

A close-up photograph of a mosaic. The word "IMAGINE" is spelled out in large, dark blue, serif capital letters across the center of a circular white mosaic. The circle is surrounded by a dark blue border with a geometric, star-like pattern. Two red roses are placed on the white mosaic: one is partially open and pinkish-red, and the other is fully open and bright red. The mosaic is made of small, square tiles.

IMAGINE

"Imagine a World Without War"

Sunday, May 25, 2025, 10:50 am

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco



Order of Service
Sunday May 25, 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	Prelude from Suite II for unaccompanied Cello in d minor	Johann Sebastian Bach Jill Brindel, cellist
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Opening Words and Welcome	Rev. Millie Phillips, Affiliated Community Minister
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Unison Chalice Lighting	Sam King, 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.

Greeting One Another

*Hymn 298

Wake, Now, My Senses

SLANE

([CLICK HERE OR TURN TO PAGES 6 and 7 TO VIEW HYMN](#))

*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



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

Sam King

Offering

The offering this morning goes to **Veterans for Peace** (www.veteransforpeace.org). Veterans for Peace has been “exposing the true cost of war and militarism since 1985 while promoting a sustainable and peaceful world.”. [Learn more by turning to 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, **05-25-25**.



Offertory Music Courante from Suite II for unaccompanied Cello in d minor

J S Bach

Jill Brindel, 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

Reading

Music Sarabande from Suite II for unaccompanied Cello in d minor

J S Bach

Jill Brindel, cellist

Sermon "Imagine a World Without War"

Rev. Millie Phillips

*Hymn 163

For the Earth Forever Turning

BLUE-GREEN HILLS OF EARTH

[\(CLICK HERE OR TURN TO PAGES 8 - 9 TO VIEW HYMN\)](#)

Brief Invitations

Sam King

*Benediction & Extinguishing of the Chalice

Postlude Gigue from Suite II for unaccompanied Cello in d minor

J S Bach

Jill Brindel, cellist

*Please rise in body or spirit.

About

Jill Rachuy Brindel is a renowned cellist and member of the Navarro Trio, the premier trio of Northern California. She studied at Indiana University and Chicago Musical College and has performed at various venues, including Kohl Mansion and the Mendocino Music Festival, where she returned as principal cellist in 2006. Brindel became co-director of the Emerging Artists Program in 2009 and actively promotes the music of her late father, composer Bernard Brindel. She is also a private cello instructor and coach for the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra and has given seminars on audition techniques. In 2011, she was selected by the San Francisco Symphony to hold the Gary and Kathleen Heidenreich Second Century Cello Chair. Brindel has been an instructor of cello at Sonoma State University since 2015 and retired from the San Francisco Symphony in 2024.

PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leaders

Rev. Millie Phillips, Affiliated Community Minister
Sam King, Worship Associate

Sunday Support

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

Musicians

Jill Brindel, cellist
Mark Sumner, pianist

Today's Offering Recipient: Veterans for Peace

Statement of Purpose

We, as military veterans, do hereby affirm our greater responsibility to serve the cause of world peace. To this end we will work, with others both nationally and internationally

1. To increase public awareness of the causes and costs of war
2. To restrain our governments from intervening, overtly and covertly, in the internal affairs of other nations
3. To resist racism and repression in our home communities
4. To oppose the militarization of law enforcement
5. To end the arms race and to reduce and eventually eliminate nuclear weapons
6. To seek justice for veterans and victims of war
7. To abolish war as an instrument of national policy
8. To promote a sustainable and peaceful world

To achieve these goals, members of Veterans For Peace pledge to use non-violent means and to maintain an organization that is both democratic and open with the understanding that all members are trusted to act in the best interests of the group for the larger purpose of world peace. (Amended Dec 2024)



Offertory Update

Last week we took the offering for the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco (De Young and Legion of Honor) and the Equity School Partnership Project. We raised a total of \$392.00.

