

"Hanging of the Greens"

Sunday, December 15, 2024, 10:50 am

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco



Order of Service
Sunday December 15, 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	<i>Greensleeves</i> <i>Sheep May Safely Graze</i> <i>A Joyous Drumming</i>	R. Vaughan Williams Johann Sebastian Bach arr. Diane Bish Reiko Oda Lane, organist
Opening Words and Welcome		Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern
Unison Chalice Lighting		Oriana Moren

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.

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

*Unison Covenant

Eli Boshers

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.

Poem "The Kind Assertion" by Robert Lavett Smith

Calder Law

Offering

The offering this morning goes to **The Nature Conservancy** (<https://www.nature.org/>). The Nature Conservancy began when leading scientists, committed citizens and dedicated leaders came together with a shared vision to protect and care for nature. Today, they take on the most complex environmental challenges of our lives, and in collaboration, diverse staff, partners and members impact conservation across more than 70 countries and territories. To make a donation on Vanco (bit.ly/uusfpayments), using the Donate Button on our website, or by scanning the QR code on page 4, 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, **12-15-24**.



Offertory Music *To Be In Your Presence*

Daniel Nelson

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

Reading "Green, Green, Green" by Thomas Ahlburn

Rev. Laura Shennum

Introduction to Merry-Making

.....

Left side of the sanctuary: Go to TSK/MLK for Greens & Ornament —>
Sanctuary for Music & Stay in Sanctuary

Right side of the sanctuary: Stay in Sanctuary for Music —> TSK/MLK for Greens & Ornament —>
Wait until "Deck the Hall" to begin bringing in the greens!

.....

Bringing in the Greens

Deck the Hall With Boughs of Holly

John Ceiriog Hughes

Deck the hall with boughs of holly, fa la la la la . . .
 'Tis the season to be jolly, fa la la la la . . .
 Don we now our gay apparel, fa la la la la . . .
 Troll the ancient Yuletide carol, fa la la la la . . .
 See the blazing Yule before us, fa la la la la . . .
 Strike the harp and join the chorus, fa la la la la . . .
 Follow me in merry measure, fa la la la la . . .
 While I tell of Yuletide treasure, fa la la la la . . .
 Fast away the old year passes, fa la la la la . . .
 Hail the new year, lads and lasses, fa la la la la . . .
 Sing we joyous, all together, fa la la la la . . .
 Heedless of the wind and weather, fa la la la la . . .

Reading "In Celebration of the Winter Solstice" by Stephanie Noble

Festive Song *Gaudia, Gaudia*

Traditional Old English
Congregation

Gau-di - a, Gau-di - a come one and all. We wel - come you with joy to this fes - tive hall.

Gau-di - a, gau-di - a come join in song, and we shall have mu - sic all morn - ing long!

Chorus only will next 'bring their fa-la-la-la' section then:

All will repeat the above music then end with four "Gaudia"s and then SING!

Closing Words

Invitations

*Benediction & Extinguishing of the Chalice

Festive Song *Gaudia, Gaudia*

Traditional Old English
Congregation

*Please rise in body or spirit.

PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leaders

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister
Rev. Laura Shennum, Minister of Congregational Life
Eli Boshears, Worship Participant
Oriana Moren, Worship Participant
Calder Law, Worship Participant

Sunday Support

Eric Shackelford; Shulee Ong, Camera Operators
Jonathan Silk, Communications Director
Thomas Brown, Matias Pineda Salazar, Francisco Castellanos, Sextons
Linda Messner, Head Usher

Musicians

Reiko Oda Lane, organist
UUSF Choir
Mark Sumner, director
Wm. García Ganz, pianist

Christmas Eve

Celebrate the magic of Christmas Eve with us at 4:45 PM on December 24th. Enjoy a heartwarming service filled with candles and carols, creating a perfect atmosphere to embrace the holiday.

Honor Your Loved Ones This Holiday Season with a Poinsettia Dedication!

