



## **"Trusting In Community"**

Sunday, March 23, 2025, 10:50 am

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco

**Order of Service**  
**Sunday March 23, 2025**  
**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      Polonaise in Aflat Major, Opus 53

Frederic Chopin  
Rami Bar-Niv, pianist

Opening Words and Welcome

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.

Greeting One Another

\*Hymn 83

*Winds Be Still*

LEAD ME LORD

Mark Sumner, songleader; Wm. García Ganz, pianist

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

The Mousehole Cat Part I

By Antonia Barber, Illustrated by Nicola Bayley

\*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

*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

Sam Hamner Miles Cunningham, Liam Hamner,  
Chantel Boshears and Eli Boshears, Stewardship Moment

The Mousehole Cat Part II

Offering

This morning's offering will benefit the work and ministries of **First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco**. Learn more at [www.uusf.org](http://www.uusf.org). To make a donation on Vanco ([bit.ly/uusfpayments](http://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, **03-23-25**.



Offertory Music Prelude in e minor, Opus 28, No. 4

Chopin  
Rami Bar-Niv, pianist

Meditation

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.*

The Mousehole Cat Part III

Music *Mi Ha'ish*

Rami Bar-Niv  
Rami Bar-Niv, pianist

Sermon "Trusting in Community"

Rev. Laura Shennum

\*Hymn No. 346

*Come Sing a Song With Me*

A ROSE IN WINTER

Mark Sumner, songleader; Wm. García Ganz, pianist

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

Invitations

Liz Strand, Trustee

\*Benediction & Extinguishing of the Chalice

Postlude *The Ritual Fire Dance*

Manuel de Falla  
Rami Bar-Niv, pianist

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\*Please rise in body or spirit.



The flowers today are in loving memory of  
Leslie Bader (April 3, 1930 - February 19, 2025)  
from Sara and Forrest McMahan.



# PARTICIPANTS

## Worship Leaders

Rev. Laura Shennum, Minister of Congregational Life  
Maria, Worship Associate

Sam Hamner Miles Cunningham, Liam Hamner, Chantel Boshears and Eli Boshears, Stewardship Moment  
Liz Strand, trustee

## Sunday Support

Eric Shackelford; Shulee Ong; Eli Boshears, Camera Operators  
Jonathan Silk, Director of Communications

Kelvin Jones, Matias Pineda Salazar,  
Francisco Castellanos, Sextons

Judy Payne, Flowers  
Linda Messner, Head Usher

## Musicians

Rami Bar-Niv, pianist  
Mark Sumner, songleader  
Wm. García Ganz, pianist

# ABOUT

**Rami Bar-Niv** is a highly acclaimed Israeli pianist known for his extensive international concert career. Born in Tel Aviv and a graduate of the Rubin Academy of Music and Mannes College of Music, he has won numerous awards, including the America-Israel Cultural Foundation Competition. Bar-Niv performs globally across various continents. He made history as the first Israeli artist to perform in Egypt after the Begin/Sadat Peace Treaty and has gained popularity through his recordings, which have received critical acclaim from major publications like The New York Times and The Boston Globe.

## 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.

# 346 Come, Sing a Song with Me

$\text{♩} = 56$   
A D

1. Come, sing a song with me, come, sing a song with
2. Come, dream a dream with me, come, dream a dream with
3. Come, walk in rain with me, come, walk in rain with
4. Come, share a rose with me, come, share a rose with

E7 A Bm E

me, come, sing a song with me, that I might  
 me, come, dream a dream with me, that I might  
 me, come, walk in rain with me, that I might  
 me, come, share a rose with me, that I might

A E A

know your mind.  
 know your mind. And I'll bring you hope  
 know your mind.  
 know your mind.

E7 A E

when hope is hard to find, and I'll bring a

A F#m Bm E A

song of love and a rose in the win - ter - time.

## TODAY!

### **Coyote Chronicles: Insights from Janet Kessler, the Urban Coyote Whisperer.**

**Sunday Forum, March 23, 9:30 am, TSK Room and on Zoom.**

A light breakfast will be available beginning at 9:00 a.m. - Zoom: <https://t.ly/20250323UUFForum>

Janet "The Coyote Lady" Kessler is a self-taught naturalist with nearly two decades of experience studying urban coyote behavior and family life. In her presentation, she shares her insights and passion for these animals, discussing their habitats, characteristics, and how to coexist with them, especially for dog owners. Kessler has mapped coyote territories in the city and collaborates with Dr. Benjamin Sacks' genetic lab at UC Davis to analyze DNA from coyote scat. For more information on her work, visit [www.coyoteyipps.com](http://www.coyoteyipps.com).

