

"Fair Earth!"

Sunday, April 27, 2025, 10:50 am

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco



Order of Service

Sunday April 27, 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.

Prelude *Vocalise*

Sergei Rachmaninoff
Haruka Ota, cellist; Mark Sumner, pianist

Opening Words and Welcome

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister

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.

*Hymn 361

Enter, Rejoice, and Come In

REJOICE

Akane Ota, songleader; Mark Sumner, pianist

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

Greeting One Another

Rev. Laura Shennum, Minister of Congregational Life

*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.

Reflection

Christine Patch-Lindsay

Offering

This morning's offering will go towards **The Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth (UUMFE)**. UUMFE focuses on spiritual grounding and education to promote Earth care, justice, and flourishing for all, emphasizing climate justice as a moral imperative. It prioritizes environmental justice by centering the needs of frontline communities and advocates for collective action to protect the biosphere. Governed by a board, staff, and volunteers, UUMFE is committed to the principles of Unitarian Universalism and the importance of caring for the interconnected web of life. [Learn more on page 5](#). 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, **04-27-25**.



Offertory Music Allemande from BWV 1007 in G Major

Johann Sebastian Bach

Yuki Ota, cellist

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

For the earth forever turning; for the skies, for ev'ry sea;
for our lives, for all we cherish, sing we our joyful song of peace.

For the mountains, hills, and pastures in their silent majesty;
for the stars, for all the heavens, sing we our joyful song of peace.

For the world we raise our voices, for the home that gives us birth;
in our joy we sing returning home to our bluegreen hills of earth.

Reading "Cama Lilies" by Lynn Unger

Music Prelude from BWV 1010 in Eflat Major

Bach

Haruka Ota, cellist

Sermon "Fair Earth!"

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern

*Hymn 61

Blue Boat Home Peter Mayer and Roland Hugh Prichard
Akane Ota, songleader; Jon Silk, drummer; Mark Sumner, pianist

[\(CLICK HERE OR TURN TO PAGES 7-10 TO VIEW HYMN\)](#)

Brief Invitations

*Benediction & Extinguishing of the Chalice

Postlude Cello Concerto in C Major, 1st movement

Franz J. Haydn

Yuki Ota, cellist; Mark Sumner, pianist

*Please rise in body or spirit.

PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leaders

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister
Rev. Laura Shennum, Minister of Congregational Life
Christine Patch-Lindsay, Pagan Interest Circle Chair

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

Haruka and Yuki Ota, cellists
Akane Ota, songleader
Mark Sumner, pianist

The Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth (UUMFE)

The Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth (UUMFE) promotes Earth care, justice, and flourishing for all, aiming to cultivate reverence and gratitude for the living Earth. Committed to Unitarian Universalism and climate justice, UUMFE emphasizes environmental justice by prioritizing frontline communities and collective action. Governed by a board, staff, and volunteers, UUMFE's documents are publicly available. It is rooted in the Unitarian Universalist tradition of addressing environmental and human rights issues. More info at <https://www.uumfe.org/>

EARTH DAY RESOURCES

This last month our congregation hosted programming focused on our relationship to and responsibility to the earth and how we can participate in change. See links to some of those below, and participate in the conversation here at UUSF! Please join our **Environmental Justice Working Group**. Our meetings will be advertised in the weekly Flame newsletter (<https://www.uusf.org/flame>) or Sunday Orders of Service.

Sunday Forum, April 5, 2025: Forests Forever with Paul Hughes.
(<https://t.ly/20250406ForumVideo>)

Sensible Cinema, April 18, 2025: Mossville: When Great Trees Fall.
(<https://t.ly/20250418SensibleCinema>)

The video recording of Sunday Forum, April 27, 2025: Restore the Delta with Morgen Snyder & MacKenzie Owens will be accessible at <https://t.ly/forum.videos> by this Monday afternoon.

OFFERTORY UPDATE!

Last week we took the offering for UUSF's Minister's Discretionary Fund.
We raised a total of \$1,603.34.

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.

