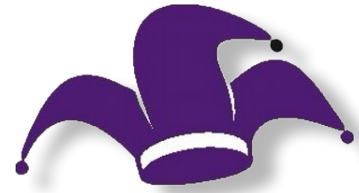


# "Attempted Poetry and Other Misdemeanors, Oh Joy!"

Sunday, April 6, 2025, 10:50 am

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco





**Order of Service**  
**Sunday April 6, 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.

Prelude	<i>Morning Has Broken</i> <i>What Wondrous Love</i> <i>A Joyous Air</i>	Keath Chapman/Dale Wood Eric Thiman Henry Purcell Reiko Oda Lane, organist
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Opening Words and Welcome	Carmen Barsody and Sam Dennison
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Unison Chalice Lighting	Carmen Barsody
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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	Share a Poem
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\*Hymn 361

*Enter, Rejoice, and Come In*

REJOICE

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

## \*Unison Covenant

Carmen Barsody

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

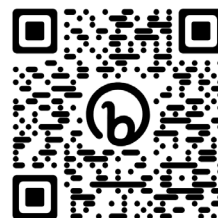
8  
 ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue.  
 ca - da tie - rra, ca - da voz. A - men.

## Poetry in our Midst

## Offering

Mari Magaloni Ramos

The offering today goes to support the work and ministries of the **Faithful Fools**, honoring the vision of co-founder Rev. Kay Jorgensen, who was a social justice minister of this congregation, and the shared commitment of UUSF and Faithful Fools for over 25 years. Learn more about the Faithful Fools at <https://www.faithfulfools.org/> 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, 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, **04-06-25**.



Offertory Music *Nun fanget an*

Hans Leo Hassler

UUSF Choir, Mark Sumner, director

Now begin to sing a good little song, let the instrument and lute also sound: to make music sweetly wants to deserve itself now: therefore beat and sing, so that everything resounds, help to decorate our feast also.

Meditation

Carmen Barsody

**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**

Reading

Sam Dennison

Song *This Joy*

Shirley Caesar, trans. Sumner

Soloists: Nancy Munn, Maria Gonzalez Gomez; UUSF Choir; Mark Sumner, director

Sermon *Discovering Unattended Poetry:*

Sam Dennison and Carmen Barsody

Song *This Joy*

Shirley Caesar, trans. Sumner

This joy that I have, the world didn't give it to me. X2  
The world didn't give it, the world can't take it away!  
this love; this peace; this JOY!

Brief Invitations

Lori Lai, Trustee

\*Benediction & Extinguishing of the Chalice *A Lamp In the Darkness*

Postlude *Hymn to Joy*

Theme from Beethoven's 9th Symphony  
Reiko Oda Lane

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\*Please rise in body or spirit.

# PARTICIPANTS

## **Worship Leaders**

Carmen Barsody

Sam Dennison

Kirsten Hove-Darr

Mari Magaloni Ramos, Worship Associate

Lori Lai, Trustee

## **Sunday Support**

Eric Shackelford; Shulee Ong; Eli Boshears, Camera Operators

Jonathan Silk, Director of Communications

Kelvin Jones, Matias Pineda Salazar,

Francisco Castellanos, Sextons

Amy Kelly, Flowers

Linda Messner, Head Usher

## **Musicians**

Reiko Oda Lane, organist

UUSF Choir

Mark Sumner, director

Nancy Munn, Maria Gonzalez Gomez, soloists

Wm. García Ganz, pianist



**Faithful Fools** and UUSF share values, history, and people. We are neighbors. It all began when Kay Jorgensen (then social justice minister at UUSF) began intentionally walking a path between Cathedral Hill and the Tenderloin. In 1998, Carmen Barsody, a Franciscan from Minnesota by way of Nicaragua, joined Kay in the daily walking between the one place and the other. That path became neighborliness, and neighborliness became community. Since then, Sam Dennison came to volunteer for a few months and managed to stay on for 14 years (and still going). Building community is the primary focus of Faithful Fools activities. We do art, advocacy, education, and accompaniment—whatever is needed to sustain community in these challenging times. We share with you, our UU partners, a commitment to the inherent dignity of every human being, an open exploration of spiritual principles and practices, and above all, a willingness to hang in there when everything seems topsy-turvy. [www.faithfulfools.org](http://www.faithfulfools.org)

## OFFERTORY UPDATE!

Last week we took the offering for Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF). We raised a total of \$787.



# 361 Enter, Rejoice, and Come In

$\text{♩} = 112$

1. En - ter, re - joice, and come in.  
 2. O - pen your ears to the song.  
 3. O - pen your hearts ev - 'ry - one.

En - ter, re - joice, and come in.  
 O - pen your ears to the song. To - day will be a  
 O - pen your hearts ev - 'ry - one.

joy - ful day; en - ter, re - joice, and come in.

