

# **"Forgiveness & Repair: A Ritual"**

Sunday, November 17, 2024, 10:50 am

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco





**Order of Service**  
**Sunday November 17, 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.

**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.

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Prelude	<i>There Is A Balm in Gilead</i> <i>All People That on Earth Do Dwell</i>	American Spiritual / O Nelson Russell [Old 100th Psalm Tune] Thewes/Curry Reiko Oda Lane, organist
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Opening Words and Welcome	Rev. Laura Shennum, Minister of Congregational Life
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Unison Chalice Lighting	Carmen Barsody, Worship Associate
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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.

Greeting One Another

\*Hymn No. 1023

*Building Bridges*

ROUND

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

## \*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

Carmen Barsody

## Offering

Rev. Laura Shennum

Our offering this morning will be taken to support the work of The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). With your support, we're fighting for justice and equity in courts and combating white supremacists who are emboldened and energized. And we're helping teachers across the country create inclusive school communities where children are respected, valued, and welcome participants. [To learn more click or turn to page 5.](#) To make a donation on Vanco ([bit.ly/uusfpayments](https://bit.ly/uusfpayments)), using the Donate Button on our website, or by scanning the QR code below, please select the line for Special Sunday Offering. 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, **11-17-24**.



## Offertory Music

*Und ob es währt* from *Aus tiefer not*

# Felix Mendelssohn

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

*And even if it delays through the night and again in the morning,  
yet in the great mystery my heart will not doubt nor be anxious,  
act in this way, true peoples of Israel,  
that is produced from the spirit and the great waiting.*

## Meditation

Rev. Laura Shennum

## In Words

## In Silence...

*During this time if you have lost someone close to you in the past year,  
we invite you to stand or raise your hand in silent witness.*

## In Music

Comfort me, comfort me, comfort me, oh my soul.  
Comfort me, comfort me, comfort me, oh my soul.

Reading "Prayer Before the Prayer" by Desmond Tutu

Carmen Barsody

Song	<i>Hello</i>
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arr. Mac Huff, Greg Kurstin, Adele Adkins

Maggie McGrann; Lila Bailey, soloists, UUSF Choir, Mark Sumner, director; Wm. García Ganz, pianist

Homily "Forgiveness & Repair"

Rev. Laura Shennum

## Forgiveness Ritual

\*Hymn No. 18

*What Wondrous Love*

WONDROUS LOVE

[\(CLICK HERE OR TURN TO PAGE 7 TO VIEW HYMN\)](#)

## Invitations

Lucy Smith, Secretary, Board of Trustees

### \*Benediction & Extinguishing of the Chalice

Postlude      Allegro Maestoso [Sonata II]

Felix Mendelssohn  
Reiko Oda Lane, organist

\*Please rise in body or spirit.



## PARTICIPANTS

### **Worship Leaders**

Rev. Laura Shennum, Minister of Congregational Life  
Carmen Barsody, Worship Associate  
Lucy Smith, Secretary, Board of Trustees

### **Sunday Support**

Eric Shackelford; Shulee Ong; Francisco Castellanos; Eli Boshears 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  
UUSF Choir  
Mark Sumner, director  
Maggie McGrann; Lila Bailey, soloists  
Wm. García Ganz, pianist

## OFFERTORY

**The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC)**, founded in 1971 by civil rights lawyers Morris Dees and Joseph Levin Jr., serves as a crucial advocate for racial justice in the South and beyond, collaborating with communities to dismantle white supremacy and promote human rights for all individuals. Over the years, the SPLC has achieved significant legal victories against institutional racism, dismantled violent white supremacist groups, and defended the civil rights of marginalized populations, including children, women, immigrants, and the LGBTQ community. Its renowned Intelligence Project monitors and exposes hate groups and domestic extremists, while Learning for Justice provides educators with resources to foster inclusive and respectful school environments. Additionally, the SPLC maintains the Civil Rights Memorial and its interpretive center in Montgomery, Alabama, further solidifying its commitment to honoring the legacy of the civil rights movement. With offices in several Southern cities, the SPLC continues to be a vital force for justice and equality. More info at <https://www.splcenter.org/>

# Building Bridges

1023

$\text{♩} = 96$

(1) Fm Cm Fm Cm

Build - ing Bridg-es — be - tween our di - vi - sions, — I

(2)

reach out to you, will you reach out to me? With

(3)

all of our voic-es — and all of our vi - sions,

(4)

friends, we could make such sweet har-mo - ny.

Words: The women of Greenham Common peace occupation in England, 1983

Music: Contemporary English Quaker Round

## 18

## What Wondrous Love

$\text{♩} = 72$  Unison

1. What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what  
 2. When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when  
 3. To love and to all friends I will sing, I will sing, to

won-drous love is this, O my soul? What won-drous love is  
 I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink-ing  
 love and to all friends I will sing. To love and to all

this that brings my heart such bliss, and takes a-way the  
 down be - neath my sor - rows ground, friends to me gath-er'd  
 friends who pain and sor - row mend, with thanks un - to the

pain of my soul, of my soul, and takes a-way the pain of my soul.  
 round, O my soul, O my soul, friends to me gath-er'd round, O my soul.  
 end I will sing, I will sing, with thanks un - to the end I will sing.

