

"The Turbulence of Invitation"

Sunday, September 29, 2024, 10:50 am

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco





Order of Service
Sunday September 29, 2024
10:50 AM - 12:15 PM

Livestreamed at 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.

Stay Engaged: Explore Our Busy Hand Activity Station!

Did you know we have a busy hand activity station at the back of the sanctuary for all ages?

You can find fidget toys, coloring, and so much more.

Check it out if you need something to keep your hands busy during the service.

Please return items before you leave the sanctuary.

Prelude *Sonata in F Major, Op. 99 II. Adagio affettuoso* Johannes Brahms
Christoph Wagner, cellist; Joanne Kong, pianist

Opening Words and Welcome Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister

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.

*Hymn

Come, Come Whoever You Are

Mark Sumner, Music Director

Brief Invitations

Julia Wald, Trustee

Greeting One Another

Music *Chanson Triste*

Piotr Illyich Tchaikovsky
Christoph Wagner, cellist; Joanne Kong, pianist

Story for All Ages “The Scratched Diamond”

Unison 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.

Reflection

Gregory Stephens, Worship Associate

Music *Mensajes del agua* [Messages from the Water]

Andrea Casarrubios (b. 1988)
Christoph Wagner, cellist; Joanne Kong, pianist

**Children/youth exit to classes during doxology.

Times of Prayer/Meditation

Offering

This morning's offering will benefit the work and ministries of The First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco (UUSF). 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, 09-29-24.



Offertory Music *Sonata in e minor, Op. 1 No. 2*

Benedetto Marcello
Christoph Wagner, cellist; Joanne Kong, pianist

Sermon “The Turbulence of Invitation”

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern

*Hymn 311

Let it Be a Dance

MASTEN

Nancy Munn, songleader; Mark Sumner, pianist

([CLICK HERE OR TURN TO PAGES 6-9 TO VIEW HYMN](#))

Benediction

Postlude *Toccata in D-minor, Op. 59*

Max Reger
Reiko Oda Lane, organist

*Please rise in body or spirit.



PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leaders

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister
Gregory Stephens, Worship Associate
Julia Wald, Trustee

Sunday Support

Eric Shackelford; Shulee Ong; Francisco Castellanos, Camera Operators
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
Joanne Kong, pianist
Christoph Wagner, cellist
Nancy Munn, songleader
Mark Sumner, pianist

ABOUT

Wagner and Kong have been praised for their sensitive and dynamic artistry, including Strands of Compassion events at Unitarian Universalist congregations around the country. In these unique presentations, they combine live music, spoken reflections, and imagery to illuminate how embracing the connections we have to the natural world and all beings can bring about transformative spiritual growth, positive change, and planetary healing.

Dr. Christoph Wagner is a renowned cellist, chamber musician, and pedagogue with a successful international career. He has won numerous competitions and scholarships, performing in major concert halls across Europe. Wagner holds a Bachelor of Music, Master of Music, and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees. He is currently Assistant Professor of Cello at the University of New Mexico.

Joanne Kong is a renowned pianist known for her finesse, flexibility, and technical ability. She has received numerous awards and honors, including a Laureate in the National Beethoven Foundation Fellowship Auditions and the Irl Allison Grand Prize in the 1985 International Piano Recording Competition. She is currently the Director of Accompaniment and Coordinator of Chamber Music Ensembles at the University of Richmond.

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Let It Be a Dance

$\text{♩} = 56$

Let it be a dance we do. May I have this

dance with you? Through the good times and the

bad times, too, let it be a dance.

May be sung unaccompanied
 ⊕ Words & music: Ric Masten, 1929- , © 1977 Mastenville Music (BMI),
 ⊕ arr. by Betty A. Wylder, 1923- , © 1992 Unitarian Universalist Association

MASTEN
 Irregular

HUMANITY: WOMEN AND MEN

1. Let a danc - ing song be heard.
 2. Ev - ery - bod - y turn and spin,
 3. Morn - ing star comes out at night,

Play the mu - sic, say the words,
 let your bod - y learn to bend,
 with - out the dark there is no light.

and fill the sky with sail - ing birds.
 and, like a wil - low with the wind,
 If noth - ing's wrong, then noth - ing's right.

HUMANITY: WOMEN AND MEN

Let it be a dance. Let it be a dance. Let it be a
 let it be a dance. Let it be a dance. Let it be a
 Let it be a dance. Let it be a dance. Let it be a

dance.
 dance.
 dance.