### **The 1187 Task Force's Vision for UUSF Center - Sunday, March 23, 12:30 pm, TSK Room/Zoom**

Join us for a meeting on March 23 at 12:30 pm in the TSK Room and on Zoom to discuss the findings and recommendations of the 1187 Task Force regarding the future of the UUSF Center. We will cover potential uses for the space, including insights on affordable housing and other community-focused initiatives. Everyone is welcome to participate and share their ideas! Zoom Link: <https://t.ly/taskforceuusf>

### **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](mailto:ewakeling@uusf.org). Register at <https://t.ly/SpringWalkSF>

### **Celebration of Life Service Leslie Bader - Sunday, March 23, 1:30 pm, Chapel**

Leslie's Celebration of Life will take place today, March 23rd, at 1:30 pm in the Chapel, followed by a small reception in the Fireside Room. We invite you to join us in honoring Leslie Bader, a devoted woman of faith who impacted many lives during her ninety-five years. A proud mother, grandmother, and active member of the First Unitarian Church for nearly 70 years, Leslie cherished her community and the friendships she formed there. She will be deeply missed by her family, and we encourage everyone to remember her through acts of kindness and reflection.



## UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

### **United Against Deportations: Stand with Immigrants! - Sunday Forum, April 6, 9:30 am, TSK/Zoom.**

A light breakfast will be available beginning at 9:00 a.m. - Zoom: <https://t.ly/20250330UUFForum>

Sanika Mahajan and Jesus Moctezuma will discuss the impact of the right wing's war on working-class people and the importance of solidarity with immigrants. The event aims to build a movement against mass deportations and address the systemic issues caused by the ultra-rich.

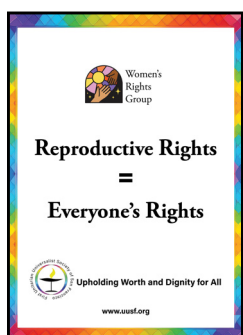
### **Flowers From a Painter's Garden Art Exhibit in the King Rooms - Artist's Reception March 30 at 12:30 pm**

Get ready to be dazzled! Diane Devine's stunning art exhibition, "Flowers From a Painter's Garden," is blooming in the Kings Gallery until April 27. The artist's reception is on Sunday, March 30, at 12:30 pm in the King Rooms, and you are all invited!

### **Celebrate UUSF's commitment to reproductive rights with a new banner!**

**Sunday, April 6, 12:25 pm - Zoom: <https://t.ly/WRGEvent>**

Join the UUSF Women's Rights Group on Sunday, April 6, to celebrate being "All IN" for reproductive rights with a group photo under a new banner at the UUSF Sanctuary North Wall at 12:25 pm, followed by a light lunch and discussion in the TSK Room at 12:45 pm (also available via Zoom). This event highlights the importance of reproductive rights, which encompass the right to have children and the right not to have children, and addresses the challenges posed by the erosion of moral agency and bodily autonomy. Everyone is affected by these issues, regardless of their background, and this gathering offers a chance to unite and advocate for comprehensive reproductive health care and support for all. You are warmly invited to participate and show solidarity with those facing threats to their reproductive rights.





## Feast for Freedom: An April 18 Potluck Celebration of Liberation and Tradition! Sign up Today!

Join us for a Passover Seder on **Friday, April 18 at 6:30 pm in the TSK Room**, featuring a potluck dinner and discussions on freedom and liberation. We will provide chicken, wine, and traditional foods, and encourage volunteers to help with set-up and clean-up, with a suggested donation of \$10-20. Sign-up after church in the gallery or go to <https://t.ly/passover-uusf>

## Faithful Fools Once in a Fool Moon Event - Saturday, April 12, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, King Rooms

Join us for a joyful party filled with dancing, singing, and games starting at 6pm, with food and costumes available. A suggested donation of \$75 per person is appreciated, but all are welcome regardless of resources. For more info and to RSVP go to <https://www.faithfulfools.org/>

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

## 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,

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

### Wednesday, March 26, 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 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>)

# 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>

"Trust the Body"

Sunday, March 16, 10:50 am, 2025



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