Words: American folk hymn

⊕ New words by Connie Campbell Hart, 1929- ,

© 1992 Unitarian Universalist Association

Music: Melody from *The Southern Harmony*, 1835

WONDROUS LOVE  
 12.9.12.12.9.

## TODAY!

### **Critical Perspectives on the Genocide in Gaza - Sunday, November 17, 9:30 am, TSK Room/Zoom**

This Forum presentation by Ian Mooney, a PhD student at the University of Kentucky's Philosophy Department, and Vince DiJanich and Steve Morse, local war veterans, will discuss the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict and its impact on local and global ecosystems. The event will feature practical suggestions for understanding and engaging with the existential threat to life on earth. A light breakfast will be available beginning at 9:00 a.m. More info and links to Zoom can be found at <https://www.uusf.org/forum>

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### **Social Justice Town Hall - Sunday, November 17, 12:30 pm, TSK Room/Zoom**

What are we San Francisco Unitarian Universalists doing to repair our world? Given the election results, what do we want to do next? On November 17th, we will gather in a Town Hall meeting to chat and plot. Representatives of several active social justice groups will highlight their actions and suggestions. We will invite members of the congregation to comment, suggest, and participate. Zoom: <https://t.ly/uusftownhall>

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### **Young Adult Lunch Outing - Sunday, November 17, 12:30 pm**

Join UUSF young adults for lunch on the third Sunday of each month after worship, as we walk to a nearby cafe (location TBD) to connect with new and old friends. Open to all aged 18-39, this is a great opportunity to engage with the community. See Emma Wakeling for more info.

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### **BIPOC Small Group - Deepening Series - Third Sundays from 1:00-3:00 pm, Hybrid**

This small group will provide a space for the BIPOC community to engage deeply in spiritual themes and practices. Rev. Seanan Fong, an Affiliated Community Minister, leads this group.

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## UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

### **Get Ready for the Festive Fun: 3 Weeks to the UUSF Holiday Faire!**

After services on **December 8**, UUSF will host its annual Holiday Faire, a festive holiday party that simultaneously raises funds for the church. Your participation in the Faire is more than welcome, whether as an attendee, vendor, volunteer, or committee member. Here is this week's "wish list" for those who want to volunteer to support the Faire: 1) Host a table for craft-making or fun. 2) Provide holiday music at the event; 3) cook or serve at our fabulous chili luncheon; and 4) be a vendor. For more info or to volunteer, see our table in the Gallery or contact [holidayfaire@uusf.org](mailto:holidayfaire@uusf.org).

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### **Join Us for the Council of Committee Chairs Meeting! Sunday, November 24, 12:30 pm, MLK Room/Zoom**

On Sunday, November 24, immediately following the worship service, the Martin Luther King Room will host a Council of Committee Chairs meeting. We encourage all committees to send a representative! The focus of the meeting will be the services available to members from the Healthy Congregations Team, a discussion of food at events, and resources on how to avoid scams. Zoom: <https://t.ly/CommitteeChairsUUSF>

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### **Family Ministry Committee Thanksgiving Meal Together - Sunday, November 24, 1pm-3pm, TSK Room**

Join us for a Thanksgiving meal with our families. We invite everyone to share in the bounty and abundance by bringing a dish. We will eat and play games. Turkey will be provided. Please register to let us know what you will be bringing and how many will be attending.

Register at <https://t.ly/UI2ty>

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### **The Death Penalty is Dying. Sunday Forum with Bob Bacon - Sunday, December 1, 9:30 am, TSK Room/Zoom**

On December 1 at 9:30 am, Bob Bacon will lead a discussion titled "The Death Penalty is Dying" in the TSK Room and on Zoom. The session will explore the decline of the death penalty in California and across the U.S., examining the reasons for its decrease and persistence in certain areas, as well as strategies for its complete abolition. Bob Bacon, an attorney in Oakland with extensive experience in capital cases and a commitment to criminal justice reform, has been involved in this field since 1990 and is a long-time member of the Unitarian Universalist community.