$\text{♩} = 108$ *Unison*

1. Wake, now, my sens - es, and hear the earth call;
 2. Wake, now, my rea - son, reach out to the new;
 3. Wake, now, com - pas - sion, give heed to the cry;

feel the deep pow - er of be - ing in all;
 join with each pil - grim who quests for the true;
 voic - es of suf - fer - ing fill the wide sky;

keep, with the web of cre - a - tion your vow,
 hon - or the beau - ty and wis - dom of time;
 take as your neigh - bor both strang - er and friend,

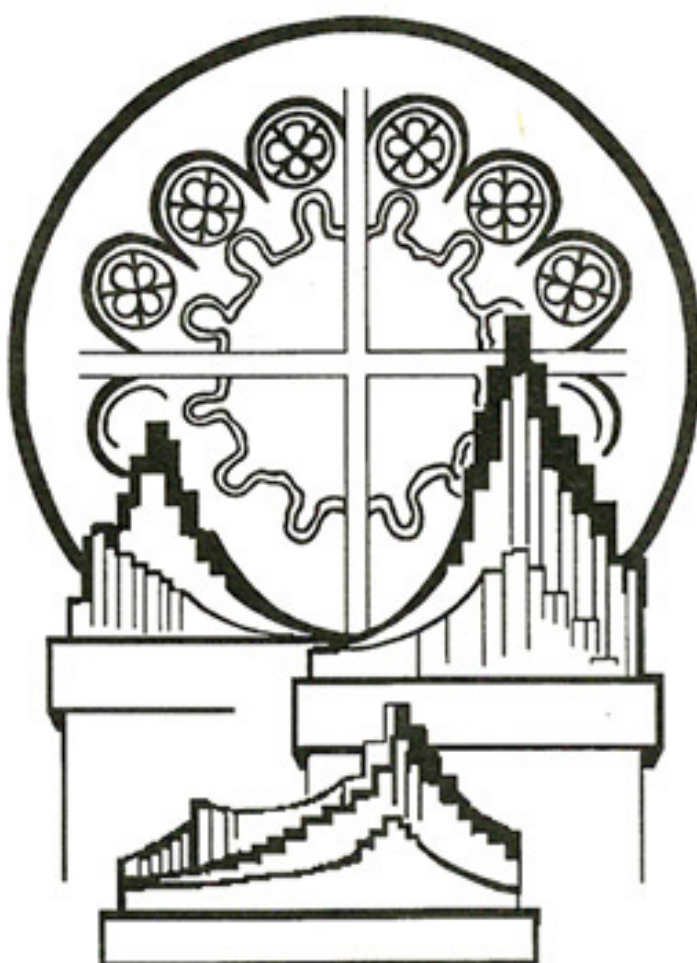
giv - ing, re - ceiv - ing as love shows us how.
 suf - fer thy lim - it, and praise the sub - lime.
 pray - ing and striv - ing their hard - ship to end.

⊕ Words: Thomas J. S. Mikelson, 1936-
 Music: Traditional Irish melody, harmony by Carlton R. Young, 1926- ,
 renewal © 1992 Abingdon Press

SLANE
 10.10.10.10.

4. Wake, now, my conscience,
with justice thy guide;
join with all people
whose rights are denied;
take not for granted
a privileged place;
God's love embraces
the whole human race.

5. Wake, now, my vision
of ministry clear;
brighten my pathway
with radiance here;
mingle my calling
with all who will share;
work toward a planet
transformed by our care.



163 For the Earth Forever Turning

$\text{♩} = 40$

1. For the
2. For the
3. For the
4. For the

earth for - ev - er turn - ing; for the
moun - tains, hills, and pas - tures in their
sun, for rain and thun - der, for the
world we raise our voic - es, for the

skies, for ev - 'ry sea; for our
si - lent maj - es - ty; for the
sea - sons' har - mo - ny, for our
home that gives us birth; in our

Words: Kim Oler (et al. anon.), © 1990 Boosey & Hawkes, Inc.

Music: Kim Oler,

⊕ arr. by Nick Page, 1952- , © 1990 Boosey & Hawkes, Inc.