Learn to fol - low, learn to lead,
 A child is born, the old must die;
 Let the sun shine, let it rain;

feel the rhy- thm, fill the need
 a time for joy, a time to cry.
 share the laugh- ter, bear the pain,

to reap the har - vest, plant the seed.
 Take it as it pass - es by.
 and round and round we go a - gain.

Let it be a dance.
 Let it be a dance.
 Let it be a dance.

TODAY!

The Unitarian Universalist Association's Annual General Assembly a Report Back on New UU Values & Actions! Forum with UUSF Delegates on Sunday, September 29, 9:30 am, TSK Room/Zoom

Our UUSF congregational delegates who participated in the 2024 UUA General Assembly this past June will present a report back on what happened there. This all-virtual 4-day event was attended by more than 3,400 delegates from around the country and the world. The decisions made and activities voted upon will affect us all in the coming days. Some subjects provoked lively, often difficult debates and conversations that preceded the voting on multiple various issues that they will discuss. A light breakfast will be available beginning at 9:00 a.m. Zoom link at <https://bit.ly/3XlbWA8>

We Don't Need No Stinkin' Fascism! Writers' Hopes for Humanity. - Sunday, September 29, 12:30 pm, TSK/Zoom

Join us for a literary festival with food, readings, theater, and music. Readers and performers include Dennis Adams, Susan Anthony, Michael Bossier, Robin Larsen, Mari Magaloni Ramos, Kathleen McClung, Bruce Neuburger, Gregory Stevens, Tyson Casey, Starr King School of Ministry, and special guest reader James Tracy. Bruce Clement provides an introduction, while Senior Minister Vanessa Rush Southern will guide the discussion. Zoom Link: <https://t.ly/sfwritersuusf>.

UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

Join Us for Community Suppers: Connect, Share, and Listen!

In September, the theme is "Practice of invitation," inviting community members to connect through casual meals. In October, Community Suppers will be held, hosted by members or friends, with soup, bread, salads, and desserts provided. The dates are October 23 or 26, with some dinners being family-friendly and others adult-only. The monthly theme is "Practice of Deep Listening," and participants can sign up as hosts or guests. If not, the next supper will be in February 2025. Please register at <https://t.ly/uucommunitydinners>

UUSF's Silent Auction Bidding Is Open!

Wouldn't it be fun to go bowling with the board? Enjoy delicious caramels? Have a Half Moon Bay outing? You can win these and many more items at the Garden Party Silent Auction, now underway <https://t.ly/silentauction>. To view the Auction Catalog <https://t.ly/auctioncatalog> to see 56 items just waiting for you! Great donations are available at many price points, and new donations are posted each week. The silent auction will only run until 2 p.m. on October 20th, so bid now and bid often! This is UUSF's biggest fund raiser of the year, and this year Fund-A-Need donations will fund our "UU the Vote" voter education work in Arizona as well as a future intern. Tickets are on sale <https://t.ly/auction-tix> or in the gallery both before and after services.

DONATE WINE FOR A GOOD CAUSE! - QUALITY BOTTLES OF WINE DONATIONS NEEDED FOR THE 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 \$20+ bottle of wine to support this major fundraising event for the UUSF! You can drop off your bottles of wine at the front desk at church during the week or at the Auction table in the Gallery on Sundays. For additional information, contact Thad Smith at 630smith@gmail.com.

Alison Owings & Del Seymour The Mayor of the Tenderloin - Sun, Oct. 6, 9:30 am, TSK Room/Zoom

Sunday Forum: In the book "Mayor of the Tenderloin: Del Seymour's Journey from Living on the Streets to Fighting Homelessness in San Francisco" (Beacon Press, 272 pages, \$25) paints a vivid portrait of a man who freed himself from drug addiction and dealing to fashion a way out for marginalized inhabitants of the area. Seymour earned the nickname Mayor of the Tenderloin. The meeting will be a conversation between Del and Alison Owings, who wrote the book. Alison Owings was trained as a journalist and worked in television news broadcasts for years. Her books include "Frauen/German Women Recall the Third Reich," "Hey, Waitress! / The USA from the Other Side of the Tray," and "Indian Voices / Listening to Native Americans." A light breakfast will be available beginning at 9:00 a.m. Zoom link: <https://t.ly/100624UUForum>

UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

Newcomer Orientation - Sunday, October 6, 12:30 pm, MLK Room

New to this community? New to Unitarian Universalism? Newcomers are welcome to join us after the service to meet some of our members and learn more about our congregation and Unitarian Universalism. It's a wonderful chance to meet other folks in the community, ask any questions you might have, and find out how to get involved in our programs and ministries. Attendees who need it will have access to free childcare. We look forward to meeting you!

