



## Order of Service Sunday February 25, 2024 10:50 AM - 12:15 PM

#### Livestreamed at bit.ly/uusfmedia

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

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

#### 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 <u>designated mask-only area</u> on the far right side of the Sanctuary.

Prelude Selections from the Solo Suites

Johann Sebastian Bach Andrés Vera, cellist

Opening Words and Welcome

Rev. Sonya Sukalski, Sabbatical Minister

Unison Chalice Lighting

Carmen Barsody, Worship Associate

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 126

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

Andy Kessler, songleader; Mark Sumner, pianist

(CLICK HERE OR TURN TO PAGES 6 & 7 TO VIEW HYMN)

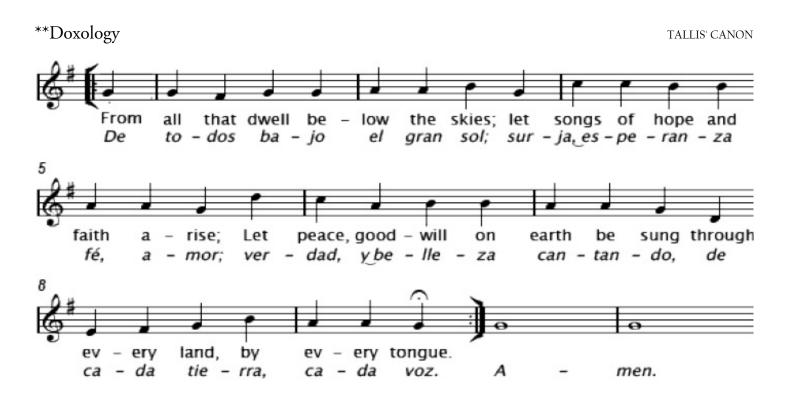
#### Greeting One Another

Story for All Ages "The Best Meal" by Nina Jaffe Rev. Laura Shennum, Minister of Congregational

#### 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.



Reflection

Carmen Barsody

Music Misty

Erroll Garner Andrés Vera, cellist

Time of Prayer/Meditation

Carmen Barsody

<sup>\*\*</sup>Children/youth exit to classes during doxology.

Offering Dr. Josie Lehrer

Today's offering will be given through the non-profit Fractured Atlas to support the work of the Men's Story Project (MSP). Founded in San Francisco in 2008, the Men's Story Project creates powerful live storytelling events, films, and social media in which diverse men and non-binary folks share bold, personal stories that take a stand for healthy masculinities, violence prevention, and gender and social justice. The MSP has helped to foster community, healing, inspiration, and transformation for hundreds of storytellers and thousands of audience members over time (in the U.S., Chile, Gaza Strip, and West Bank so far) and is ready and eager to grow as an international initiative for health and justice. Your donations can help this happen. Thank you! <a href="www.mensstoryproject.org">www.mensstoryproject.org</a>. To make a donation on Vanco (<a href="bit.ly/uusfpayments">bit.ly/uusfpayments</a>), 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, 02-25-24, "Sunday Plate"





Offertory Allegro

Friedrich Dotzauer Andrés Vera, cellist

Sermon What Will You Save?

Rev. Sonya Sukalski

\*Hymn 187

Sounds Along the Ages FAR OFF LANDS
Andy Kessler, songleader; Mark Sumner, pianist

(CLICK HERE OR TURN TO PAGES 8 & 9 TO VIEW HYMN)

\*Benediction Rev. Sonya Sukalski

Postlude Caprice #7 Carlo Alfredo Piatti
Andrés Vera, cellist

<sup>\*</sup>Please rise in body or spirit.



## **PARTICIPANTS**

### Worship Leaders

Rev. Laura Shennum, Minister of Congregational Life Rev. Sonya Sukalski, Sabbatical Minister Carmen Barsody, Worship Associate Galen Workman, Board of Trustees Dr. Josie Lehrer, Men's Story Project

#### **Sunday Support**

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

#### Musicians

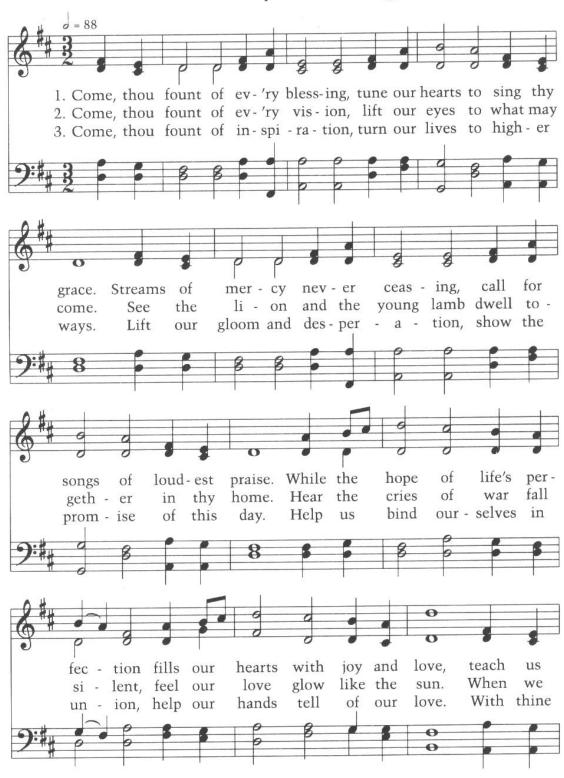
Andrés Vera, Cellist Mark Sumner, Pianist Andy Kessler, Songleader

## **ABOUT**



Andrés Vera is a San Francisco-based artist, musician, producer, and community-building professional. He began his career in 2006 with the Miami Symphony Orchestra and earned a Master's Degree in Music Performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Vera founded the Cello Street Quartet and later joined Quartet San Francisco, a Grammy-nominated cross-over ensemble. In 2019, he served as the advancement associate of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and as an administrative assistant at the Wiki Education Foundation. In 2020, he established Least Common Productions, a record label and production house, with composer and singer Adam Brett Ward. Andrés also maintains a private music lesson studio and teaches high school students stringed instrument playing.