A light breakfast will be available beginning at 9:00 a.m. More info at <https://www.uusf.org/forum>



# SOUL MATTERS (<https://www.uusf.org/soulmatters>)

## November: The practice of Repair

Repair. In a world of fast fashion and planned obsolescence, of consumer mindsets and quick fixes, there is a parallel world of people and practices that are about how to pull things broken, frayed, a little wonky, back into usable, mended states, and even broken things back into wholeness. Repair is that work. Many of you are familiar with the Japanese practice of "Kintsugi." It is literally that practice—"kin" meaning golden and "tsugi" meaning repair—where a broken piece of pottery is mended back together and visibly so, even thought more beautiful for the broken seams and wabi-sabi beauty of it. And in this parallel world bent on mending, there is the underlying assumption that we try not to treat the world and its things, but also its people and institutions, certainly not the earth, as dispensable, as incidental to our forward motion. We are in a world in need of a lot of repair. This month we think about some of the aspects of what it means to be menders. <https://www.uusf.org/soulmatters>

## Let Us Rebuild by Robert Lavett Smith

November is the season of repair,  
Before the winter rains assert their claim,  
When autumn is apparent everywhere,  
The numb sun shrunken to a faded flame.  
The brownest brittle leaves desert the trees  
That never are entirely denuded;  
Squirrels conduct their yearly inventories;  
Songbirds depart, their business here concluded.  
This is the moment to address the damage  
We've carelessly inflicted through the year,  
To speak of secret wounds with quiet courage,  
The path before us difficult but clear.  
Let us rebuild the ruins of the heart,  
Drawing upon forbearance, faith, and art.

## Minister's Book Group - Mayor of the Tenderloin by Alison Owings - Wednesday, November 20, 6:30-8 PM (Zoom)

"Mayor of the Tenderloin" by Alison Owings, which explores the life of Del Seymour, a key figure in San Francisco's Tenderloin neighborhood. The book details his journey from addiction to sobriety and his efforts through Tenderloin Walking Tours and the organization Code Tenderloin, aimed at helping marginalized individuals find and maintain employment. The book is available at Green Apple Books and digitally, with Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern and Sam Dennison of The Faithful Fools co-hosting the event. Register at <https://t.ly/MBGNov2024>

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

**If you're new, please familiarize yourself with the guidance and support available on Sundays below. If you have any questions, an usher, greeter, or member of staff will be happy to help.**

**COVID-19:** UUSF no longer requires masks indoors on our premises, following the lead of the San Francisco Department of Health. We do, however, encourage 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. If you feel unwell, please stay home and enjoy the service at home via livestream. ([bit.ly/uusfmedia](https://bit.ly/uusfmedia))

**BUSY HANDS:** Explore our Busy Hands activity station located at the back of the sanctuary. You will find things like fidget toys and coloring for all ages to help you keep your hands busy during service. Please return items before leaving the sanctuary.

**Pets:** If you came with your pet, there is a pet-friendly section on the furthest section on the left toward the front of the sanctuary.

**HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICE:** We can provide hearing assistance devices for the service. These are with the ushers in the back of the sanctuary, who will help you get oriented and comfortable with one.

**CANDLES:** In Unitarian Universalism we light candles to recognize sacred time, honor loved ones, mark important life events, and more. If you have something on your mind for which you'd like to light a candle, you are invited to come forward and light one silently during service.

**SOCIAL HOUR:** Everyone is welcome and invited to join us at social hour after service. This is normally in the courtyard (when weather permits) or in our Thomas Starr King room at the end of the hallway outside of the sanctuary. Help yourself to beverages and snacks!

**Welcome to UUSF: Connect and Discover**

**NEW TO UUSF?** Complete a Connections form to receive our newsletter, which includes a link to the Order of Service and Sunday Livestream. If you're at UUSF in person, you can find a yellow connections card at the welcome table in the gallery outside the sanctuary or in a pew in front of you. You can also fill it out online at <https://bit.ly/uuconnections2024>.

**A GUIDE FOR NEWCOMERS:** What to Expect During Worship (read at <https://bit.ly/newcomersguide-uusf>)

## You're invited to the next UUSF Board Meeting! - 3rd Tuesday of the month from 6:30 PM - 8:30 pm

The board meeting is open to UUSF members both in person and via Zoom. The board meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., and members are recognized and allowed to share (briefly) a thought or concern at the beginning of the meeting, but can stay for the whole meeting if they wish. Meetings take place in the Fireside Room. You can also join via Zoom; email the Secretary of the Board for the Zoom link: [secretary@uusf.org](mailto:secretary@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.

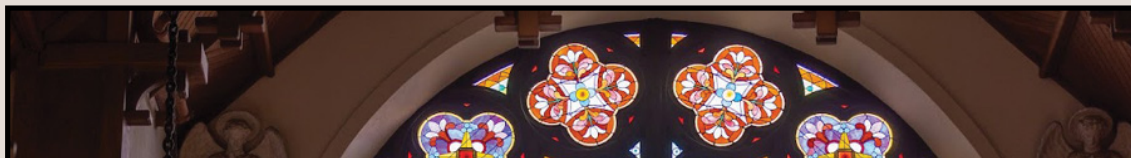
We welcome the newcomer, we commit to building trust with each other, we celebrate differences and make space for repair when harm occurs.

## 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>

**"The State of the Union  
and the Soul of the Nation"**  
Sunday, November 10, 10:50 am, 2024



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