Please consider honoring a loved one by dedicating a poinsettia to our holiday display. We recommend a \$40 donation to sustain the sanctuary's floral arrangements throughout the year. Dedications will appear in the order of service on **Tuesday, December 24**. You may pay by check, and if there is a dedication, name it on the memo line. Alternatively, you may pay via the uusf.org payment donate button at <https://t.ly/uusfdonate>, and select the Sunday Flowers/Poinsettias line. You can enter the dedication online, but we recommend sending it via email to jsilk@uusf.org by 6:00 pm Wednesday, December 18.

People, Look East

$\text{♩} = 54$

1. Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the
 2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more
 3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more

crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are
 seed is plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to
 light the bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y

Peo - ple, look

a - ble, trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.
 nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish.
 weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.

east and sing to - day:

Peo - ple, look east: Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 Peo - ple, look east: Love, the Star, is on the way.

Words: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965, used by perm. of David Higham Assoc. Ltd.
 Music: Traditional French carol, harmony by Martin Shaw, 1875-1958, used by
 perm. of Oxford University Press

BESAŃON
 8.7.9.8.8.7.

TODAY!

Holiday Caroling Invitation - Sunday, December 15, 12:15 pm

We invite EVERYONE, including the vocally challenged, to join Mark Sumner and his traveling band of carolers on Sunday, December 15. We will meet in the Sanctuary just after church, starting with a walk to the Ivy House after organizing ourselves. We will be singing traditional holiday fare: well-known Hanukkah, Christmas, and Solstice favorites, with worksheets and songbooks provided.

Young Adult Lunch Outing - Sunday December 15, 12:30 PM

Join us on the third Sunday of each month to enjoy lunch with fellow UUSF young adults! For our next outing, after worship at UUSF, we will gather and walk to a nearby cafe (location TBD). This is a wonderful way to meet new folks and spend time with firm friends. We are open to all who are 18–39, whether you are new to our community or a long-time member. We hope to see you there!

BIPOC Small Group - Deepening Series - Third Sundays from 1:00-3:00 pm, Fireside Room

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

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)

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.

UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

New to this community? New to Unitarian Universalism? - Sunday, January 5, 12:30 pm, Fireside Room

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 great 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. Free childcare is available to attendees who need it. We look forward to meeting you!

Black, Indigenous, & People Of Color Group - 1st Sunday of the month from 9:30-10:50 am, Stebbins Room

Join us for a conversation and community-building event open to anyone who identifies as Black, Indigenous, or a person of color (BIPOC). Meetings are held via Zoom and in person in the Stebbins Room on the first Sunday of each month, typically from 9:30 to 10:50 am. To receive information about the next meeting or to be added to the mailing list, please email bipoc@uusf.org.

