

# **“Transforming Perfection”**

Sunday, August 21, 10:50 am, 2022

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco







**Order of Service**  
**Sunday, August 21, 2022**  
**10:50 AM - 12:15 PM**

Livestreamed at [bit.ly/uusfmedia](https://bit.ly/uusfmedia)

New to UUSF? Complete Our Connections form at [bit.ly/uusfconnections2022](https://bit.ly/uusfconnections2022)

Welcome back to those returning to onsite Worship Service!

Please stay masked during the Worship Service and maintain social distance.

After service we invite you to convene for coffee hour in the Courtyard.

As we ease back into the new normal, we want to keep our congregation and staff safe.

Please be mindful of social distance and wear your mask when you are not eating or drinking.

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Prelude	<i>You Must Believe in Spring</i>	Michel Legrand with Marilyn & Alan Bergman Asher Davsion, bass; Larry Chinn, piano
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Welcome		Charlotte Cramer, Guest Preacher
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*Hymn	based on "Sanctuary"	Randy Scruggs & John Thompson led by Charlotte Cramer
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Please prepare me  
To be a sanctuary,  
Pure and holy,  
Tried and true;  
With thanksgiving,  
I'll be a living  
Sanctuary for you.

## Unison Chalice Lighting

We light this chalice for the light of truth,  
the warmth of love,  
and the fire of commitment.  
We light this symbol of our faith  
as we gather together.

## Brief Invitations

Sam King, Worship Associate

## Covenant

Love is the spirit of this church, and service is its prayer.  
This is our great covenant: to dwell together in peace,  
to seek the truth in freedom, and to help one another.

## \*Doxology

TALLIS' CANON



From all that dwell be - low the skies; let songs of hope and  
De to - dos ba - jo el gran sol; sur - ja, es - pe - ran - za

5  
faith a - rise; Let peace, good - will on earth be sung through  
fé, a - mor; ver - dad, y be - lle - za can - tan - do, de

8  
ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue.  
ca - da tie - rra, ca - da voz. A - men.

## Time for Meditation and Prayer

Charlotte Cramer

Music *The Windmills of Your Mind*

Michel Legrand with Marilyn & Alan Bergman  
Asher Davsion, bass; Larry Chinn, piano

## Reflection

Sam King

## Offering

The offering today goes to support the work and ministries of the congregation. To make a donation on Vanco ([bit.ly/uusfpayments](http://bit.ly/uusfpayments)) or using the Donate Button (below) & on our website, please select the "Offering" choice to make your gift. If you are sending a check, please mark in the memo today's date and "special offering" 8-21-22.



Offertory Music	<i>Where Do You Start?</i>	Michel Legrand with Marilyn & Alan Bergman Asher Davsion, bass; Larry Chinn, piano
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Reading	"Spirit Walker" by Nancy Wood
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Music	"Finishing the Hat" (from <i>Sunday in the Park with George</i> )	Stephen Sondheim Asher Davsion, bass; Larry Chinn, piano
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Sermon	"Transforming Perfection"	Charlotte Cramer
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*Hymn	"Breathe It In"	Beautiful Chorus led by Charlotte Cramer
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Breathe it in,  
Let it out,  
Breathe it in,  
Let it go

## Benediction

Postlude	<i>Both Sides Now</i>	Joni Mitchell ( <i>version inspired by the film Coda</i> ) Asher Davsion, bass; Larry Chinn, piano
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\*Please stand as you are able.

# PARTICIPANTS

## **Worship Leaders**

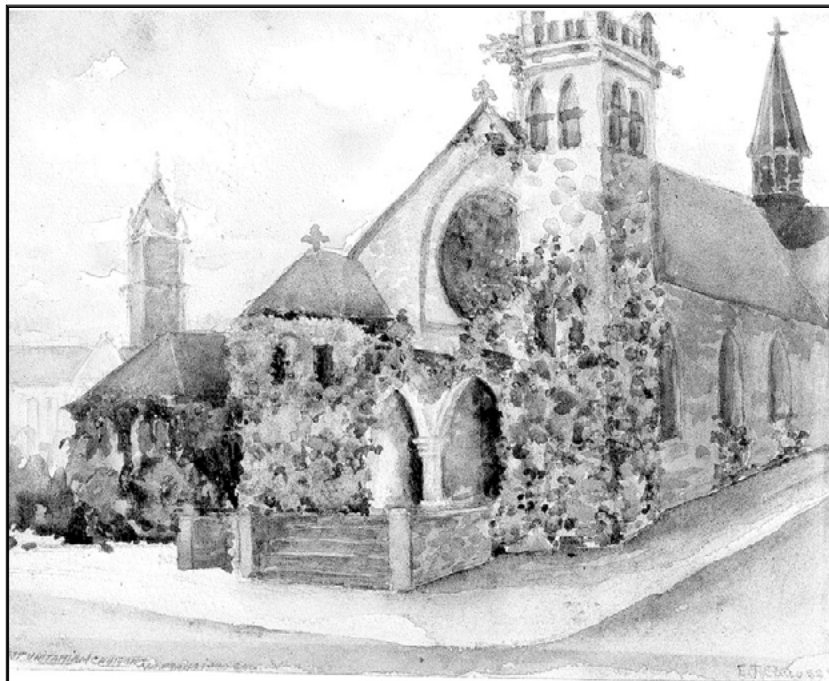
Charlotte Maitreya Cramer, Guest Preacher  
Sam King, Worship Associate