ENTRANCE SONGS

1064

Blue Boat Home

Fluid, legato ♩ = 140

E A/E

simile

E A/E

E A/E

1. Though be - low me, I feel no mo - tion
 2. Sun my sail — and moon my rud - der
 3. I give thanks to the waves up - hold - ing me,

⊕ Words: Peter Mayer, 1963 - , © 2002 Peter Mayer

Music: Roland Hugh Prichard, 1811 - 1887, adapted by Peter Mayer, 1963 - ,

© 2002 Peter Mayer,

⊕ keyboard arr. Jason Shelton, 1972 -

HYFRODOL, 8.7.8.7.D

Blue Boat Home - 2

E A/E

stan-ding on these moun-tains and plains.
as I ply the star-ry sea,
hail the great winds urg-ing me on,

E A/E

Far a-way from the rol-ling o-cean
lean-ing o-ver the edge in won-der,
greet the in-fi-nite sea be-fore me,

E A/E E

still my dry land heart can say:
cast-ing ques-tions in-to the deep.
sing the sky my sai-lor's song:

G#-

Blue Boat Home - 3

G#m C#m7 F#m7 B7sus4 B7/A

I've been sail - ing all my life — now,
 Drift - ing here with my ship's com - pan - ions,
 I was born — up - on the fath - oms,

G#m AM7 F#m7 Bsus4 B

nev - er har - bor or port have I known. The
 all we kin - dred pil - grim souls,
 nev - er har - bor or port have I known. The

E A/E E Bsus4 B/A

wide un - i - verse — is the o - cean I tra - vel —
 mak - ing our way — by the lights of the hea - vens —
 wide u - ni - verse — is the o - cean I tra - vel, —

Blue Boat Home - 4

E/G# A(add9) Bsus4 B(add11) 1, 2
E

and the earth_ is my_ blue boat home.____
in our beau - ti-ful_ blue boat home.____
and the earth_ is my_ blue boat

A/E 3
E

home.____

A/E E A/E E

rit.

TODAY!

Restore the Delta with Morgen Snyder & MacKenzie Owens - Sunday Forum, April 27, 9:30 am, TSK/Zoom
A light breakfast will be available beginning at 9:00 am - More info at <https://www.uusf.org/forum>

Restore the Delta (RTD) is a grassroots campaign dedicated to preserving the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and addressing water management issues, particularly concerning the Delta Conveyance Project. Key figures Morgen Snyder and MacKenzie Owens lead initiatives that promote a healthy estuary and engage youth in water advocacy and workforce development. Zoom Link: <https://t.ly/20250427UUForum>

Is There a Way Out After Gaza's Devastation: A Palestinian Perspective by Khalil Sayegh
Sunday Forum, April 27, 12:30 pm, TSK/Zoom - A light lunch will be available beginning at 12:15 pm.

Khalil Sayegh will discuss the impact of war on his life as a Palestinian from Gaza and the West Bank, focusing on the historical roots of Palestinian nationalism and the challenges faced under Hamas and the Palestinian Authority. He will also address the effects of settler movements and the ongoing struggles for Palestinian rights and recognition. Sayegh is the co-founder and Executive Director of the Agora Initiative, a non-profit advocating for peace in Israel and Palestine. Zoom Link: <https://t.ly/20250427HRWG>

Write a letter to defend a climate prisoner—and stand up for the right to nonviolent protest!

Roger Hallam, co-founder of Extinction Rebellion and Just Stop Oil, remains imprisoned despite a court ruling deeming his five-year sentence for nonviolent climate activism excessively harsh. His efforts contributed to significant climate policy changes in the UK, but he faces backlash from the industry and has been denied release due to "media interest" in his case. We encourage people to write letters supporting Roger and the right to nonviolent protest, with UUSF member Wayne Hsiung available to assist after the service.

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>.

UUSF Review of Proposed Budget (Q & A Session Today) - Sunday, April 27, 12:30 pm, Fahs Room/Zoom

The UUSF congregation votes each year to approve the upcoming year's budget. The proposed FY26 Budget was approved by the Board of Trustees on April 15th, read more about it at <https://t.ly/budget2025>. Members can submit written amendments by May 11th to secretary@uusf.org for consideration before the budget vote on May 18th. Due to a tenant revenue shortfall, an Extraordinary Operating Reserves Draw is necessary to prevent a deficit budget, and two Q&A sessions will be held for members to ask questions on April 27th and May 7th. Zoom Link: <https://t.ly/20250427HRWG>

Sign up for the All Church Retreat in the Redwoods, taking place from May 24 to 26

The All Church Retreat will take place from May 24-26 at the CYO Retreat Center in Sonoma County, featuring activities such as campfire songs, workshops, and games, along with comfortable accommodations and recreational facilities. Registration is open until May 15, with fees between \$175 and \$250 and scholarships available; for more information and to register, visit <https://t.ly/uusfretreat> or scan the QR code.



UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

May Day: Rise Up Now with Claudia de la Cruz - Sunday Forum, May 4, 9:30 am, TSK/Zoom
A light breakfast will be available beginning at 9:00 am - More info at <https://www.uusf.org/forum>

May Day, or International Workers' Day, is celebrated globally but not officially recognized in the U.S. due to its historical ties to socialism and communism. Claudia de la Cruz, a community organizer and 2024 presidential candidate, embodies activism by advocating for workers' rights and addressing governmental cutbacks and deportations. Her work is rooted in liberation theology and aims to inspire citizens to respond to autocratic actions.

New to this community? New to Unitarian Universalism? - Sunday, May 4, 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!

Pagan Interest Circle: Maypole Dance on May 4th at 12:15 pm, Courtyard

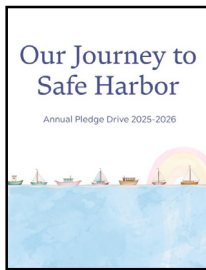
The Pagan Interest Circle invites you to celebrate Beltane by dancing around the Maypole on Sunday, May 4th, at 12:15 pm in the courtyard. Participants will make flower-wreath May Crowns and enjoy community activities, including lighting a cauldron instead of a bonfire. Additionally, a Full Moon ritual will take place on Saturday, May 10th, at 6:45 PM.

Starr King Way Performance Series (SKWPS) Presents A Soulful Afternoon of Jazz and R&B on May 4

Rita Lackey is a talented songstress known for her unique blend of jazz, R&B, and original compositions, captivating audiences with her vocal and piano style. She will be performing on May 4th at 1:30 pm in the Sanctuary, coinciding with the release of her new CD, A Shot of Soul, alongside her back-up band. In addition to her performances, Lackey teaches at the Community Music Center in San Francisco and conducts vocal workshops, showcasing her diverse musical talents. More info at <https://www.uusf.org/skwps>

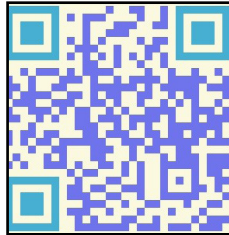
Yoga Peace & Power Workshop with Susanna Barkataki - Sunday, May 4 • 6:30 - 9:30 pm, Chapel

Join a transformative 3-hour experience sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist EcoSocialist Network, exploring yoga's deeper roots and its potential for inspiring leadership and social change. Participants will overcome self-doubt, connect with a community of changemakers, and learn practices for grounded, justice-centered leadership. Attendees will leave feeling empowered and equipped with tools for sustained activism and personal growth.



UUSF Annual Operating Fund Pledge Drive for 2025-26

If you haven't made your pledge yet, please do so now because every pledge helps. To make your pledge or to learn more about the 2025-26 pledge drive go to <https://www.uusf.org/pledge> or scan the QR code also see the bulletin board with the harbor motif to find a form if you need one and fill it out. If you have pledged (or when you do), you will find origami boats waiting for you to put your name on them and add them to the flotilla!



Our New UUSF Podcast: "Pod and Country"

UUSF has launched a new podcast titled "Pod and Country," featuring Rev. Vanessa Southern and members Cal Ball, Michael Bossier and Mari Magaloni Ramos with support from the Hinckley Foundation and others. This magazine-style podcast promotes Unitarian Universalist values through interviews, comedy sketches, music, and poetry, aiming to inspire listeners in the fight against tyranny. The first episode features an interview with Rev. John Buehrens and is available on various podcast platforms, encouraging listeners to engage and share widely. Check it out by going to <https://podandcountry.podbean>.

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>)

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>

"What Does Resurrection Look Like?"
Sunday, April 20, 10:50 am, 2025



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