Ballot Party - Sunday October 6, 12:30 pm, TSK Room

Come fill out your ballot in community! We will have some guest policy experts plus a volunteer from the SF ballot simplification committee to answer any questions about how the different measures work so you can figure out how to vote in alignment with your own values. We'll also provide some simple food to share. This event is co-located with UU The Vote, so if you're done with your ballot early, you are welcome to help write letters to encourage people in other states to vote.

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

Creating Your Own Theology Three Part Series - First Set: Thursdays, October 3-24, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

Rev. Laura Shennum's three-part series, "Creating Your Own Theology," will explore personal beliefs, systems, and integrating theology into communal theology, fostering deepening commitments in a covenantal faith community. To register go to <https://www.uusf.org/are>

Advance Care Planning and End-of-Life Options in California - Sunday, October 13, 1:00-2:30 pm, TSK Room

On October 13, a volunteer from End-of-Life Choices California will discuss California's advanced care planning and end-of-life options. The Reina Galanes, End of Life Choices California Board Member, will discuss the importance of sharing values and end-of-life wishes with loved ones; legal end-of-life options; and the resources and support provided by End of Life Choices California. Legal end-of-life options in California include stopping unwanted medical treatments; hospice care; palliative care; voluntarily stopping eating and drinking (VSED); and California's End of Life Option Act (also known as medical aid in dying). Refreshments will be provided. Questions? Contact Rev. Laura at lsennum@uusf.org.

Minister's Book Group - Wed, Oct. 16, 6:30-8 PM (Zoom)- "Touch the Future: A Manifesto in Essays"

In this month's discussion led by Rev. Vanessa Southern, we explore Deep Listening with John Lee Clark's collection of essays on the DeafBlind experience. Born Deaf into an ASL-speaking family, Clark became blind by teen years, leading the Protactile movement. His book is considered a "manifesto on the power and untapped potential of touch." To register go to <https://www.uusf.org/are>

Register for New UU Class - Sunday, October 27, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Fireside Room

Revs. Vanessa Rush Southern and Laura Shennum offer New UU, an interactive class that offers a deeper understanding of Unitarian Universalism and our congregation. Taking the class is also one of the steps to becoming a member; however, everyone is welcome, no matter their interest in joining UUSE. To register go to <https://uusf.org/membership#newuu>

CHILDREN/YOUTH PROGRAMMING

Nursery/PreK assistant teacher is needed!

We are hiring for an Assistant Teacher in our Nursery/PreK classroom. This part-time non-exempt staff member reports to the Minister of Congregational Life. The Assistant Pre-K Teacher provides safe, welcoming, developmentally appropriate care for infants and toddlers (up to age 5) during Sunday morning services, and may include additional hours during other church activities, including but not limited to meetings, and special all-church events. Ensure a safe environment for children and allow parents to participate fully in church life.

To register go to <https://www.uusf.org/employment>

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.

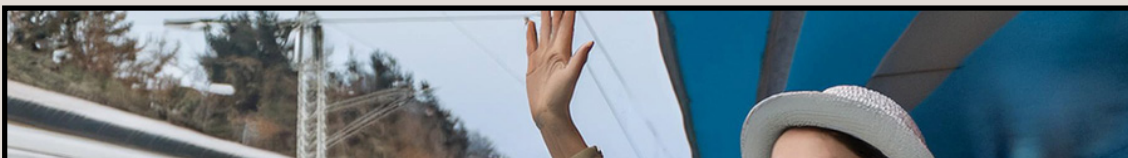
We welcome the newcomer, we commit to building trust with each other, we celebrate differences and make space for repair when harm occurs.

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/>



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

**"From a Wave to a Welcome:
Invitation as a Spiritual Practice"**
Sunday, September 22, 2024, 10:50 am



Scan the QR code ↑ to
visit our UUSF Media
YouTube channel and
view upcoming and
previously recorded
services.