



# "The Dragon's Might: A Lunar New Year Celebration"

Sunday, February 11, 10:50 AM, 2024

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco





**Order of Service**  
**Sunday February 11, 2024**  
**10:50 AM - 12:15 PM**

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

New to UUSF? Complete Our Connections form at <https://bit.ly/uuconnections2024>

A Guide for Newcomers! - What to Expect During Worship (read at <https://bit.ly/newcomersguide-uusf>)

**Welcome to Worship!**

UUSF no longer requires masks indoors on our premises,  
following the lead of the San Francisco Department of Health.

We do, however, strongly recommend people to wear masks  
or do anything else that protects and respects their own health and comfort.  
There is a designated mask-only area on the far right side of the Sanctuary.

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Prelude	<i>Faith Is a Forest</i>	Chinese Folk Song MO-LI-HUA
	<i>Immortal Love Forever Full</i>	Charles V. Stanford
	<i>Make Channels for the Stream of Love</i>	Dale Wood
		Reiko Oda Lane, organist

Opening Words and Welcome	Kat Liu, Worship Associate
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Introduction to Lunar New Year

Unison Chalice Lighting	Rev. Sonya Sukalski, Sabbatical Minister
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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.

\*Hymn 163

*For the Earth Forever Turning*

BLUE-GREEN HILLS OF EARTH

[\(CLICK HERE OR TURN TO PAGES 6 & 7 TO VIEW HYMN\)](#)

Greeting One Another

Bell Anthem *Simple Gifts*

Shaker Hymn Tune / arr. Kevin McChesney  
UUSF Bell Choir led by Reiko Oda Lane, director

Story for All Ages “The Celestial Race” Adapted by Kat Liu Rev. Seanan Fong & Rev. Sonya Sukalski

Unison Covenant

Rev. Sonya Sukalski

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.

Reflection

Kat Liu

Music *Stand Alone*

Joe Hisaishi  
Akane Ota, mezzo soprano; Wm. García Ganz, pianist

*A tiny light illuminates the path we've walked, The buds of hope gaze into the distance.  
The more we wander and struggle, the stronger we grasp, dreaming. Embarking with determination, aiming for a single  
cloud. Searching for the path we walked together that day, A solitary prayer connects our hearts.  
Open your arms to the sky, gather the pouring light, Send it to friends, and dreams will come true.  
Carrying boundless emotions on the wind of tomorrow, I believe in the arrival of a new era.  
Embarking with determination, aiming for a single cloud.*

\*\*Children/youth exit to classes during doxology.

## Offering

Kat Liu

This morning's offering will go towards the **San Francisco Contemplarium**. The San Francisco Contemplarium (<https://sfcontemplarium.notion.site/>) is a new civic institution tending to the hearts and spirits of San Franciscans through contemplative public spaces, programming, community chaplaincy, and community-building—made by and for San Franciscans with diverse backgrounds, practices, and beliefs. To make a donation on Vanco (<bit.ly/uusfpayments>), using the Donate Button on our website, or by scanning the QR code below, please select the line for either Sunday Plate Offering or Special Sunday Offerings. The designation is important to ensure your gift gets applied correctly. If you are sending a check, please mark in the memo today's date, 02-11-24, "Sunday Plate"



## Offertory

*Gongxi, Gongxi*

Chen Gexin

UUSF Choir, Mark Sumner, director; Wm. García Ganz, pianist

*On every street and in every lane, On everybody's lips, Whenever people meet,  
The first thing they say is "congratulations." Congratulations, congratulations, congratulations to you.  
Winter has come to an end, That is really good news, A warm spring breeze is  
Blowing to wake up the earth. Congratulations, congratulations, congratulations to you.  
The icy snow has melted, See the plum tree blossom! The long night is past,  
I heard the rooster crow. Congratulations, congratulations, congratulations to you. After experiencing so many difficulties,  
Going through so many ordeals, How many hearts are looking forward  
To the news of Spring! Congratulations, congratulations, congratulations to you.*

## Sermon

*The Dragon's Might: A Lunar New Year Celebration*

Rev. Seanan Fong

## \*Hymn 348

*Guide My Spirit*

Please use alternative words below.