## **Sunday Support**

Eric Shackelford, Camera  
Jonathan Silk, Communications Director  
Joe Chapot, Live Chat Moderator  
Remigio Flood, Sexton  
Kelvin Jones, Sexton  
Judy Payne, Flowers  
Linda Messner, Head Usher  
Tom Brookshire, Les James,  
Ralph Fenn, Zoom Coffee Hour

## **Musicians**

Asher Davsion, bass  
Larry Chinn, piano



After service we invite you to convene for coffee hour in the Courtyard or you are welcome to join our community for our Virtual Coffee Hour, immediately following the Sunday Worship Service. Coffee not required. **Zoom Link:** <https://zoom.us/j/725737157>; **Meeting ID:** 725 737 157  
**One tap mobile:** +16699006833,,725737157#

# ABOUT

**Charlotte Cramer** is currently in her third and final year at Starr King School for the Ministry for her Masters of Divinity. She is simultaneously attending The Chaplaincy Institute for her Chaplaincy certification and ordination as an Interfaith Minister, as well as seeking ordination with the Sacred Wells Congregation, a pagan religious institution. Charlotte grew up Unitarian Universalist, and has wanted to be a minister since the age of 16. She has spent the past four years living in spiritual communities in California and Costa Rica, learning about different forms of mysticism, ritual, and divine connection. Charlotte currently serves as the Youth Advisor on the Family Ministry team at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Marin, and is an intern chaplain for The Street Chaplaincy, an interfaith program in San Rafael that provides spiritual care and support for the homeless population of Marin. Charlotte is a frequent preacher at UUCM and a pagan ritual leader, providing rituals for the greater Marin community on Pagan Sabbats. In her free time, Charlotte practices Jiu Jitsu, yoga and meditation, and spends time at her beautiful home in Point Reyes Station, CA, where she lives with two dogs and her dear friends.

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**Asher Davison**, former bass section leader at UUSE, was inducted into music in the Santa Monica public schools; private clarinet study with David Sasaki, including Bach in transcription, convinced him that rhythmic sense frees up expression in classical music as much as in jazz. As a nonmajor at Yale, he performed the Copland and Mozart concertos and studied with David Shifrin. As a graduate student in molecular biology at MIT, Asher deepened into chamber music under the influence of John Harbison. Summer experiences at the Apple Hill Center for Chamber Music were formative as well, especially due to the coaching of bassoonist John Steinmetz.

Since returning to California, he has accompanied singers in numerous opera productions, become a professional chamber coach with CMNC, and developed voice as his second instrument (his bargain counter-tenor would be his third). A copyeditor, science education developer, and former high school biology and chemistry teacher, Asher has directed the medieval chamber choir Coro Ciconia and currently sings with San Francisco Choral Artists (Magen Solomon), SF Renaissance Voices (Don Scott Carpenter), the all-genders treble choir 21V (Martin Benvenuto), and the choir of St John's Ross (John Karl Hirten); his recent vocal study has been with Karen Clark and James Toland. He resides in "the city" (Richmond, across the bay) with his alto spouse Sarah Rose Cohen and their exuberant "not a little kid" Zephyr.