4. Don't be afraid of some change.  
 Don't be afraid of some change.  
 Today will be a joyful day;  
 enter, rejoice, and come in.

5. Enter, rejoice, and come in.  
 Enter, rejoice, and come in.  
 Today will be a joyful day;  
 enter, rejoice, and come in.

Words & music: Louise Ruspini  
 ⊕ Arr. by Betty A. Wylder, 1923- , © 1992 Unitarian Universalist Association

REJOICE  
 7.7.8.7.

## TODAY!

### **Forests Forever with Paul Hughes - 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/20250406UUForum>

Forests Forever was established in 1989 during the Headwaters Forest issue in Humboldt County, leading to the preservation of 7500 acres of virgin redwood forest. Paul Hughes, the current Executive Director since 1993, has a background in conservation activism and journalism.

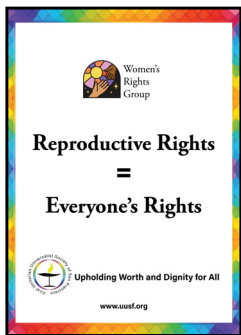
### **Black, Indigenous, & People Of Color Group - Sunday, April 6 from 9:30-10:50 am, Stebbins Room**

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](mailto:bipoc@uusf.org).

### **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.



### **New to this community? New to Unitarian Universalism? - Sunday, April 6, 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!

### **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

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

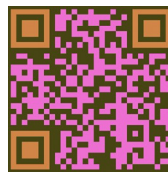
Join us for a joyful party filled with dancing, singing, and games starting at 6pm, with food and costumes available. A suggested donation of \$75 per person is appreciated, but all are welcome regardless of resources. For more info and to RSVP go to <https://www.faithfulfools.org/>

### **The Pagan Interest Circle Invites YOU to Make Magic with Us Under the First Full Moon of Spring**

The Pagan Interest Circle invites you to join their monthly full moon ritual on Saturday, April 12th at 6:45 PM in the Chapel, coinciding with the "Pink Moon." Participants will engage in a Rite of Spring by planting seeds, both literally and symbolically, to manifest their magical intentions. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own seeds to share and finger foods or non-alcoholic beverages for a communal gathering after the ritual. Questions? Email Megan Stoddard at [mstodd1@hotmail.com](mailto:mstodd1@hotmail.com).

## Join the Celebration: UUSF's Passover Seder on April 18th! Sign up Today

The UUSF annual Passover Seder, a celebration of liberation, tradition, and community feasting, is scheduled for April 18th, and everyone is invited to participate—you do not need to have a Jewish background, just a willingness to learn more. The event will include a potluck dinner featuring chicken, wine, and traditional Passover foods like matzo and matzo ball soup, and attendees are encouraged to volunteer for set-up and clean-up and to bring a dish to share. A suggested donation of \$10-20 is requested to cover costs, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Questions? Email Mia Shackelford at [miashackelford@gmail.com](mailto:miashackelford@gmail.com) or speak with Rev. Southern or Eric Shackelford after the service or sign-up at <https://t.ly/passover-uusf>



## Join the Adventure: All Church Retreat in the Redwoods

The All Church Retreat is scheduled for May 24-26 at the CYO Retreat Center in Sonoma County, where attendees can enjoy activities like campfire songs, workshops, and games amidst the beautiful Redwoods. The center offers comfortable accommodations and various recreational facilities, including a swimming pool and sports courts, while also being close to local attractions like Wild Flour Bakery and wineries. Registration is open until May 15, with fees ranging from \$175 to \$250 depending on age, and scholarships are available for those in need. To register and more info go to <https://t.ly/uusfretreat> or scan the QR code with your phone to register.



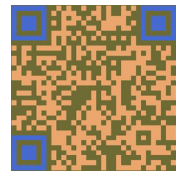
## Join Our New UU Class - Sunday, April 27, 1:00 pm, Fireside Room

The New UU class, led by Rev. Laura Shennum and Emma Wakeling, provides an interactive introduction to Unitarian Universalism, including its history, mission, and membership process. This class is open to everyone, regardless of their interest in membership, and is a step toward becoming a member at UUSF. The next session will take place on Sunday, April 27 at 1 PM, with snacks and childcare available; registration is encouraged. Register by going to <https://uusf.org/are#new-uu>.



## Participate in Community Suppers: Register by April 16 - Wed. April 30 or Sat. May 3

Community Suppers are scheduled for Wednesday, April 30, or Saturday, May 3, offering an opportunity to build connections over shared meals. Participants can choose to be hosts or guests, with hosts typically providing soup and bread while guests bring salads and desserts, and discussions will revolve around the theme 'the Practice of Joy.' Registration is required by April 16, and for more information or to sign up, contact Emma Wakeling at [ewakeling@uusf.org](mailto:ewakeling@uusf.org). Register at <https://t.ly/uusuppersspring2025> or scan the QR code.