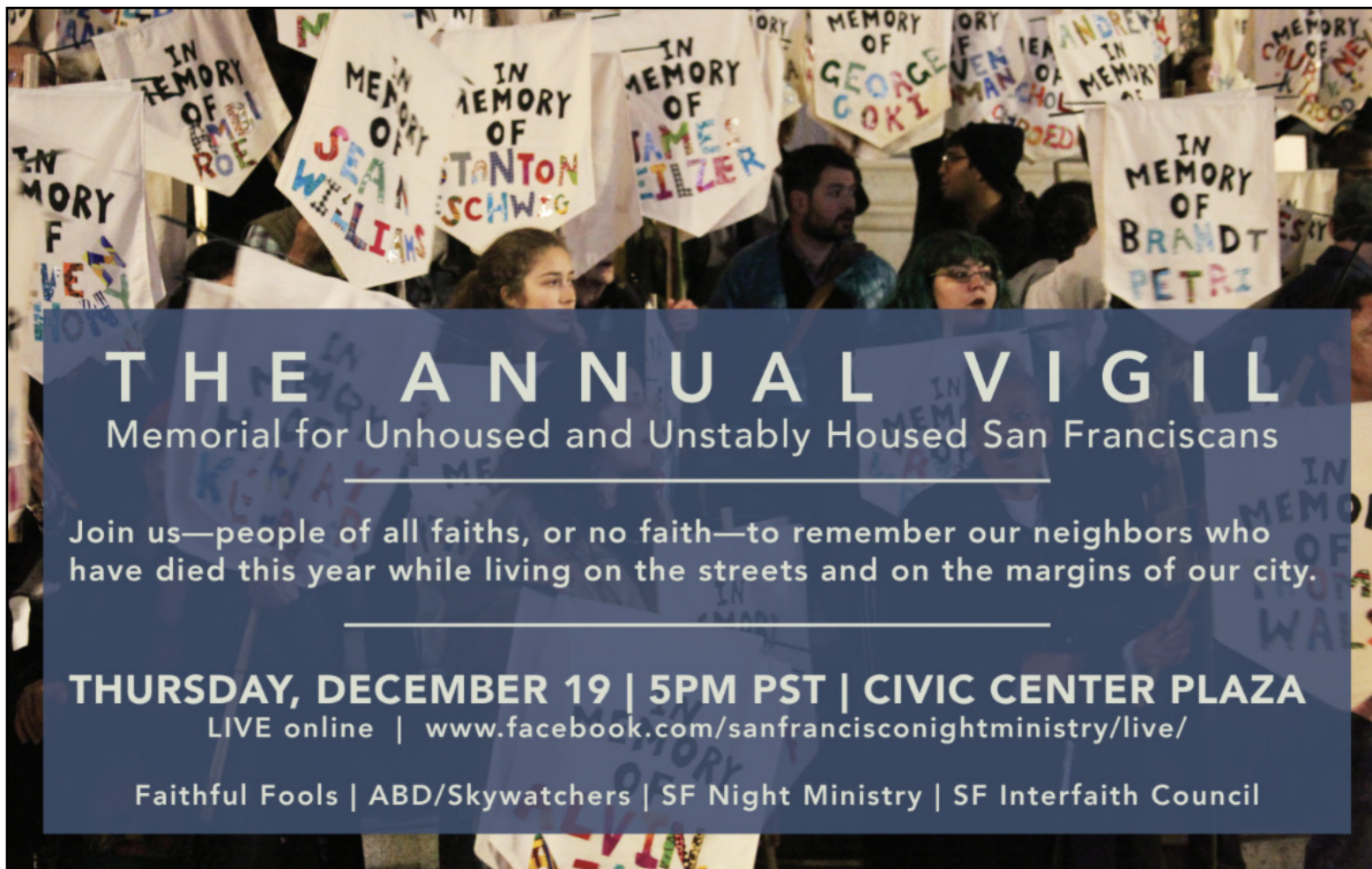
Poetry and Lunch with Robert Lavett Smith - Tuesday, January 14, noon to 12:30 pm on Zoom

This is a Zoom gathering to reflect on our monthly theme poem for January with its author, our own member and friend, Robert Lavett Smith. If you haven't had a chance to reflect in a group, this is your chance. For others of you who have read it in your small groups, heard it as part of worship, or spent time with it on your own, here is a chance to bounce your mind, heart, and spirit through and up against it again and see how things change. Go <https://www.uusf.org/soulmatters> to read the poem, in case you haven't had a chance to sit with it! Join us on January 14th at Noon. No advance participation necessary.

To register go to <https://t.ly/poemandlunch0114>

Wills, Living Trusts, and Legal Stuff - Sunday, January 19, 1-2:30 pm, TSK Room

Join Julia Wald and Ben Gale for a session on setting up legal documents to ensure your wishes are honored. Refreshments will be provided.



THE ANNUAL VIGIL
Memorial for Unhoused and Unstably Housed San Franciscans

Join us—people of all faiths, or no faith—to remember our neighbors who have died this year while living on the streets and on the margins of our city.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19 | 5PM PST | CIVIC CENTER PLAZA
LIVE online | www.facebook.com/sanfrancisconightministry/live/

Faithful Fools | ABD/Skywatchers | SF Night Ministry | SF Interfaith Council

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>

"How Do We Lead?"

Sunday, December 8, 2024, 10:50 am



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