Guide my spirit while I run this race.

Hold my hand...

Guide my spirit while I run this race.

Be with me...

Guide my spirit while I run this race,

Search my heart...

for I don't want to run this race in vain!

\*Benediction

Rev. Seanan Fong

Postlude *Festival Voluntary*

William Mathias  
Reiko Oda Lane, organist

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\*Please rise in body or spirit.

## PARTICIPANTS

### **Worship Leaders**

Rev. Seanan Fong, Affiliated Community Minister  
Rev. Sonya Sukalski, Sabbatical Minister  
Kat Liu, Worship Associate  
Linda Enger, Board of Trustees

### **Sunday Support**

Shulee Ong, Camera; Eric Shackelford, Camera; Jackson Munn, Camera  
Jonathan Silk, Communications Director  
Thomas Brown, Jose Matias Pineda, Francisco Castellanos, Sextons  
Carrie Steere-Salazar, Flowers  
Linda Messner, Head Usher

### **Musicians**

Reiko Oda Lane, Organist and Bell Choir Director  
UUSF Bell Choir  
UUSF Choir  
Mark Sumner, Music Director  
Akane Ota, Mezzo Soprano  
Wm. García Ganz, Pianist

## ABOUT

**Rev. Seanan Fong** is an Affiliated Community Minister with UUSF and the founder of the San Francisco Contemplarium (<https://sfcontemplarium.notion.site/>), a new civic institution tending to the hearts and spirits of San Franciscans through contemplative public spaces, programming, accompaniment, and community-building. As a second-generation Chinese American, he is the co-author of *Family Sacrifices: The Worldviews and Ethics of Chinese Americans* (2019, Oxford University Press). His M.Div. is from Harvard Divinity School, where he studied Asian American religiosity and East Asian thought, and his B.A. in philosophy is from Stanford University. The Cambridge First Parish in Massachusetts ordained him in 2018. Having grown up in the Bay Area, he is proud to call San Francisco his home.

# 163 For the Earth Forever Turning

*♩. = 40*

1. For the  
2. For the  
3. For the  
4. For the

earth for - ev - er turn - ing; for the  
moun - tains, hills, and pas - tures in their  
sun, for rain and thun - der, for the  
world we raise our voic - es, for the

skies, for ev - 'ry sea; for our  
si - lent maj - es - ty; for the  
sea - sons' har - mo - ny, for our  
home that gives us birth; in our

Words: Kim Oler (et al. anon.), © 1990 Boosey & Hawkes, Inc.

Music: Kim Oler,

⊕ arr. by Nick Page, 1952- , © 1990 Boosey & Hawkes, Inc.

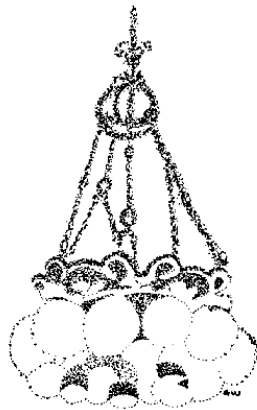
BLUE-GREEN HILLS OF EARTH

8.7.8.8.

P E A C E

lives, for all we cher - ish, sing we our  
 stars, for all the heav - ens, sing we our  
 lives, for all cre - a - tion, sing we our  
 joy we sing re - turn - ing home to our

joy - ful song of peace.  
 joy - ful song of peace.  
 joy - ful praise to Thee.  
 blue - green hills of earth.