# 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>)





# April: Joy

[uusf.org/soulmatters](https://uusf.org/soulmatters)

Joy is a funny thing—no pun intended—you can resolve to have more joy in your life (I’ve done that a few times in the last few years), but that isn’t how joy works, by working at it. It is often the thing that happens to you. Sometimes it happens when it is very appropriate, like laughing at a particularly awkward or sad moment. When it does happen, it feels like it adds years to your life, better than vitamins and exercise together. Maybe too, though you cannot make it happen, and working at it almost makes it harder to find, you and I can put ourselves in the way of it. We can pay attention to when we feel it, who we feel it when we are around, what we have to let go of to open up to it—and do more of all of that. Maybe too, these days, like so many days, when the world is falling apart, we can also just give ourselves permission to feel joy. The world isn’t more virtuous or more compassionate because we don’t feel joy. In fact, joy can be the engine and the fuel to keep us leaning into the storms and engaged in the muck and mud of the world. Maybe laughter is the

## Poem of the Month

### Pure Joy, Infectious

By Robert Lavett Smith

April is often wrongfully maligned  
By accusations claiming cruelty;  
The sun is warm, precipitation kind,  
The *smale fowles maken melodye*.  
Pure joy, infectious, spreads from tree to tree,  
As birds of every feather join the choir,  
Sharing without restraint, quite candidly,  
Their simple songs of satisfied desire.  
New foliage, a green and healing fire,  
Ignites its verdant chalice in our hearts;  
The human spirit rarely rises higher  
Than it does now, as celebration starts.  
Perhaps we’re destined for exuberance  
And joy may save us, given half a chance.

## Minister’s Book Group

*Private Citizens* by Tony Tulathimutte

Wednesday, April 23, 6:30-8:00 pm (Zoom)

Led by Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern

The theme of the month is “Joy,” and this is one of the books that the NYTimes chose as the “22 Funniest Novels,” so here we go. Written in 2016, the Times says the book, “is about millennial friends in pre-2008-crash San Francisco, thrums with Tulathimutte’s sly intelligence and unerring comic timing.” Tulathimutte got a graduate degree from Stanford, lived for a while in Noe Valley, and so we wonder: Do the characters sound familiar? Can we laugh at what is close to home? As well as what does humor have to teach us about ourselves, and how does joy change the day?

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

sound you hear when the world is being knit back together, and joy (along with love, courage, and stubbornness) is what is threaded through all the fraying and hurt places to make it gorgeous and whole again. Maybe. What gives you joy?



The above images are from the Museum of Black Joy. If you want to see more photos, go to <https://www.museumofblackjoy.com/>.

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/aprilsoulmatters>.



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



# THE ARTS AT UUSF

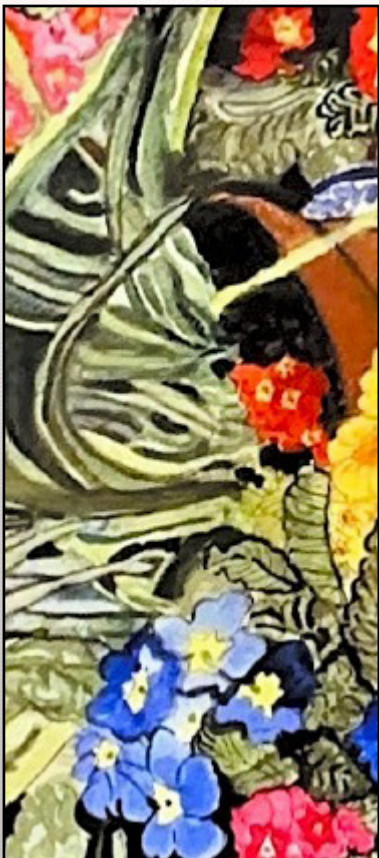


## STARR KING WAY Performance Series

### A Soulful Afternoon of Jazz and R&B Awaits!

Sunday, May 4, 1:30 pm, Sanctuary

Rita Lackey is a powerful songstress with a vocal and piano style all her own! She delivers a blend of jazz, R&B, and original compositions that captivates her audience. This diversely talented SF Bay Area artist has opened for such greats as Maria Muldaur and B.B. King. The upcoming May 4th performance will also feature an album release of her new CD, A Shot of Soul. Ms. Lackey's back-up band for the engagement will be Mark Lee on drums and Tim Romain on bass. As a professional musician, she has performed at Yoshi's, the Art and Soul Festival, and numerous special events. Currently she teaches at Community Music Center in San Francisco and conducts vocal workshops. Having performed all over the globe, she brings to the stage a style reminiscent of the early days of popular music.



## Diane Devine

Presents

*Flowers From a Painter's Garden*

Kings Galleries

San Francisco Unitarian Universalist Church

1187 Franklin Street @ Geary

March 6 - April 27





# 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 in the Wild"**

**Sunday, March 30, 10:50 am, 2025**



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