

ORDER OF SERVICE  
May 21, 2023

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Introit

Call to Celebration

\*Opening Hymn “Spring Has Now Unwrapped the Flowers”  
No. 63 [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 Concerns

Musical Response “Comfort Me” No. 1002 [STJ]

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

Offertory†

Our 50/50 split for May benefits the National Network of Abortion Funds’ Collective Power Fund. Since 2019, the Collective Power Fund (CPF) has distributed nearly \$3 million in grants to abortion funds. Donations to the CPF will help pay for abortion procedures as well as the practical support needed to actually access care, such as transportation and childcare.

Candles of Hope and Healing

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

Reading *Flower Communion* Prayer by Norbert Capek

Anthem

Homily “In The Depths of The Soul”  
Rev. Dr. Victoria Weinstein

Responsive Reading

Flowers unfold slowly and gently, bit by bit in the sunshine.  
*A soul, too, must never be pushed or driven but unfolds  
In its own perfect timing to reveal its true wonder and beauty.*  
Our work is to be gardeners of souls, wherever we are.  
*Everywhere, seeds are beginning to germinate. Let us tend them with the  
greatest care. They are very tender and delicate.  
Let us water them with love.*

Flower Communion

\*Closing Hymn “Love Will Guide Us” No. 131 [STLT]

Benediction

Congregational Response: *Amen*

Postlude

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*\*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. Dr. Victoria Weinstein, Parish Minister

Kenneth Griffith II, Director of Music

David Collins, Keyboard

The UUCGL Choir

Jack Butterworth, Worship Associate

Trinidad Martinez, Usher

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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

Our choir members are going mask-optional for the first time in three years, choosing to test regularly and stay home if presenting any symptoms of illness. We recommend that all members of the community continue to use testing, masking and quarantining to mitigate the spread of Covid and other infectious diseases. The front side of the sanctuary opposite the choir is reserved for those who would like to continue to practice social distancing.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### Church History Ministry Team Meeting

Sunday, May 21 | 11:30am-12:30pm | Skylight Room

The Church History Team's mission is to preserve, organize, and make available pertinent materials relating to our church. Anyone interested in preserving & organizing important church records is welcome.

### Community Drum Circle

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

Open to individuals 10 years-old and up, no experience necessary! Come have an afternoon of spiritual awakening, fun and meeting wonderful people. Drums are available for borrowing. Bring a friend, and spread the word!

### Sunday Evening Meditations

Sunday, May 21 | 4-5 pm | Sanctuary

You are invited to join us, to take a little time out of your week for restorative silence and reconnection. Please register if you have not attended one of these sessions yet.

### Tai Chi for Beginners

Tuesday, May 23 | 11am | Parish Hall

### Social Justice Ministry Team Meeting

May 23 | 7:15pm

Read about the Social Justice Ministry Team on our website at [www.uucgl.org/ministry-teams](http://www.uucgl.org/ministry-teams). If you are passionate about social justice we invite you to join us!

### Wisdom Circle

Wednesday, June 14 | 12-1:30pm

Wisdom Circle is a monthly gathering geared toward seniors to share the perspectives and life experiences of older age. It is intended to be supportive and informative, a program both of faith development and pastoral ministry. All are welcome, even if you have not participated before. Masks are optional, but are appreciated, and as always you may bring a lunch, if you wish. Join us on the second Wednesday of each month; we look forward to seeing you!

### North Shore Pride

Saturday, June 24 | Salem

Save the date to march in the Pride Parade with us and enjoy the festival!