## 126 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



Words: v. 1, Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, adapt.,

🕀 vs. 2–3, Eugene B. Navias, 1928–

Music: John Wyeth, Repository of Sacred Music, Part II, 1813

NETTLETON 8.7.8.7.D.

LOVE AND COMPASSION





## 187 It Sounds Along the Ages



Words: William Channing Gannett, 1840–1923 Music: Melody of the Bohemian Brethren, Hemlandssånger, Rock Island, Illinois, 1892, arr.

FAR OFF LANDS 7.6.7.6.D.





## Events, Meetings & Volunteer Opportunities (www.uusf.org/news)

## **TODAY!**

#### Forum, Feb. 25 at 9 am (Breakfast). 9:30 am (event begins): Police DeMilitarization Now! - 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. The forum will be conducted in person and will be made available on UUSF's YouTube channel later.

#### Screening of "Also Happening: Violence and Oppression in the West Bank"- Sunday, Feb. 25, 12:30 pm, TSK Room

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 available. A compassionate discussion will follow the screening.

## **HAPPENINGS**

#### UUSF is currently hosting the Interfaith Winter Shelter now thru 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. If you are interested in volunteering in any capacity, follow this link to sign up, or you can contact Gordon Sharafinski at <a href="mailto:gsharaf@gmail.com">gsharaf@gmail.com</a>, who will be coordinating volunteers, or <a href="mailto:Hanna@harts.net">Hanna@harts.net</a>. The shelter is always a favorite opportunity to make a difference! Sign up at <a href="mailto:https://bit.ly/UUSFIWS24">https://bit.ly/UUSFIWS24</a> or scan the QR code.



#### International Women's Day 2024, The United Nations & Women's International League for Peace and Freedom!

Sunday Forum and UUSF Women's Rights Group with Barbara L. Nielsen. Sunday, March 3, 9:30 am, TSK Room. A light breakfast will be offered at 9:00 am. Barbara L. Nielsen, a San Franciscan, has been actively involved in women's and peace matters at the United Nations, primarily through her membership in the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF).

#### 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 <a href="mailto:lshennum@uusf.org">lshennum@uusf.org</a>.

#### Global Conversations - Sunday, March 3 at 12:30 pm in the TSK Room

Considering the alternatives, four organizations present their visions of a better world for humanity. Those organizations are the Socialist Organizer, Revolutionary Communist Party, Freedom Socialist Party, and United Front Committee. Presentations, Q&A, discussions, and lunch will be provided at a nominal fee.

#### Newcomer Orientation - Sunday, March 10 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.

## **HAPPENINGS**

#### Article II Conversation with Rev. Cheryl Walker - Saturday, March 16, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Sanctuary/Livestream

UUSF invites congregations to discuss changes to Article II of the UUA's Bylaws, Principles, and Purposes, recommending a simpler, more values-based denominational covenant, with special guest Rev. Cheryl M. Walker. You can view the recommended changes at <a href="https://bit.ly/48zEEj7">https://bit.ly/48zEEj7</a> and RSVP for this event at <a href="https://bit.ly/Article2Rsvp">https://bit.ly/Article2UUSF</a>. To watch it online go to <a href="https://bit.ly/Article2UUSF">https://bit.ly/Article2UUSF</a>.

#### Broadway Sing Along Returns! - Saturday, March 16, 5:30 pm, TSK Room

Broadway Sing Along event returns, reimagined using electronic song scores and online ticket reservation. Enjoy a delicious catered dinner and sing as a soloist or part of a chorus of singers.

Tickets for the March 16 event are \$30.00 and can be purchased at <a href="https://www.bit.ly/uusfpayments">https://www.bit.ly/uusfpayments</a> or scan the QR code or in-person in the gallery after church. Select Events: UUSF-sponsored/Music & Entertainment from the list of options and pay electronically.

Questions? Carrie Steere-Salazar at Carriess@sbcglobal.net



#### Effective Altruists meet Unitarian Universalists! Saturday, March 23, 1:00 to 3:00 pm

This is a hangout and chat event hosted at UUSF, one of the few types of churches that are accepting of any religion, including not having one at all. The common thread between these two communities is that both care about humanity and making things better. We will bring some light vegan Thai fare. We would love for you to bring drinks or snacks to share if you can! Kids are welcome; the church has an outdoor playground right beside the courtyard where we are meeting. We are always looking for volunteers!! Please text Ruth Wong at 628-209-9005. For those new to effective altruism: <a href="https://www.effectivealtruism.org/">https://www.effectivealtruism.org/</a>

## Adult Spiritual Growth Classes (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 <a href="https://bit.ly/loveanddeathuu24">https://bit.ly/loveanddeathuu24</a>

#### 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 <a href="https://bit.ly/mbg1232024">https://bit.ly/mbg1232024</a>
Questions? Email Alicia Cover at <a href="acover@uusf.org">acover@uusf.org</a>.

# Welcome to the First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco

1187 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109 415-776-4580 / 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 <a href="http://www.youtube.com/c/UUSFMedia">http://www.youtube.com/c/UUSFMedia</a>
Check out our Podcasts <a href="https://www.uusf.org/worship-archives">https://www.uusf.org/worship-archives</a>
Go to our website at <a href="https://www.uusf.org/">https://www.uusf.org/</a>