348

## Guide My Feet

$\text{♩} = 72$

1. Guide my feet  
2. Hold my hand while I run this race.  
3. Stand by me  
4. Search my heart

Guide my feet  
Hold my hand while I run this race.  
Stand by me  
Search my heart

Guide my feet  
Hold my hand while I run this race, for I  
Stand by me  
Search my heart

don't want to run this race in vain! (*race in vain!*)

Words: Traditional

Music: Spiritual from the collection of Willis Laurence James, 1900-1966  
harmony by Wendell Whalum, 1932-GUIDE MY FEET  
Irregular

H O P E



## TODAY!

**Forum, Feb. 11 at 9 am (Breakfast). 9:30 am (event begins): SF Coalition On Homelessness - [www.uusf.org/forum](http://www.uusf.org/forum)**

Jennifer Friedenbach is the Executive Director of the Coalition on Homelessness—San Francisco. During her tenure, she has achieved significant victories alongside homeless people and community members, including crafting Prop C: Our City, Our Home, a tax on corporations that pays for homeless housing and will double San Francisco's efforts to address homelessness. These efforts have included the creation of a local housing subsidy serving hundreds of homeless families and adults, the acquisition of over 1,000 units of housing, the expansion of prevention efforts to halt displacement, and the expansion of substance abuse treatment. She has spearheaded numerous legislative reforms protecting the rights of homeless people and garnered public investments in programs that have saved countless lives. However, there is much controversy currently because of the noticeable rise in homeless encampments throughout the city, along with a rise in deaths due to fentanyl. Ms. Friedenbach will discuss these issues and explain some recent initiatives made by the coalition to address these latest concerns. This Forum event will be hosted by our Women's Rights Group. Zoom: <https://bit.ly/uuforum-02-11-24>  
You can phone in at +1 669 444 9171. Meeting ID: 913 7429 2850, Passcode: 628034

**Young Adult Lunch (and meeting Emma) - Sunday, February 11 at 12:30 pm in the Fireside Room**

Calling all Young Adults to get together for the first time in 2024 to connect, catch up, and meet Emma Wakeling, who recently joined as Membership and Young Adult Manager. It will also be a chance to share ideas about the Young Adult Group's activities for the year ahead. Light snacks will be provided.



## HAPPENINGS

**UUSF will once again be hosting the Interfaith Winter Shelter this year from February 12 to March 4.**

A partnership among San Francisco Interfaith Council, the SF Department of Homeless Services, and Episcopal Community Services, the IWS operates in different area churches during the coldest, wettest months of the year, providing shelter and meals to homeless men and women each night. We are looking for volunteers to help cook and serve breakfast Monday through Friday and folks who can help cook and serve dinner on six designated nights. We will also need volunteers to help with food procurement and with evening hosting. If you are interested in volunteering in any capacity, follow this link to sign up, or you can contact Gordon Sharafinski at [gsharaf@gmail.com](mailto:gsharaf@gmail.com), who will be coordinating volunteers, or Hanna Hart at [hanna@harts.net](mailto:hanna@harts.net). The shelter is always a favorite opportunity to make a difference! Sign up at <https://bit.ly/UUSFIWS24> or scan the QR code.



**Cathy Lyon Memorial Service - Saturday, February 24, 12:00 pm, Sanctuary/Livestream**

A memorial service is scheduled for Catherine Lyon, a long-time active UUSF member who passed away on December 18, 2023, at UCSF Hospital. Cathy was very active with the Society for Community Work, often serving as secretary and chair of the Sponsorship and Scholarship Committees. She was active with the End Zone group as well as the Minister's Book Club until her death. Pre-Covid, Cathy volunteered as the church receptionist. You are invited to a service celebrating Cathy's life on February 24th at 12:00 pm in the Sanctuary and online, with reception to follow.



Livestream: <https://bit.ly/CathyLyon>

**Sign Up for Small Group Ministry**

The Small Group Ministry program has groups that meet monthly to reflect on and listen to questions or topics with deeper meaning. Groups are open to new members and meet at various times. If you would like to try it out, then please fill out this registration form at <https://bit.ly/uusfsgm24>

# HAPPENINGS

## **Forum, Feb. 25 at 9 am (Breakfast). 9:30 am (event begins): Police DeMilitarization Now! - [www.uusf.org/forum](http://www.uusf.org/forum)**

What does police militarization look like in San Francisco and across California? Who does it impact? How do we change it? The American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) has been supporting communities across California in advocating for police demilitarization, with the help of a new state law that is bringing to light the extent of militarized policing in our cities. Learn about this new law and its impacts across California; take a closer look at San Francisco's police militarization; and learn what you can do to confront state violence in our communities. **John Lindsay-Poland** co-directs the California Healing Justice Program of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) in Oakland, California, and coordinates the Stop U.S. Arms to Mexico Project of Global Exchange. He has written about, researched, and advocated for human rights and the demilitarization of US policy for 40 years.

