

"Sacred Guardians of This"

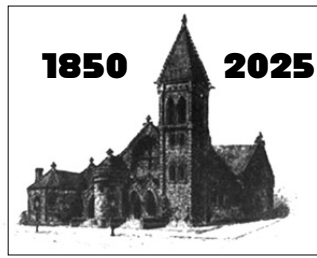
Sunday, October 26, 2025, 10:50 am

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco

175



YEARS



Order of Service
Sunday October 26, 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/newcomersguideuusf>)

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	Improvisations on Early American Hymn Tunes: <i>Make Channels for the Streams of Love</i> <i>What Wondrous Love is This</i>	Dale Wood
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Reiko Oda Lane, organist

Opening Words and Welcome	Rev. Laura Shennum, Minister of Congregational Life
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Unison Chalice Lighting	Gregory Stevens, 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	<i>Sovereign and Transforming Grace</i>	Tune: WOODLAND
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|--|---|--|
| 1. Sovereign and transforming Grace,
we invoke your quickening power;
reign the spirit of this place,
bless the purpose of this hour. | 2. Holy and creative Light,
we invoke your kindling ray;
dawn upon our spirit's night,
as the darkness turns to day. | 3. To the anxious soul impart
hope, all other hopes above;
stir the dull and hardened heart,
with a longing and a love. |
|--|---|--|

Greeting One Another

Proclamation!

Gino Fortunato with Mick Del Rosario, Legislative Aide to Stephen Sherill

*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.

This Piece of Eden

Keith Hollon

Offering

This morning's offering will benefit the work of the **American Red Cross**. The First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco (UUSF) has a rich historical connection to the Red Cross, dating back to Civil War-era minister Thomas Starr King's significant fundraising efforts for the U.S. Sanitary Commission. As we celebrate UUSF's 175th anniversary, we recognize this enduring partnership, with the Red Cross serving as our offertory beneficiary, highlighting their vital role in community relief efforts from the 1906 earthquake to World War I. To make a donation on Vanco (bit.ly/uusfpayments), using the Donate Button on our website, or by scanning the QR code below, please select the line for Special Sunday Offerings. 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, 10-26-25.



PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leaders

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister
Rev. Laura Shennum, Minister of Congregational Life
Mr. Michael Pappas, Executive Director, San Francisco Interfaith Council
Keith Hollon, UUSF Arborist
Gregory Stevens, Worship Associate
Linda Enger, Vice Moderator, Board of Trustees

Sunday Support

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

Musicians

Reiko Oda Lane, organist
UUSF Choir
Mark Sumner, director
Maggie McGrann, Nancy Munn soloists
Wm. García Ganz, pianist



AUCTION CATALOG

Last Chance Alert: UUSF's Thrilling Silent Auction Ends Tonight at 11 PM!

Website: <https://t.ly/175Auction>

Don't miss out on your opportunity to snag incredible items! There will be NO Silent Auction information tables at UUSF's 175th Anniversary Celebration, so make your bids count NOW!
Head over to the King rooms for the live auction, which takes place at 12:30 pm today.

Offertory Update

On Oct. 19 we took the offering for the UUSF Bell Choir and we raised a total of \$720.00.

$\text{♩} = 84$ Unison

1. Do you hear, oh my friend, in the
 2. Through the roar, through the rush, through the
 3. From the place where you stand to the

place where you stand, through the
 through, through the crush, do you
 out - er - most strand, do you

sky, through the land, do you hear, do you hear? In the
 hear in the hush of your soul, of your soul? Hear the
 hear, oh my friend, do you hear, do you hear? All the

