informative. The event is free, open to the public, features four distinguished panelists, and will have a reception (with food) to follow. Please join us!

### Restorative Winter Meditations

Today | 4-5pm | *Every other Sunday through March 26*

No prior experience is required. Whether you attend one or all sessions, please register so we can inform you in case of cancellations.

### Dialogue Group

Today | 5pm (Zoom)

New participants always welcome. See [uucgl.org/adultprograms](http://uucgl.org/adultprograms) for info.

### Native Plant Gardening Workshop (FULL)

Wednesday, February 15th | 7-8:30pm

If you registered for the original date you are automatically still registered unless you have contacted us and said otherwise. Since the event is at capacity, please email Mary at [mkgualtieri@uucgl.org](mailto:mkgualtieri@uucgl.org) if you are registered but cannot attend the workshop or to be put on the waiting list.

### Calling all Cooks in the Kitchen!

You're invited to be a part of an inaugural team of cooks in the UUCGL Kitchen. The plan is to get together to explore how cooking plant-based meals together lowers the cost, promotes health, serves the planet and... grows community. Use your smart phone to scan the QR code at right or use the link in the Weekly Update newsletter to be contacted about your interest and general availability. We will be starting up soon!



### All-Church Ferry Beach Weekend Retreat — April 28-April 30!

Stay tuned for more info in the coming weeks, but if you want to reserve a cabin/cottage, which needs to be done earlier than reserving a dorm room, please reach out to Rev. Chris Scheller. We do not want finances to prevent anyone from coming. Please reach out to Rev. Chris to request a campership to help with the costs.

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**A reminder:** after the service, Fair Trade food items will be available for purchase during Fellowship Hour. Get your Valentine something special!