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## **Screening of "Also Happening: Violence and Oppression in the West Bank" - Sunday, February 25, 12:30 pm**

The Human Rights Working Group and the UU Justice in the Middle East committee will be screening "Also Happening: Violence and Oppression in the West Bank" on Sunday, February 25th, at 12:30 p.m in the TSK Room. It is the latest in the Voices from the Holy Land film series. Food will be provided before the showing and during the discussion afterwards.

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## **Monthly Parent/Guardian Group - 1st Sundays during worship (Sun, March 3)**

Facilitated by Rev. Laura Shennum, Minister of Congregational Life. Parents and guardians gather on the first Sunday after the doxology in the Fahs room to check in about our roses/thorns and offer each other support as well as resources. If you have any questions, contact Rev. Laura at [lshennum@uusf.org](mailto:lshennum@uusf.org).

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## **Newcomer Orientation - Sunday, March 3 at 12:30 pm in the Fireside Room**

Do you want to learn more about Unitarian Universalism? Join us in the Fireside Room after the service to meet some of our members and learn more about our congregation and Unitarian Universalism in the community.

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

### **LOVE AND DEATH - The Christian Scriptures for Skeptics, Seekers, and Religious Liberals**

A Six-Week Online Course with Rev. John Buehrens. Monday Evenings, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm, February 19 to March 25. This is quite unlike a traditional class in an orthodox Christian church during the season of Lent. Yet in 2024, Ash Wednesday, the start of that season, happens to fall on St. Valentine's Day, February 14. So perhaps we should ponder again a key assertion of the Christian mythos: Love Transcending Death. The final session is on Monday after Palm Sunday, starting what Christian tradition calls Holy Week. Each live session on Zoom will consist of three thirty-minute segments. The first will take up a key theme in the Christian scriptures, beginning with the meaning of the "Kingdom (or Commonwealth) of God" and the relationship between Jesus, John the Baptist, and the origins of the forty-day practice of Lent. The first key text will be the oldest and shortest of the gospel traditions, according to Mark. Participants will be encouraged (but not required) to read previous commentary by Rev. Buehrens in his book, *Understanding the Bible: An Introduction for Skeptics, Seekers, and Religious Liberals* (Beacon, 2004). Available through the UUA Bookstore, Beacon, Amazon, Thrift Books. Register at <https://bit.ly/loveanddeathuu24>

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### **Minister's Book Group, led by special guest host Asani Seawell**

Asani Seawell, a member of the UUSF, is going to lead the book group in February while Rev. Vanessa is on sabbatical. Asani has picked *How We Fight for Our Lives: A Memoir* by Saeed Jones for February. Asani Seawell (she/her/hers) lives in Portland, OR, and has been a member of UUSF since January 2023. A lifelong lover of books, she spent her high school and college years as a library assistant and almost chose a career in library sciences before pursuing her degrees in psychology.

#### **How We Fight for Our Lives: A Memoir by Saeed Jones - Wednesday, February 28, 6:30 pm, Zoom**

Haunted and haunting, *How We Fight for Our Lives* is a stunning coming-of-age memoir. Jones tells the story of a young, black, gay man from the South as he fights to carve out a place for himself within his family, within his country, and within his own hopes, desires, and fears. Through a series of vignettes that chart a course across the American landscape, Jones draws readers into his boyhood and adolescence—into tumultuous relationships with his family and into passing flings with lovers, friends, and strangers. Each piece builds into a larger examination of race and queerness, power and vulnerability, love and grief: a portrait of what we all do for one another—and to one another—as we fight to become ourselves.