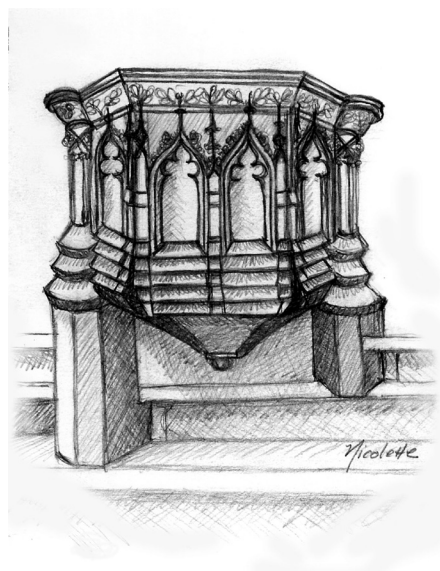
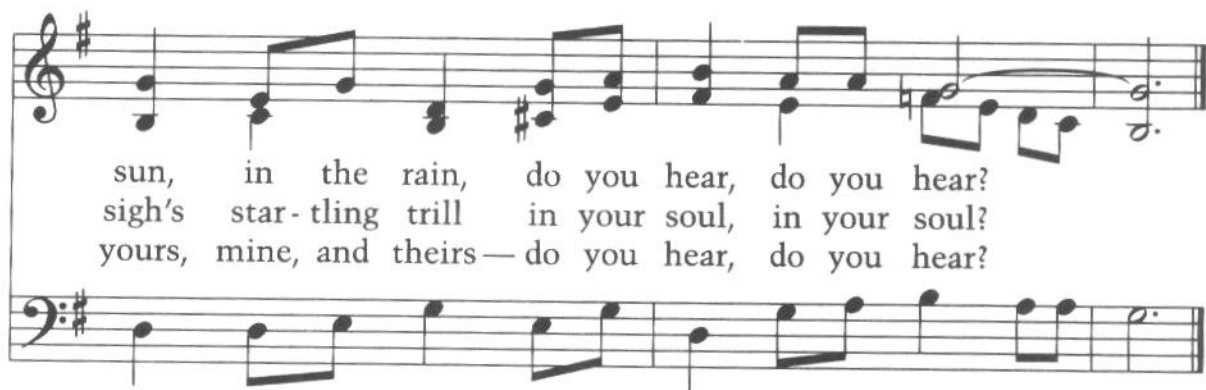
heights, on the plain, in the vale, on the main, in the
 cry fear won't still, hear the heart's call to will, hear a
 dreams, all the dares, all the sighs, all the prayers—they are

Another harmonization, 69

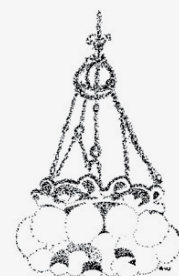
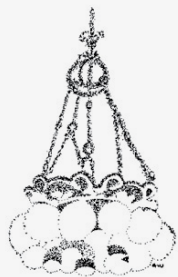
⊕ Words: Emily L. Thorn, 1915–, © 1992 Unitarian Universalist Association
 Music: William Caldwell's *Union Harmony*, 1837,
 harmony by Eugene Wilson Hancock, 1929–, © 1984 Eugene Hancock

FOUNDATION
 6.6.6.6.D.

COMMITMENT AND ACTION



Events, Meetings & Volunteer Opportunities (www.uusf.org/news)



Celebrate 175 Years: Join Us for a Festive Anniversary Bash!

Join us for our 175th Anniversary Celebration on **Sunday, October 26, 2025, at 12:30 pm in the King Rooms**. The event will kick off with a live auction, followed by a festive luncheon featuring lively entertainment, delicious food, and refreshing drinks. Whether you're a longtime member or new to our community, this is a great opportunity to engage with our shared faith story.

Fund-a-Need: 175th Extravaganza - Glam Up for the Sanctuary

A generous gift of \$75,000 has been given by Stephen Gerard in honor of his wife and beloved member of this congregation, Trudy Lionel, who passed away in June of 2022. That gift launches us toward our goal. And we look forward to making the rest possible together. Any additional funds will go towards future energy improvements. Join us in investing in our worship space to keep it beautiful and comfortable for all.