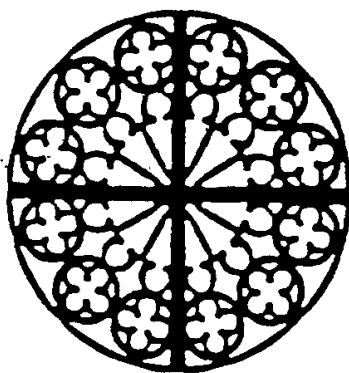
BLUE-GREEN HILLS OF EARTH
8.7.8.8.

P E A C E

lives, for all we cher - ish, sing we our
 stars, for all the heav - ens, sing we our
 lives, for all cre - a - tion, sing we our
 joy we sing re - turn - ing home to our

joy - ful song of peace.
 joy - ful song of peace.
 joy - ful praise to Thee.
 blue - green hills of earth.

1.-3. 4.



TODAY!

No Children/Youth Classes or Childcare Today

Due to the All Church Retreat, there will be no children/youth religious education classes or childcare for PreK/Nursery on Sunday, May 25. Children and Youth are welcome to join their parents/guardians in the 11:00 am worship service on this day.

UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

Join the 20s & 30s Spiritual Discussion Group- Sunday, May 27, 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Zoom

Join the 20s & 30s Spiritual Discussion Group on Zoom for a session focused on 'The Practice of Imagination' on Tuesday, May 27, from 7:00-8:00 pm. Open to all aged 18-39, these discussions encourage spiritual reflection and connection through various artistic and literary sources. Register to receive a reminder at <https://t.ly/May-Discussion> and Zoom link, and contact Emma Wakeling at ewakeling@uusf.org for any questions.

Let Cuba Live with David Ramirez Alvarez & Yasser Ibarra - Forum, June 1, 9:30 am, TSK/Zoom

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

Trump's increasing aggression towards Cuba calls for solidarity with the country's resistance. An educational exchange highlights Cuba's advancements in healthcare, education, LGBTQ rights, and environmental protections. Yasser Ibarra and David Ramirez Alvarez, officials at the Cuban Embassy in the U.S., are involved in promoting Cuba's interests and celebrating its cultural milestones.

Black, Indigenous, & People Of Color Group - Sunday, June 1 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.

New to this community? New to Unitarian Universalism? - Sunday, June 1, 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.

UUSF Environmental Justice - Sunday, June 15, 12:30 pm, Fahs Room

Join the UUSF Environmental Justice Working Group for monthly meetings on the third Sunday of each month at 12:30 pm in the Fahs Room. Everyone is welcome to share ideas and volunteer for projects, and don't forget to check out the new bulletin board in the gallery.

STARR KING WAY PERFORMANCE SERIES (SKWPS)

Celebrating Heritage: Los Cenzontles Set to Dazzle at SKWPS 2025

Sunday, June 29, 1:30 pm, Sanctuary

Los Cenzontles, a celebrated music group founded in 1989 by Eugene Rodriguez, will perform at SKWPS 2025 on Sunday, June 29 at 1:30 pm in the Sanctuary. Originating as a youth music ensemble in California, they have dedicated themselves to promoting Mexican cultural traditions and fostering cross-cultural connections through their academy, band, and various media productions. Renowned for their interpretations of traditional, classic, and original songs, Los Cenzontles captures the essence of their heritage while performing globally in countries such as the United States, Mexico, Cuba, the UK, and the Dominican Republic. The group's members, trained at their Cultural Arts Academy, not only perform but also teach and pass on musical traditions to new generations, often inviting students to join them on stage.

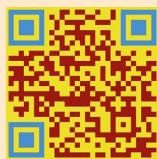




Episode 2 of Pod and Country is Now Available!

Check it out by going to <https://podandcountry.podbean.com/>

In this episode of Pod and Country, an audio magazine focused on spiritual themes, hosts Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern and Rev. John Buehrens continue their discussion on the Unitarian response to tyranny and oppression, delving into its historical context and contemporary implications. The episode also features comedic sketches, a song by singer/songwriter Baxter Robertson, and an interview with Rev. Laura Shennum, the UUSF Minister of Congregational Life and former Minister of the Cascade Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Wenatchee, WA.



ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH CLASSES - (uusf.org/are)

June Minister's Book Group - *Severance* by Peggy Gillespie

Wednesday, June 25, 6:30-8:00 pm (Zoom) - Led by Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern

When the theme for the month is "Imagination," what is better than a book with a vision of apocalypse, wild and surprising? Ling Ma is a novelist and assistant professor of practice in the arts at the University of Chicago, and she takes us on a wild ride. How do her imaginings of our worst fears of the world coming to a crashing end help us hold that fear? More info and to register: <https://uusf.org/are#mbg>



Dive into Love: Join Our 'Love At The Center' Discussion Series! - July 9 to August 6

Join Rev. Laura Shennum for "Love At The Center," a discussion series running Wednesdays from July 9 to August 6, from 6:15 pm to 8:15 pm at the UUSF Courtyard. Participants will explore Unitarian Universalist theology through the book "Love At The Center," reading five essays each week. You can email Alicia Cover at acover@uusf.org to have the essays emailed to you. A casual gathering begins at 6:15 pm for dinner, with discussions starting at 6:30 pm; the course is currently in-person only, but an online option may be available based on interest. For questions or to register, contact Rev. Laura Shennum at lsennum@uusf.org or visit the provided registration link at <https://t.ly/loveatthecenter> 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)

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.

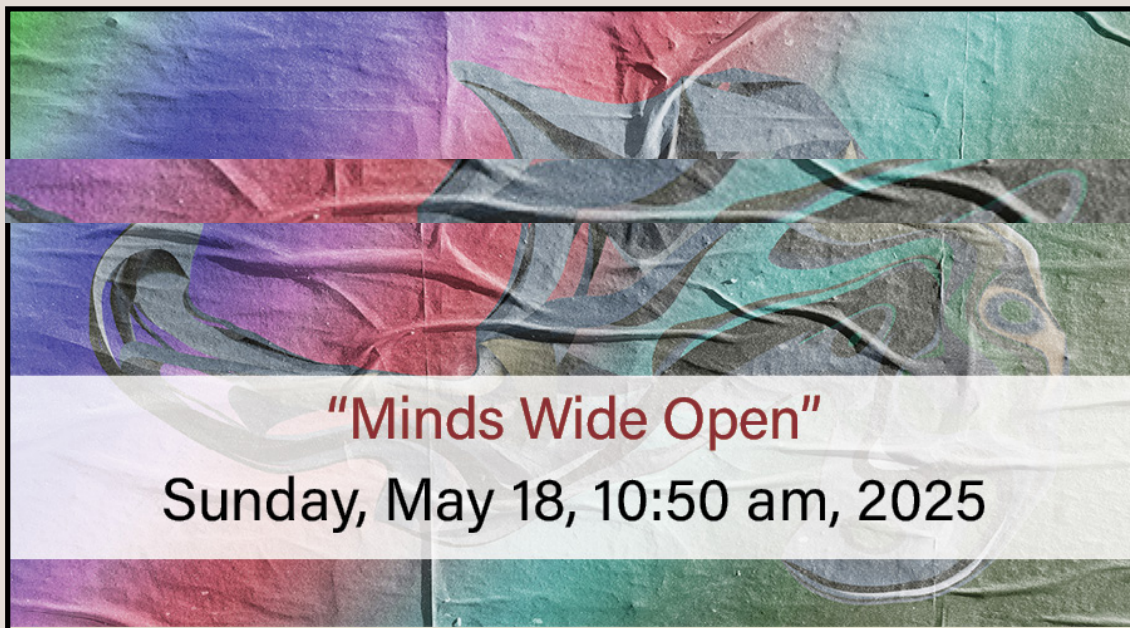
We welcome the newcomer, we commit to building trust with each other, we celebrate differences and make space for repair when harm occurs.

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/>



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