

"Leaning In"

Sunday, March 9, 2025, 10:50 am

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco



Order of Service
Sunday March 9, 2025
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>Wake, Now My Senses</i> <i>Life Is the Greatest Gift of All</i>	Traditional Irish Melody / arr. Paul Manz BROTHER JANES' AIR / Harold Drake 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	Daniel Jackoway, 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.

*Hymn 83	<i>Winds Be Still</i>	LEAD ME LORD
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([CLICK HERE OR TURN TO PAGE 6 TO VIEW HYMN](#))

Membership Ceremony	Rev. Laura Shennum, Gino Fortunato, Emma Wakeling
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Greeting One Another

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

Children/youth exit to classes during doxology.

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.

Stewardship Moment

Offering

Daniel Jackoway

This morning's offering will benefit the work and ministries of **First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco**. Learn more at www.uusf.org. To make a donation on Vanco (bit.ly/uusfpayments), using the Donate Button on our website, or by scanning the QR code, 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, **03-09-25**.



Offertory Music *When There is Trust in the Room*

Mark Miller

UUSF Choir; Mark Sumner, director: Wm. Garcia Ganz, pianist

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

*I know this rose will open.
I know my fear will burn away.
I know my soul will unfurl its wings.
I know this rose will open.*

Reading "Beyond Sight" by Rosemary Wahtola Trommer

Daniel Jackoway

Music *Lean on Me*

Bill Withers; arr. Roger Emerson

UUSF Choir; Mark Sumner, director: Wm. Garcia Ganz, pianist

Sermon "Leaning In"

Rev. Laura Shennum

*Hymn No. 131

Love Will Guide Us

OLYMPIA

[\(CLICK HERE OR TURN TO PAGES 7-8 TO VIEW HYMN\)](#)

Invitations

Rev. Laura Shennum,

*Benediction & Extinguishing of the Chalice

Postlude *No. 4: Jupiter Theme from The Planets*

Gustav Holst
Reiko Oda Lane, organist

*Please rise in body or spirit.



PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leaders

Rev. Laura Shennum, Minister of Congregational Life
Daniel Jackoway, Worship Associate
Emma Wakeling, Membership and Young Adult Manager
Gino Fortunato, Membership Chair

Sunday Support

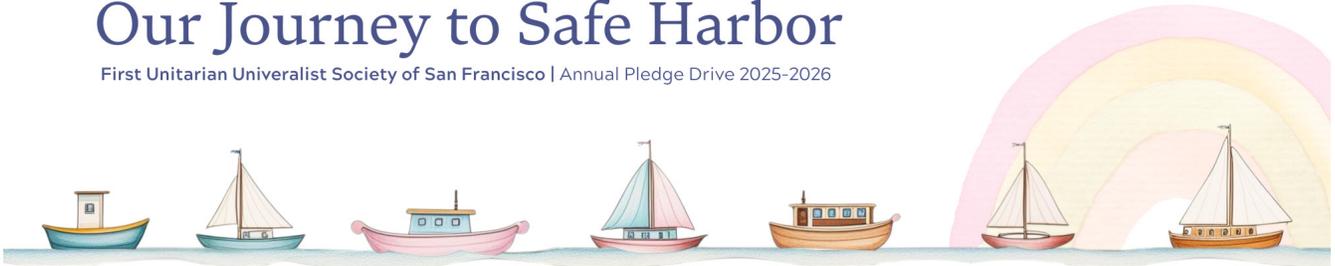
Eric Shackelford; Shulee Ong; Francisco Castellanos; Eli Boshears, Camera Operators
Jonathan Silk, Director of Communications
Kelvin Jones, Matias Pineda Salazar, Francisco Castellanos, Sextons
Carrie Steere-Salazar, Flowers
Linda Messner, Head Usher

Musicians

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

Our Journey to Safe Harbor

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco | Annual Pledge Drive 2025-2026



UUSF Annual Operating Fund Pledge Drive for 2025-26

It's Pledge Season! All March is the UUSF Annual Operating Fund Pledge Drive for 2025-26. Members, friends, and visitors alike make financial commitments to our community, enabling our ministry to flourish.