This session will be on Zoom only, and more information can be found below and to register go to <https://bit.ly/mbg1232024>  
Questions? Email Alicia Cover at [acover@uusf.org](mailto:acover@uusf.org).

# Welcome to the First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco

1187 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109  
415-776-4580 / [info@uusf.org](mailto:info@uusf.org)

## 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.

## CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT (under construction)

In an effort to make the world a better place, we support each other's journey to seek truth with openness, curiosity and respect for different perspectives and paths.

As love is our spirit, we commit to respect, accept, listen to and support each other.

We hold ourselves and each other accountable by continually assessing our individual and community actions toward living into our covenant. This will include speaking up when someone's actions are not aligned.

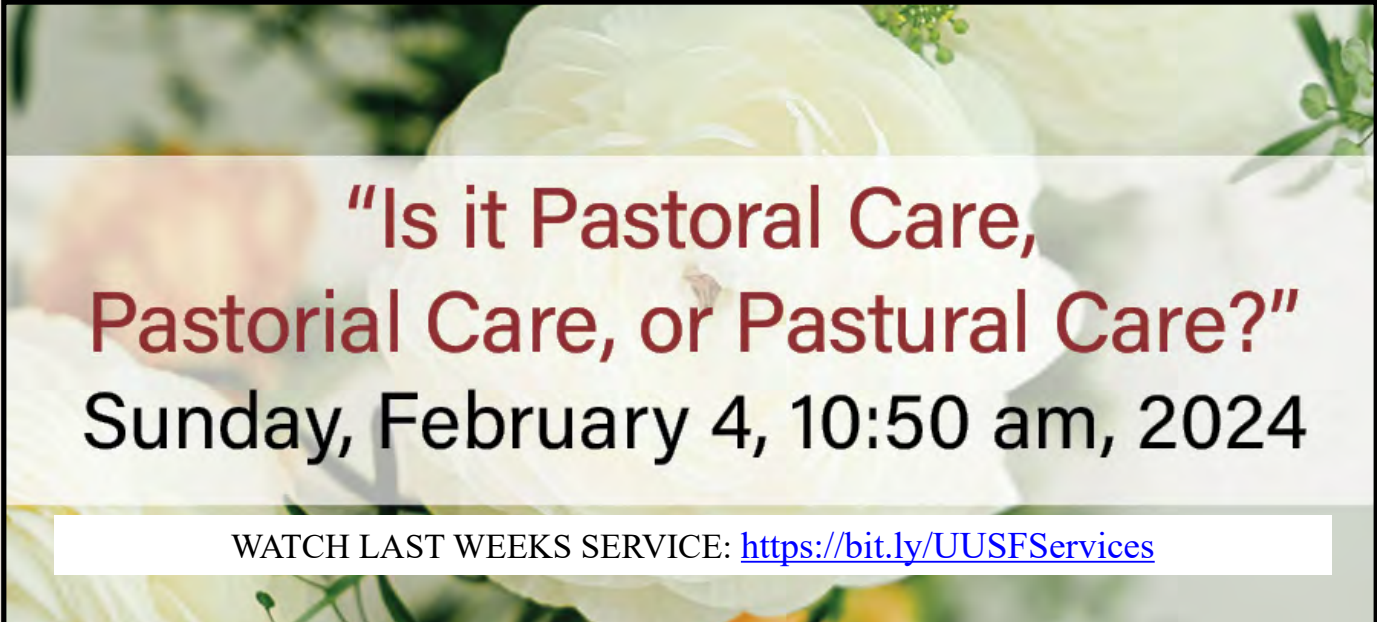
We commit to be in community with openness and loving kindness, acknowledging our own biases and differing perspectives.

## UUSF MEDIA

View our videos <http://www.youtube.com/c/UUSFMedia>

Check out our Podcasts <https://www.uusf.org/worship-archives>

Go to our website at <https://www.uusf.org/>



**"Is it Pastoral Care,  
Pastorial Care, or Pastural Care?"**  
**Sunday, February 4, 10:50 am, 2024**

WATCH LAST WEEKS SERVICE: <https://bit.ly/UUSFServices>