

“Leadership From Where You Are”

Sunday, January 18, 2026 10:50 am

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco





Order of Service
Sunday January 18, 2026
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 *A Tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr.*
 There Is a Balm in Gilead

Hampton A. Sisler
Olive Nelson Russell
Reiko Oda Lane, organist

Opening Words and Welcome Mark Caswell, Ministerial Intern

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 318

We Would Be One

FINLANDIA

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

Greeting One Another

*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 below 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.

What Does Leadership Look Like?

Courtney Young-Law

Reflection

Adam Varoqua

Reflection

Erica Murray

Offering

In the spirit of equipping one another with the **skills for leading** (from wherever we do so), we take our offering so that we can plan a leadership training on governance (because we govern ourselves differently than many other organizations in our world) and other tools—for all lay leaders and interested members. 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, 01-18-26.



*Please rise in body or spirit.

Reflection Bruce Neuberger

Meditation Hanna Hart and Courtney Young-Law

Music *MLK* U2, arr. Bob Chilcott
Morgen Warner, Nancy Munn, Brielle Morgan,
Ben Rudiak-Gould, Asher Davison, Quintet; Wm. García Ganz, pianist

Homily "Who me!?" Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister

*Hymn 1014 *Answering the Call to Love* Jason Shelton

The promise of the Spirit:
Faith, hope and love abide.
And so every soul is blessed and made whole;
The truth in our hearts is our guide.

Chorus

*We are answering the call of love,
Hands joined together as hearts beat as one.
Emboldened by faith
we dare to proclaim
We are answering the call of love.*

Sometimes we build a barrier
to keep love tightly bound.
Corrupted by fear,
unwilling to hear,
Denying the beauty we've found.

Chorus

A bright new day is dawning
when love will not divide.
Reflections of grace
in every embrace,
Fulfilling the vision divine.

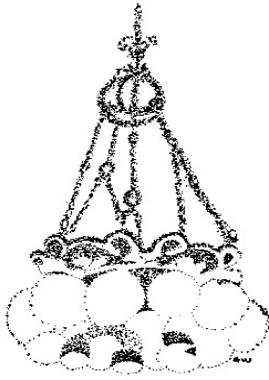
Chorus

Invitations Hanna Hart & Courtney Young-Law

Extinguishing of the Chalice

Benediction

*Please rise in body or spirit.



PARTICIPANTS

Worship Leaders

Rev. Vanessa Rush Southern, Senior Minister

Mark Caswell, Ministerial Intern

Courtney Young-Law

Hanna Hart

Adam Varoqua

Erica Murray

Bruce Neuberger

Sunday Support

Eric Shackelford; Shulee Ong; Alicia Cover, Eli Boshears, Camera Operators

Jonathan Silk, Communications Director

Kelvin Jones; Jose Matias Pineda; Francisco Castellanos, Sextons

Judy Payne, Flowers

Linda Messner, Head Usher

Musicians

Reiko Oda Lane, organist

Morgen Warner, Nancy Munn, Brielle Morgan,

Ben Rudiak-Gould, Asher Davison, Quintet

Wm. García Ganz, pianist

Offertory Update

Last Sunday we raised \$697 for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)

d = 69

1. We would be one as now we join in sing-ing
 2. We would be one in build-ing for to - mor - row

our hymn of love, to pledge our - selves a - new
 a no - bler world than we have known to - day.

to that high cause of great - er un - der - stand - ing

We would be one in search-ing for that mean-ing

of who we are, and what in us is true.

which binds our hearts and points us on our way.

⊕ Words: Samuel Anthony Wright, 1919-

Music: Jean Sibelius, 1865-1957, arr. from *The Hymnal*, 1933,
 © 1933, renewed 1961 Presbyterian Board of Christian Education

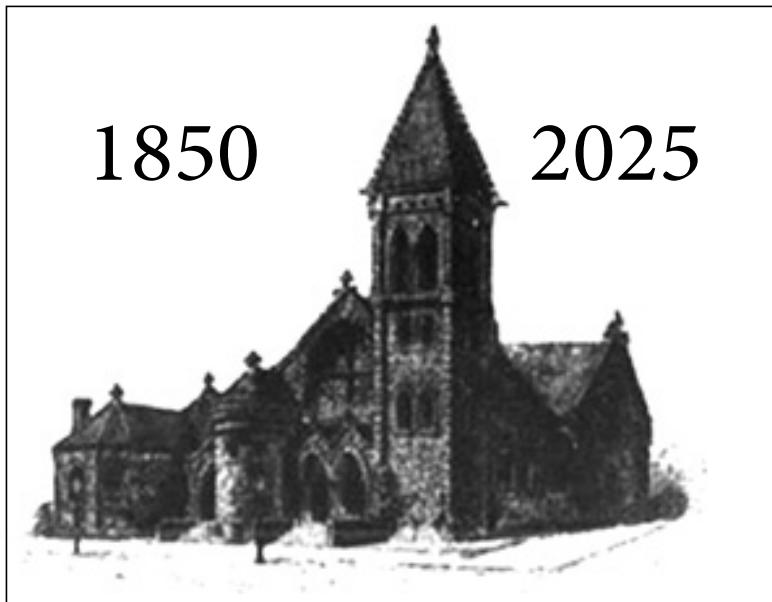
FINLANDIA
 11.10.11.10.11.10.