Learn more about the drive at the Pledge Table in the gallery, after worship.

To make your pledge go to <https://www.uusf.org/pledge>

<https://www.uusf.org/pledge>



Winds Be Still

$\text{♩} = 56$

1. Winds be still. Storm clouds pass and si-lence come.
 2. Bird fly high. Lift our gaze toward dis-tant view.
 3. Light shine in. Lu - mi - nate our in-ward view.

Peace grace this time with har - mo - ny.
 Help us to sense life's mys - ter - y.
 Help us to see with clar - i - ty.

Fly, bird of hope, and shine, light of love, and in
 Fly high and far, and lead us each to see how we
 Shine bright and true so we may join our songs in new

calm let all find tran - quil - li - ty.
 move through the winds of e - ter - ni - ty.
 sounds that be - come full sym - pho - ny.

131

Love Will Guide Us

$\text{♩} = 60$

1. Love will guide us, peace has tried us, hope in-
 2. If you can - not sing like an - gels, if you
 3. Love will guide us, peace has tried us, hope in-

side us will lead the way on the
 can - not speak be - fore thou - sands, you can
 side us will lead the way on the

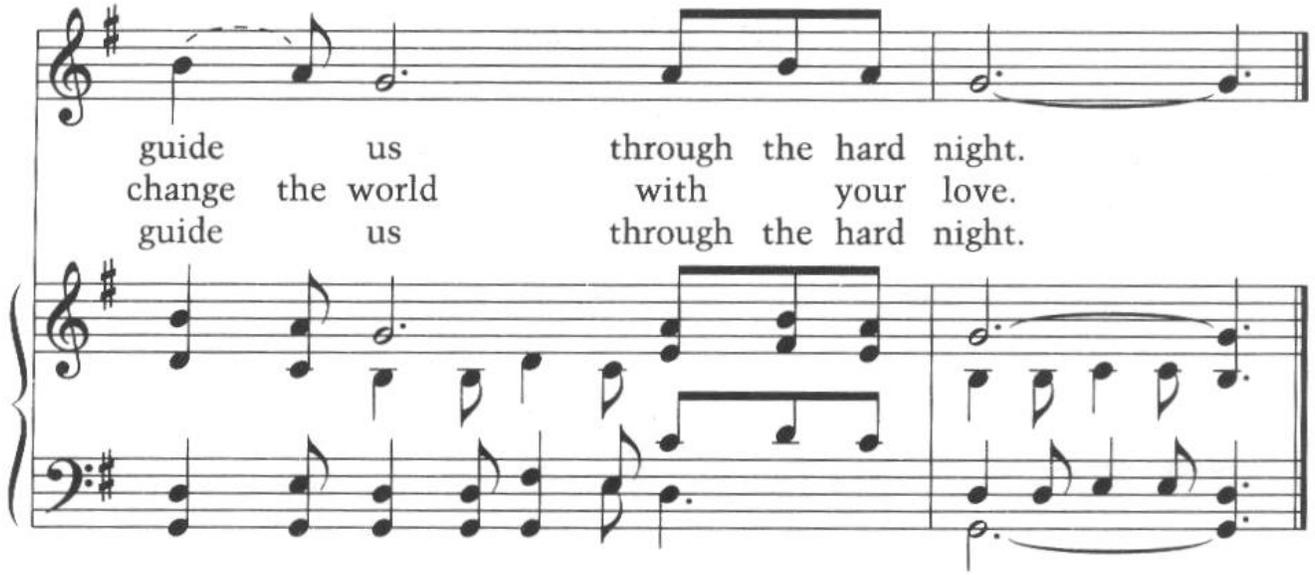
road from greed to giv - ing. Love will
 give from deep with - in you. You can
 road from greed to giv - ing. Love will

Words: Sally Rogers, © 1985 Sally Rogers, used by perm. of
 Thrushwood Press Publishing

⊕ Music: Traditional, arr. by Betty A. Wylder, 1923- ,
 © 1992 Unitarian Universalist Association

OLYMPIA
 L.M.

