



“Christmas Eve”

Saturday, December 24, 4:45 PM, 2022
First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco



Order of Service
Saturday, December 24, 4:45 PM, 2022

Livestreamed at bit.ly/uusfmedia

New to UUSF? Complete Our Connections form at bit.ly/uusfconnections2022

Please stay masked during the Worship Service.

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Prelude *Te Deum* Marc-Antoine Charpentier
Jason Park, trumpeter and Reiko Oda Lane, organist

Welcome and Lighting of the Chalice Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern & Rev. Laura Shennum

*Carol *O come, all ye faithful* Words from Hymns of the Spirit, Universalist Hymnal, 1937

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;

Refrain: venite, adoremus, venite, adoremus, venite adoremus Dominum

Lo, humble shepherds, hasting to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks in the fields, draw near.
We too, with gladness, thither bend our footsteps.

Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

Refrain

The Story of Christmas

Storytellers: Claire Cover, Richard Davis-Lowell, Laura Shennum, Vanessa Southern



Introduction

Claire Cover

Reading The Gospel of Luke 1:26-33

Richard Davis-Lowell

Music *O come, O come, Emmanuel*

Arr. Loyd Larson

Nancy Munn, Soprano; Brielle Marina Neilson, Mezzo Soprano; Mark Sumner, Pianist

Reading The Gospel of Luke 2:1-7

Rev. Laura Shennum

*Carol *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* descant/arr. David Willcocks, Felix Mendelssohn
UUSF Choir, Mark Sumner director; Jason Park, trumpeter; Reiko Oda Lane, organist

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of peace! Hail the son of righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing on his wings;

Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Reading The Gospel of Luke 2:8-20

Claire Cover

Duet *Laudamus te*, from *Gloria*

Antonio Vivaldi

Morgen Warner, Maddy Gerlach soloists, Mark Sumner, pianist

Reading Matthew 2:1-12

Richard Davis-Lowell

*Carol *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

(Chorus)

O Star of wonder, star of light, star, with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us through this perfect night.

Frankincense to offer have I, incense owns a Deity nigh.
Prayer and praising, all are raising, worship God most high.

(Chorus)

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

(Chorus)

Born a babe on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,
love forever, ceasing never, in our hearts to reign.

(Chorus)

Homily

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern

Offering

Our offering this evening will go to **Up on Top**, an organization that was started by this congregation in response to a need that emerged for the families in the community. Although it is now an independent organization, its offices are housed here and members of this community serve on its Board as they always have. Even and especially in Covid, Up on Top has provided vital support for children in our neighborhood, critical to their academic achievement and social resilience, and to their families ability to work. There is more information in your order of service and online. We thank you, in advance, for widening the circle of love and generosity tonight, to children and families you may never meet. To make a donation on Vanco (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" 12-24-22.

DONATE

bit.ly/uusfpayments

Handbell Offertory

Pat-a-Pan

Burgundian Carol arr. Barbara Kinyon
UUSF Handbell Choir, Reiko Oda Lane, Director

*Carol *The First Nowell*

The First Nowell the angel did say was to
Certain poor shepherds, in fields as they lay, in
Fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a
Cold winter's night that was so deep.

Nowell, No-well, Nowell, Nowell, born is the king of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star, shining
In the east beyond them far, and
To the earth it gave great light, and
So it continued both day and night.

Nowell, No-well, Nowell, Nowell, born is the king of Israel.

And by the light of that same star, three
Magi came from country far; to
Seek a king was their intent, and to
Follow the star wherever it went.

Nowell, No-well, Nowell, Nowell, born is the king of Israel.

Candlelighting

The Ferree Family

Anthem *In The Bleak Midwinter*

Harold Darke

Morgen Warner, Kai Leith, soloists; UUSF Choir, Mark Sumner, director; Wm. García Ganz, pianist

Taking the Light with Us

Richard Davis-Lowell

*Recessional Carol *Silent Night*

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright round yon Virgin Mother and Child!
Holy infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight, glories stream from heaven a-far,
Heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia," sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, child of God, love's pure light radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht
Alles schläft; einsam wacht
Nur das traute hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh! Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

*Secondary Recessional Congregational Carol *Joy to the World!*

Joy to the world! The child is come: let earth with praises ring.
Let every heart prepare him room and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! Now gladness reigns: let hearts their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground.
Let righteousness, its glories show, as far as love is found,
As far as love is found, as far, as far as love is found.



