

ORDER OF SERVICE

January 7, 2024

Ingathering Music

Call to Celebration

*Hymn “Sound Over All Waters” No. 122 [STLT]

Some hymns are aspirational: we sing of what we hope can be, despite the reality of what is. This beautiful old tune is set to lyrics by American Quaker poet John Greenleaf Whittier.

Chalice Lighting

Covenant 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.

Joys and Sorrows

Pastoral Prayer

Song Spirit of Life No. 123 [STLT]

Offertory *I Wonder as I Wander* John Jacob Niles/arr. Nevue

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Our 50/50 split this month benefits **UU Mass Action**.

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

Candles of Hope and Healing

Reading from “A Gift for the Ordinary” Charles Stephen, Jr.

Reflection “Soul Resolutions” Rev. Dr. Victoria Weinstein

“TO THE NEW YEAR”

—M.S. Merwin

With what stillness at last you appear in the valley
your first sunlight reaching down
 to touch the tips of a few
 high leaves that do not stir
as though they had not noticed
and did not know you at all
then the voice of a dove calls
 from far away in itself
 to the hush of the morning

so this is the sound of you
here and now whether or not
 anyone hears it this is
where we have come with our age
 our knowledge such as it is
and our hopes such as they are
 invisible before us
 untouched and still possible

Congregational Sharing

*Hymn "May Nothing Evil Cross This Door" No. 1 [STLT]

Benediction

Congregational Response: *Amen*

Postlude *French Suite No. 4, BWV 815: Allemande* J. S. Bach

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

TODAY'S WORSHIP TEAM

Rev. Dr. Victoria Weinstein, Parish Minister

Loretta Connolly, Usher

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.

Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the Parish Hall (to your right, as you exit the Sanctuary) after the service.

A reminder: Fair Trade food items will be available for purchase in the Parish Hall during Fellowship Hour.

JOIN US!

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

Sunday Evening Meditations

Sunday, January 7 | 4-5 pm | Sanctuary
Registration required; see uucgl.org

Tai Chi Class —Beginner Level (First Class)

Tuesday, January 9 | 10am | Parish Hall
All ages and abilities welcome. Sign up before Jan. 9 at www.uucgl.org/taichi

Tai Chi Class —Intermediate Level

Tuesday, January 9 | 11am | Parish Hall

Wisdom Circle

Tuesday, January 9 | 12–1:30pm

Dialogue Group *NEW SCHEDULE!*

Tuesday, January 9 | Zoom

Plant-Based Cooking Group *(FOR ALL AGES)*

Thursday, January 11 | 5pm | UUCGL Kitchen

Church History Ministry Team Meeting

Sunday, January 14 | 11:30am-12:30pm | Skylight Room

5th-6th Grade OWL Parent Orientation

Sunday, January 14 | 6-8pm
Classes start January 21. Learn more or sign up at www.uucgl.org/owl

Saturday Craft Circle

Saturday, January 20 | 10am-2pm | Skylight Room

Path to Membership

Sunday, January 21 (also Sunday, January 28) | 11:15am | Fellowship Room
Are you interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism and our congregation? The sessions are fun, informative, and a great way for you and the church to get to know each other better. Details at uucgl.org

"Drumagic" Community Drum Circle

Sunday, January 21 | 1:30-3:30 pm | Sanctuary

5th-6th Grade OWL *(FIRST CLASS)*

Sunday, January 21 | 6-8pm
Classes run most Sundays. Learn more or sign up at www.uucgl.org/owl

Potluck Community Meal

Sunday, January 21 | 5-7pm
Sign up at uucgl.org

Parents & Caregivers as Sexuality Educators Support Group

Sunday, January 21 | 6-8pm