LOVE AND COMPASSION



guide us through the hard night.
change the world with your love.
guide us through the hard night.



TODAY!

Historical Fiction in the Service of Coexistence & Peace Booktalk & Fundraiser for HEAL Palestine with Michael J Cooper, MD. Sunday Forum, March 9, 9:30 am, TSK Room and on Zoom.

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

"Wages of Empire" and its sequel "Crossroads of Empire" follow 16-year-old Evan Sinclair during the Great War, highlighting the emerging conflict in Ottoman Palestine as Kaiser Wilhelm seeks control over Arabian oil and the Suez Canal. This historical fiction explores the intrigue and imperial ambitions of great powers alongside the quest for independence by smaller nations, with lasting implications. The author, Michael J. Cooper, is a pediatric cardiologist who has dedicated his career to helping Palestinian children through the non-profit HEAL Palestine.

UUSF invites you to join our Apartheid-Free Community celebration - Sunday, March 9, 12:30 pm, TSK/Zoom

Today after church we will be celebrating our congregation's unanimous vote to join the Apartheid-Free Community movement. We will have music, lunch, a few short presentations, and a request for donations to HEAL Palestine (<https://www.healpalestine.org/>), an NGO providing critical support to children with severe injuries and amputations. We will not turn away anyone due to lack of funds. Zoom: <https://t.ly/20250309>

Spread Love: Join Our Card Ministry After Service!

Plan to stop by the card ministry table after the service on Sunday. You will have a chance to write a card to those in our community who have experienced illness or loss, as well as a chance to thank those who are serving our community. Cards, notes, stickers, and postage are all furnished.

UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

Connect & Reflect: Join Our March Spiritual Discussion Group for 20s & 30s! - March 11 and March 18

Join the 20s & 30s Spiritual Discussion Group for online sessions on March 11 and March 18 from 7:00-8:30 PM, exploring the theme 'The Practice of Trust.' Open to individuals aged 18-39, these discussions will incorporate various sources like literature, music, poetry, and art. The later start time of 7 PM is a new adjustment based on feedback. For questions, contact Emma Wakeling at ewakeling@uusf.org.

Register: <https://t.ly/SpiritualDiscussion>

The Pagan Interest Circle Invites You Into Our Full Moon Ritual Circle, Saturday, March 15th, 2025, at 6:45 PM in the Chapel. We Gather to Invoke Persephone Before We Emerge From the Shadows and Welcome Spring

The Full Moon rises at 11:58 PM PDT on March 13th, bringing a Total Lunar Eclipse. The moon is in earth's shadow. Traditionally, lunar eclipses are not a good time to engage in intention-setting or spell work. They are portals of change, release, and chaos. Instead we are asked to observe what is within ourselves and what is around us. The earth casts its shadow on the full moon. These past few months we seem to be living, in Jungian terms, in a collective shadow-time. This full moon is shortly followed by the spring equinox, Ostara, whose themes are new life and balance. Persephone emerges from the Underworld at Ostara as the Goddess of Spring. Let's discover what She can teach us about living in, then emerging from, the Shadows. We will make personal Persephone talismans to hold and carry Her energy in our day-to-day lives. Please bring any objects you may associate with Persephone to place on Her altar. As always, finger food or a non-alcoholic beverage to share after the ritual is most welcome. Any questions? Contact Christine Patch-Lindsay at cplhealer@comcast.net or text (415) 424-6964.

An Inconvenient Reality: Reflections on the Civil Rights Movement, and America's History of Racism with Jeff Pekrul. Sunday Forum, March 16, 9:30 am, TSK Room and on Zoom.

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

I participated in a Civil Rights group tour in February 2025. The organizers called this "a trip every American should take," and I agree because I have a new understanding of our country's history. The organizers arranged for us to meet with people involved in important events like school desegregation in Little Rock, the Freedom Rides, and the march from Selma to Montgomery. I feel truly privileged to have met them and learned from them, and I would like to share some of that in this talk. Jeff Pekrul is a member of UUSF, a co-chair of the Human Rights Working Group, and a part-time activist for social justice causes.