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For almost 3 decades, **Larry Chinn** has played jazz piano in the BayArea. Besides working with Margie Baker, Jules Broussard, and Al Molina, Larry has also worked with Branford Marsalis, Frank Wess, John Handy, Pharoah Saunders, Mark Murphy, Marcus Shelby, Tiffany Austin, Kellye Gray, Madeline Eastman, and Richie Cole in locales ranging from neighborhood pubs to luxury hotels and premier jazz venues like Yoshi's, Pearl's, and the Monterey Jazz Festival. During his time at Berklee College of Music and Pomona College, Larry studied with Bobby Bradford and Mark Levine for a short period of time. Find out more at <http://www.larrychinn.com>

# Events, Meetings & Volunteer Opportunities ([www.uusf.org/news](http://www.uusf.org/news))

## General Assembly Debrief - Sunday, August 21, 12:30pm, TSK Room & On Zoom

Are you interested in hearing about what went on at our denomination's annual national get together? Those of us who are interested and who attend the service that day, can come join us. You can also join us online at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/725737157>

## Sunday School Registration is Open!

We are excited about our program this year and the ways we will be exploring religious education. We will have opportunities for children and youth to engage in group activities, age based classrooms, and fun field trips! Please register your family so we know who to expect and be better able to plan appropriately. Visit this link to register: <https://bit.ly/registeruusf2022>

**Sunday School Volunteers Needed!** If you are interested in volunteering in the classroom or helping with a large group activity this year in our Sunday School program, then please contact Rev. Laura Shennum at [lsennum@uusf.org](mailto:lsennum@uusf.org) for more information. This is a great way for you to get to know and contribute to the learning of our children and youth!

## UU THE VOTE! Becoming a Good Trouble Congregation - Sunday, August 21, 12:30pm, MLK Room

We are writing letters to encourage underrepresented voters to make their voices heard in November. Come to the MLK room after the service this Sunday and each Sunday in August to return letters you took home to complete or pick up others. You are invited to stay to write in community (brief training for those new to the project). Feel free to bring your lunch and/or food to share with others.

Can't write but want to help? Donations for postage are greatly appreciated.

Want to help but can't make it to church? You can email [jpwald@waldlawyers.com](mailto:jpwald@waldlawyers.com) or leave a message at the church office. Give your name and contact information, say you want to help with letter writing, and you will hear from a member of the Good Trouble organizing group.

## Journey To Wholeness: Educating Ourselves Through the Arts

If we are serious about dismantling structural racism, we have a lot to learn. Our principles already call upon us to support one another in spiritual growth. One way to begin is by shared exploration of the cultural riches given to us by peoples of the world majority. If you'd like to connect with other members or friends of UUSF planning to attend, let us know here: [racialjustice.info@uusf.org](mailto:racialjustice.info@uusf.org).

## Opportunity of the Week: Performance "Borrowed Tongue: New Writings from Poetas"

Saturday August 27, 7:00 - 9:00 pm at Medicine for Nightmares Bookstore Gallery, 3036 24th St., San Francisco, CA, 94110. Language, commerce and colonial history once connected the world's original global cities of Manila, Madrid and Mexico City. This reading explores how poets in the Filipinx and Latinx diasporas refigure identity and rediscover kinship in a multicultural and postcolonial world.

More info about this event go to <https://bit.ly/3wdHp9K>

## Black, Indigenous, & People of Color Gathering - September 4 from 9:30am to 10:50am

The sacred space is open to our members and friends who are Black, Indigenous and People of Color. The meeting takes place by Zoom (for now) on the first Sunday of every month often from 9:30-11am. If you are interested in attending or finding out more, please email [bipoc@uusf.org](mailto:bipoc@uusf.org). Please come join this space for joy, renewal, care and inspiration.

## Interfaith Food Pantry Needs Volunteers! Website: [uusf.org/foodpantry](http://uusf.org/foodpantry) Sign-Up at [bit.ly/foodpantryuusf](http://bit.ly/foodpantryuusf)

UUSF is one member of the Interfaith consortium, and on **Saturday, September 24**, it is our turn to lead and staff the pantry. Volunteers work 7:30 to 11 am, loading in the groceries received from the Food Bank, assembling grocery bags, and taking the bags outdoors to distribute to participants. In these times of uncertainty and social distancing, it is uplifting to work alongside each other in love and service to our community. If you have questions, contact Hanna Hart at [info@uusf.org](mailto:info@uusf.org).

## Weekly Wednesday Vigil from 8:00 - 9:00am at UUSF

Once again, we will be holding an early Wednesday Vigil outside UUSF from 8-9:00 am. In these times of overturning Roe, the environmental attacks, and the seemingly ubiquitous mass shootings, we a small but intrepid band of protesters would really appreciate your support! There are times when we cue with a dozen people! There are times when we are just three or four. Nonetheless, we always show up at Franklin and Geary, showing off our shining ideals. These vigils are important, not just for expressing our own ideas, but also for giving a big smiley face to our church's love and service. Join us if you are open to a weekly "Good Trouble" experience. It feels wonderful to share in this camaraderie and spirit of the congregation.