SERVICE NOTES

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister
Rev. Laura Shennum, Minister of Congregational Life
Richard Davis-Lowell, Worship Associate
Claire Cover, Worship Associate

Musicians

Reiko Oda Lane, Organist & Handbell Choir Director
Mark Sumner, Music Director
Wm. García Ganz, Conductor
Jason Park, Trumpeter

Nancy Munn, Soprano
Brielle Marina Neilson, Mezzo Soprano
Maddy Gerlach, Soprano
Morgen Warner, Soprano
Kai Leith, Tenor

Choir

Soprano
Kathé Cairns
Mary Castiglia
Betsy Darr
Kathleen Farmer
Nancy Hardies
Amy Kelly
Lisa Lim
Maggie McGrann
Judith Morrow
Nancy Munn
Kelli Murray
Judy Payne

Millie Phillips
Olivia Puerta
Leandra Ramm
Tina Shibue
Laurel Sprigg
Judy Strachan
Morgen Warner
Shannon Warto

Alto
Bari Cornet
Alena Davis
Carol Davison
Barbara Delaney
Linda Enger
Megan Lehmer
Brielle Marina
Neilson
Diana Saylor
Janet Scott
Sharon Smith
Anne Steele

Carrie Steere-Salazar
Judith Stoddard
Louise VanHorne
Tenor
Ted Arnold
John Beighley
Rusty Harris-Bishop
David Jones
David King
Kai Leith
Logan McDougal
Ben Rudiak-Gould

Bass
Matt Anderson
John Bohman
Bill Klingelhoffer
Jason Nunan
Tom Bier
Jack Darr
Richard Fey
Eric Shackelford
Luis Maurer

The Handbell Choir

Diane Allen
Theda Burke
Cheryl Deaner
Barbara Delaney
Madalyn Fernandez

Maddy Gerlach
Les James
David Jones
Amy Kelly
Maric Munn

Judy Nichols
Kathleen Quenneville
Janet Scott
Harold Stoddard

Support Team

Eric Shackelford, Camera
Shulee Ong, Camera
Jackson Munn, Camera
Jonathan Silk, Director of Communications
Joe Chapot, Live Chat Moderator

Dan Barnard, Facilities Manager
Thomas Brown, Sexton
Robert DeLalo, Sexton
DeAndre Smith, Sexton

Flowers

Judy Payne, Amy Kelly, Carrie Steere-Salazar, Athena Papadakos

Poinsettia Dedications 2022



In honor of Naomi Menezes by her devoted son.

In loving memory of Art and Marie Pesch with love from Liz and Josh Pesch.

In loving memory of Ian Thurmond Mouser (1979-2021) from Jack and Betsy Darr.

To our families & friends from Dave and Dolores Perez Heilbron.

In memory of Gloria Kulik.

In memory of Barbara Workman.

In loving memory of Duane Raeburn from Nikki Raeburn.

In loving memory of Dr. Bob McCarthy from Michele Garside.

In loving memory of my late husband Dudley Westler
and my parents August and Rosina Fauland from Irene Westler.

In loving memory of Tod Mikuriya MD from Maryjane Mikuriya.

In memory of my lovely daughter Diana Castiglia from Mary Castiglia.

In loving memory of Mike Thomas.

To Layla Fernandez-Buehrens and Simon Fernandez-Buehrens
from John and Gwen Buehrens.

In loving memory of Desmond Boyd, Mary Boyd, Felix Laks and Ursula Lieder
from Bermingham/Boyd/Warren family.

In loving memory of Trudi Lionel, Ardeth Fortier,
Sonia Duffoo and Jeanine Bray from the UUSF Music Committee.

Remembering John A. Raiser from Helen Raiser.

UP ON TOP



For 21 years, UP ON TOP has provided after-school and summer programs for low-income San Francisco students and their families

While serving over 90 students this year, we expanded our literacy work with 826 Valencia, reinstated our Reading Buddy Program for our youngest learners, instituted a new STEM class with Randall Museum, offered private weekly tutoring sessions for all our students and began providing activities four evenings per week for neighborhood middle-school students. We also began offering fresh food support to UP ON TOP families four days per week!



BECAUSE OF YOU and your generous support, UP ON TOP is able to help meet the substantially-increased needs of our community.



We would appreciate your continued financial and moral support this year so that we can assure that these hard-working students get the academic assistance they so desperately need, the in-person enrichment opportunities to develop their social experiences and the recreational activities to help keep them healthy and fit.