Unlock Your Tech Skills: Join Our Training on March 16 in the TSK Room

Join us for a tech training on March 16 at 12:30pm in the TSK room. Open to all in the UUSF community, it covers Zoom, Google Drive, UUSF AV carts, and basic sound troubleshooting. Hosted by Alicia Cover and Gino Fortunato. No RSVP needed.

UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

Nuevo Sol Day Labor & Domestic Worker Organization - Sunday, March 16, 12:30 pm, Fireside Room

Join us for an afternoon of music, food, and conversation. Nuevo Sol directors Francisco Herrera and Guillermina Castellanos will present a brief history of their work in their neighbor-to-neighbor economic justice project—healing the local economy. Come listen, discuss, and find out how you can be involved and assist one of San Francisco's most important immigrant worker organizations.

Young Adult Lunch Outing - Sunday, March 16, 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! Email Membership and Young Adult Manager Emma Wakeling with any questions: ewakeling@uusf.org.

UU Global Partnerships - Saturday, March 22, 12:00 pm to 2:30 pm, Fireside Room

Bring a dish or snack and join the recently established Regional UU Global Partnership Council for Pacific Central District (PCD). We intend to get together quarterly to assist both current and future overseas UU Partnerships. See what we could do together with Love at the Center. Rev. Kevin Alan Mann will help to promote this initiative. Questions? Email revkev@uuoakland.org

20s & 30s Community: Spring Walk in SF - Sunday, March 23, 12:30PM

Join the 20s & 30s Community for a Spring Walk in San Francisco on Sunday, March 23, at 12:30 PM. Gather at UUSF in the Gallery after service, then travel together to an easy trail based on the weather. Bring appropriate clothing, lunch, water, and snacks, as food options near the trail may be limited. Emma will provide further details and her contact information before the event. For questions, reach out to Emma Wakeling at ewakeling@uusf.org. Register at <https://t.ly/SpringWalkSF>

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.

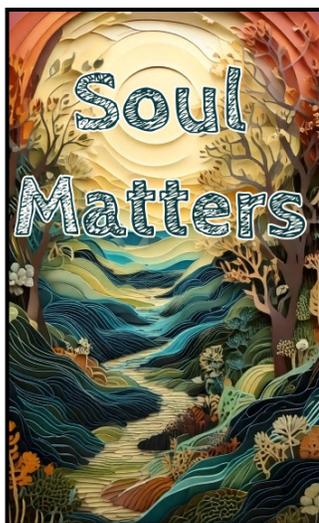
CANDLES: In Unitarian Universalism we light candles to recognize sacred time, honor loved ones, mark important life events, and more. If you have something on your mind for which you'd like to light a candle, you are invited to come forward and light one silently during service.

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>)



March: Trust

In her poem “Trust the People,” adrienne maree brown emphasizes the importance of trust in building connections and fostering community. She encourages us to trust those who feel like home, allow us to rest, and inspire us with their capabilities. Trust deepens through shared experiences, even in the face of breaches, and is essential for personal growth and emotional expression. This month, the theme “The Practice of Trust” invites us to engage in various activities that explore trust, including discussions, worship services, and creative expression. By leaning into trust, we can overcome fear and anxiety, enriching our lives and relationships. Participants are encouraged to reflect on their own experiences with trust and find ways to engage with the theme both individually and collectively.

Poem of the Month Something Constant Drawing Near

By Robert Lavett Smith

March is a mentor we must learn to trust—
The greening threshold of the ancient year
When soil revives and skies abruptly clear,
Seeds struggle into sunlight, as they must.
We feel within ourselves that upward thrust,
That sense of something constant drawing near,
Something whose steadiness allays our fear,
Its gifts ubiquitous but not discussed.
How confidently spring makes promises
The Steller’s jays seem certain it will keep;
This season means exactly what it says.
Our eyes turn skyward yet our roots go deep;
What lies ahead is anybody’s guess,
But, for the moment, we are done with sleep.