AUCTION & PARTY / SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 12:30 PM

# HOMECOMING AUCTION UUSF 2022



## DONATIONS NEEDED FOR AUCTION!!

We need your **wine bottle donations** in order to create cases of wine to auction off at this year's auction. Please consider donating a \$15+ bottle of wine to support this major fundraising event for the UUSF!

Bottles can be dropped off at the church on Sunday or during the week (ring the bell and someone will come to take them from you). Contact **Thad Smith** at [630smith@gmail.com](mailto:630smith@gmail.com) for more information.

Other items sought include experience-based items such as trips, dinners and events, are particularly welcome, and other items for our online-auction are also welcome. Please contact **Debbie Wu** ([Debbiewu@mac.com](mailto:Debbiewu@mac.com)) if you would like to contribute. Include details such as price, dates, description, etc."

## AUCTION PLANNING COMMITTEE TO MEET - NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

**Sunday, September 18, 12:30 pm UUSF & Zoom:** <https://bit.ly/918auctionmtg> / **Website:** <https://www.uusf.org/auction>

This Sunday the 21st, the Homecoming Auction team will begin tabling!. Please come by and say hello to us in the lobby under our "Homecoming" banner. We are seeking two essential elements to make this October 16th after-church fete the best yet: Donations and Volunteers.

**Donations:** Include items that are experience-based, such as trips, dinners and events. These are particularly welcome as are other kinds of donations. If you are not in church this week, please contact **Debbie Wu** ([Debbiewu@mac.com](mailto:Debbiewu@mac.com)). Make sure to include details such as price, dates, description, etc.

**Volunteers:** There are many ways to volunteer for this all-church event. You can volunteer for an hour, for the day of the event, or for a fun project in advance of the Auction. We will have a list of special volunteer positions at our table in case you don't yet know what activity would make you most happy.

**Questions?** Call, email or text the co-chairs for this year's event, **Cheryl Deaner** 415-282-2200 [cdd.mft@gmail.com](mailto:cdd.mft@gmail.com) or **Gino Fortunato** 415-221-2387 [yospike0@yahoo.com](mailto:yospike0@yahoo.com).

## Adult Spiritual Growth Classes ([www.uusf.org/are](http://www.uusf.org/are))

### Morning Meta Meditation

Tuesdays & Thursday, 8-8:30 am (<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75735734442#success>)

A simple, centering loving kindness meditation practice which is appropriate for all religious backgrounds and levels of meditation experience.

### Equanimity Practice

Fridays, 8-8:30 am (<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75735734442#success>)

A meditation practice on cultivating equanimity—that is, accepting the reality of life's highs and lows and developing an attitude of peaceful calm abiding throughout the inevitable changes.





[CLICK HERE TO VIEW LAST WEEKS WORSHIP SERVICE](#)



10:50 AM SUNDAY

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# Welcome to the First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco

Since its founding in 1850 our congregation has been a beacon of religious liberalism in this city. During the Civil War, the [Rev. Thomas Starr King](#) was credited with keeping California in the Union. He also challenged racism, raised millions for humanitarian relief and inspired new efforts in education.

Unitarianism and Universalism in America both arose in New England during the American Revolution. Because the roots of both traditions are in the Judeo-Christian tradition, you will see on the walls of our sanctuary two inscriptions:

"What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?" (from the Hebrew prophet Micah) and "The Kingdom of God is within you." (from the Gospels)

Our religious forebears were far more interested in the teaching examples of Jesus than in beliefs about Jesus. Today we agree more about how we strive to treat others than we do about beliefs. Our backgrounds and spiritual orientations are diverse. Among us are people who consider themselves atheists, agnostics, humanists, Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Muslims, Pagans and people guided by other forms of spirituality and belief.

Belief is many things, and so is disbelief. But we are interested in what happens to us when we open our minds to wider truth, our hearts to compassion, and our souls to the call to work for justice and peace.

## OUR SOCIETY'S VISION

We, The First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco, delight in our authentic, inclusive congregation that reaches across generations, ethnicities, and differences. We take care of one another, building spiritual community, knowing that we are stronger and accomplish more together. Guided by our responsibility to future generations, we take leadership in shaping a compassionate, sustainable world. Inspired by our courageous heritage and compelled by conscience, we hold one another accountable to work for racial, environmental, and economic justice and the dignity and rights of all.

## OUR SOCIETY'S MISSION

As a vibrant, joyous, caring, inclusive community of diverse people, we create a nurturing space for spiritual growth and learning. Based on our shared values, we work together courageously and publicly for human rights, economic justice, and environmental salvation.

For more about our congregation,  
please visit our website at [www.uusf.org](http://www.uusf.org).

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco  
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