Thank you for your consideration. Wishing you wonderful and safe Holidays! - UP ON TOP





Grateful & Going Forward Joyfully: Christmas Day

December 25 Virtual-Only Service

**“Grateful & Going Forward Joyfully: Christmas Day Virtual Service”
Sunday, December 25, 11:00 am Worship Service Livestream Only**

Christmas Day will be a day of gratitude and joy as six Bay Area UU churches collaborate to create a **virtual service only** at 11AM. You can snuggle up in your favorite PJs and a warm beverage to reflect on blessings from this year and how they will carry you forward into the new year joyfully. Senior Minister Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern will host a **virtual** coffee hour after the service. Tenderloin Tessie will be feeding the hungry on Christmas Day, so the UUSF office and church will be closed to the public on the 25th.

Livestream: <https://bit.ly/dec25uu>



“Letting Go & Beginning Anew” Sunday, January 1, 2023

**“Letting Go & Beginning Anew”
Sunday, January 1, 2023, 10:50 am, Worship Service Livestream (online and in-person)**

Rev. Laura Shennum, Minister of Congregational Life, preaching

We will gather to reflect on our past year, then set intentions for the upcoming year. This will be ritualized through a Fire Communion.

Livestream: <https://bit.ly/uusf012023>

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

Black, Indigenous, & People of Color Gathering - January 1 from 9:30 am to 10:50 am, Stebbins Room

The sacred space is open to our members and friends who are Black, Indigenous and People of Color. The meeting takes place by Zoom and in-person in the Stebbins Room on the first Sunday of every month often from 9:30-10:50am. If you are interested in attending or finding out more, please email bipoc@uusf.org. Please come join this space for joy, renewal, care and inspiration.

Sign Up to Volunteer for the Interfaith Food Pantry - Saturday, January 7 from 8:15 am to 11:15 am

Join a wonderful community of volunteers every Saturday to feed our lower income neighbors. UUSF is leading the pantry crew on January 7, so this is a great time to connect with other members. Meet at Old First Presbyterian (Van Ness and Sacramento) from 8:15 - 11:15 am (or come early at 7:30 to help unload the truck). We will distribute food to 315+ households. If this is your first time, please introduce yourself to UUSF Coordinator **Hanna Hart** at info@uusf.org. Sign-Up: <https://bit.ly/foodpantryuusf>
Website: <https://www.uusf.org/foodpantry>

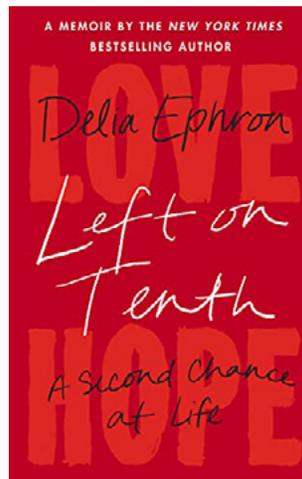
Newcomer Orientation - Sunday, January 8 at 12:30 pm in the Fireside Room

Interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism? Join us on January 8 after the service in the Fireside Room to meet some of our members and learn more about our congregation and Unitarian Universalism in the community. Questions? Email info@uusf.org

New UU: A Welcome Home - Sunday, February 12 at 12:30 pm at UUSF

Join our new Minister for Congregational Life Rev. Laura Shennum for our New UU class! Held in-person at UUSF after worship, this interactive class will introduce you to Unitarian Universalism and our congregation. Registration now open! Questions? Contact Joe Chapot (jchapot@uusf.org or call 415-590-7836) Register: <https://bit.ly/uusfnuewuwinter23>

Adult Spiritual Growth Classes (www.uusf.org/are)



"Left on Tenth: A Second Chance at Life: A Memoir" by Delia Ephron

Led by Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister

This is a story of enduring the loss of a spouse and a sister (so it is about enduring profound grief) and it is about illness (Delia Ephron is diagnosed with cancer) and it is about love so good for Mid-February! It is very readable and my best friend makes a cameo appearance so read it and come.

There are two opportunities to participate, both on Zoom.

Wednesday, February 15, 6:30-8:00 pm or

Thursday, February 16, noon-1:30 pm

Register for this class at <https://bit.ly/uusfmbgfeb23>. For more information, please see our Adult Spiritual Growth Program webpage at <https://www.uusf.org/are>

If you need help acquiring the book or purchasing it, please let us know at info@uusf.org for help.

Morning 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

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.

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 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

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