"Presente!" Sunday, November 2 at 10:50 am

It has been a fall of memorial services for me, and fall has only just begun. That means a lot of things, as you might imagine: loss, wrestling with legacy, telling stories, making sense, paying attention to how each life pressed itself into the world and into us. Please bring your photo memento for our annual celebration of the time when the veil is thin, when we honor those who have gone before into the greatest mystery of life, death. And how standing at the veil and these particular lives shaped us.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Join **Writers Against Fascism** for a spooky Halloween event featuring scary stories and a costume contest on **Friday, October 31 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the TSK Room**. Don't forget to bring a dish to share for the potluck!

Join us for the **MLIFE Foundation Annual Gala** on **November 1st from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the TSK Room** to celebrate 15 local disadvantaged youth who graduated from MLIFE's programs, showcasing their journeys and the impact of the Afrocentric 4Cs curriculum.

New to this community? New to Unitarian Universalism? - Sunday, November 2, 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!

Media literacy educator **Riki Panganiban** will lead a talk on **November 2 at 1:00 pm in the Chapel**, connecting media literacy to Unitarian Universalist values and discussing their application in today's media-saturated society.

UUSF and San Francisco Friends (Quakers) will host a screening of the Oscar-winning documentary "**No Other Land**" on **November 8 from noon to 3 PM**, highlighting the realities of apartheid and ethnic cleansing in Masafer Yatta. Following the film, there will be a discussion with activists on potential solutions for the West Bank and ways for U.S. citizens to contribute to the cause. **Tickets:** <https://t.ly/NoOtherLandsTix>

Sunday Forum: Saikat Chakrabarti's Vision for Change. Join Saikat Chakrabarti on **November 9 at 9:30 am** in the TSK Room or on Zoom as he discusses his congressional insights and grassroots strategies for overcoming political challenges. Aiming to inspire new voters and promote community unity, Chakrabarti advocates for a government that prioritizes ordinary people and transformative policies.

Sunday Forum with Tim Redmond: Where Does San Francisco Stand? - Join us on **Sunday, November 16 at 9:30 am** for a discussion with Tim Redmond on the impact of recent election results on San Francisco's housing crisis and law enforcement. Gain insights from Redmond's extensive experience in local journalism and learn how citizens can contribute to shaping the future of our city.

ADULT SPIRITUAL GROWTH PROGRAMING

Minister's Book Group - *Imagination: A Manifesto* by Ruha Benjamin - Wednesday, October 29, 6:30-8:00 pm (Zoom)

Ruha Benjamin, a Professor at Princeton University and founder of the Ida B. Wells Just Data Lab, explores the social implications of science and technology. Her latest book challenges readers to envision a world free from prisons and inequality, urging them to embrace the power of dreaming as a precursor to critical thinking. More info and to register: <https://uusf.org/are#mbg>

Elder Wisdom Group - Second Wednesdays from 12pm to 2pm in the Fireside Room - Next Meeting Nov. 12

Calling all our Senior Citizens! Join Rev. Laura on the second Wednesday of each month to engage in topics that are important to you. A light lunch will be provided. There is no need to register. For more information, contact Minister of Congregational Life Rev. Laura at lshennum@uusf.org.

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.

CHILDREN/YOUTH: All ages are welcome in the Sanctuary for service. Children/youth and their parents/guardians are invited to sit together in the first few rows of pews. Most Sundays, we also offer a variety of age-specific programming; turn to the back of the Order of Service for today's offerings.

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. To read our new dog policy (as of July 2025), visit <https://bit.ly/uudogpolicy>.

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!

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/newcomersguideuusf>)

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 Previous and Upcoming Services:
<https://bit.ly/UUSFServices>



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

Today's Sunday School Plans
<https://bit.ly/UUSFServices>

This Sunday (October 26):

- Preschool/Nursery will be in Classroom A from 10:45am to 12:15pm.
- Grades K-12 will start in the Sanctuary at 11am, exit during the Doxology, then do a service project in the art room.