Photo: Friends

To engage in ancient practice of meditating on an image as a spiritual practice.

Written instructions can be found at <https://t.ly/visio-instructions>.

Watch this video recording and have us guide you through the process, go to <https://t.ly/marchsoulmatters>.

Minister’s Book Group

The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World by Robin Wall Kimmerer

Wednesday, March 19, 6:30-8:00 pm (Zoom)

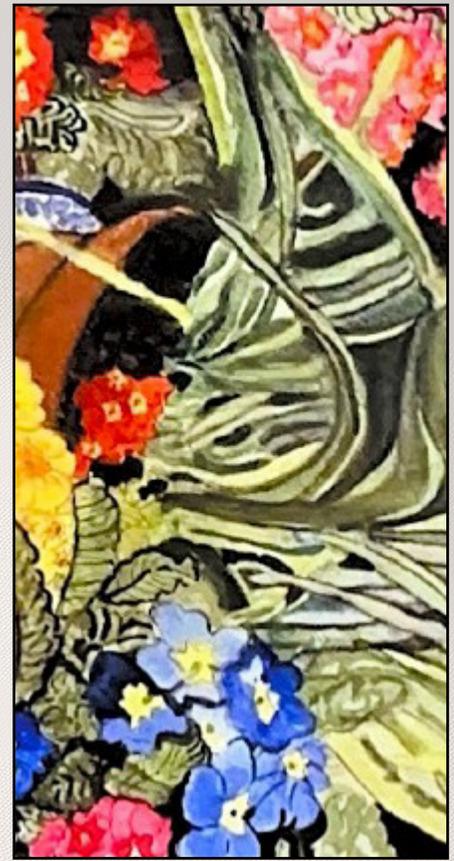
Led by Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern

In this month when we kick off our annual giving pledge drive and talk and think more about generosity, wealth, and how the world of resources comes to us and what it does to and for us, how it is a blessing and an invitation, and how we even pervert our understanding of resources, wealth, and our own well-being, we have Robin Wall Kimmerer and the noble serviceberry to reground us. Her newest book is small; the themes are familiar to those who have read Braiding Sweetgrass, and it is medicine for the soul.

More info and to register: <https://uusf.org/are#mbg>



Welcome to these invitations to go deeper. Website: <https://www.uusf.org/soulmatters>



Diane Devine

Presents

Flowers From a Painter's Garden

Kings Galleries

San Francisco Unitarian Universalist Church

1187 Franklin Street @ Geary

March 6 - April 27

Artists Reception: Sunday, March 30, 2025

12pm - 3pm



STARR KING WAY Performance Series 2025

FEB 2 – Special guest: **ANDREW FINN MAGILL**, multi-genre fiddler/violinist

MAR 2 – **NANCY MUNN & JOACHIM REINHUBER***

MAR 8 – **WICKEDLY FUN BROADWAY SING-A-LONG****

APR 5 – **TWO LOOKS AT ONE ACT****, immersive experience with a one-act play

MAY 4 – Special guest: **RITA LACKEY**, gospel songstress/pianist

JUN 29 – Special guests: **LOS CENZONTLES**, Mexican-American band

JUL 20 – **RAMI BAR-NIV***

AUG 31 – **GIACOMO FIORE***

SEP 21 – **SHANNON WARTO & BOB PHILLIPS***

NOV 9 – Special guests: **BERNAL HILL PLAYERS**, flute, clarinet, piano



SUNDAYS, 1:30PM, UUSF SANCTUARY
\$20 SUGGESTED DONATION FOR ALL EVENTS
*SKWPS IN-HOUSE PERFORMANCE
**SATURDAY 6PM WITH CATERED DINNER OPTION (\$30) MLX/TSK ROOMS

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>



"Safe Harbors in Stormy Times"
Sunday, March 2, 10:50 am, 2025



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