We would be one in liv - ing for each oth - er
As one, we pledge our - selves to great - er ser- vice,



to show to all a new com - mu - ni - ty.
with love and jus - tice, strive to make us free.



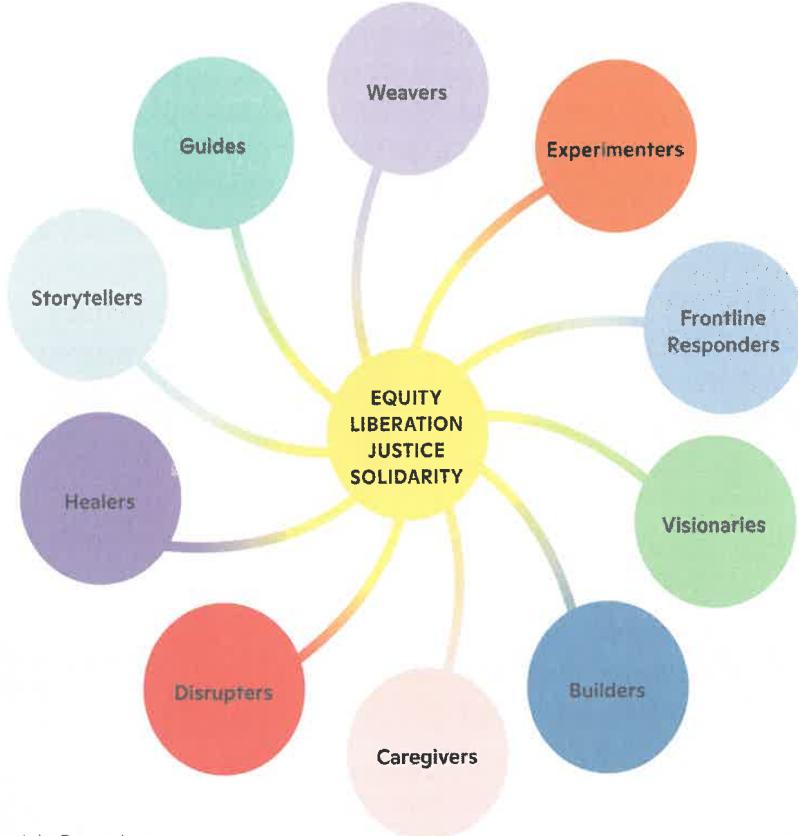
TODAY'S EVENTS

Join Connie Chan at **Sunday Forum, January 18 at 9:30 am in the TSK Room or on Zoom** for a discussion on making a difference in our community. Connie Chan has served as District 1 Supervisor since being elected in 2020. <https://www.uusf.org/forum>

Join us for "A Tribute To MLK: An Afternoon of Introductions" on **Sunday, January 18, at 12:30 pm** in the TSK Room, where lunch will be provided. The event will feature a screening of the poignant documentary "At The River I Stand," highlighting Rev. King's involvement in the 1968 Memphis sanitation workers' strike. Additionally, we will introduce our neighbors at the Harry R. Bridges Memorial Building, home to the SF Labor Council and ILWU, to foster collaboration on future labor-related events. This gathering aims to honor MLK's legacy while promoting human rights and labor solidarity. Luch will be available for a small donation.

Introducing the Social Change Ecosystem Framework

The framework, visually depicted below, has three components to it: values, ecosystems, and roles.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Join Frances Aubrey on **January 25 at 9:30 am** in the TSK Room or via Zoom for her forum "From Trauma to Thriving: A Grandmother's Wisdom." The event will focus on healing from trauma through self-acceptance and sharing feelings with trusted individuals. A light breakfast will be served at 9:00 am for attendees to connect before the discussion. <https://www.uusf.org/forum>

The UUSF Environmental Justice Team holds monthly meetings on the 4th Sunday of each month. The next meeting is on **January 25 from 12:30 to 1:15 pm** in the Fahs room, focusing on planning for the 2026 Earth Day event. Everyone is invited to participate and share ideas while volunteering for various initiatives.

On **January 28**, International Emergency Campaign to Free Iran's Political Prisoners NOW (IEC) and the Human Rights Working Group (HRWG) are hosting events to support Iran's political prisoners. A vigil will be held in front of UUSF from **8:00 to 9:00 am**. Later, there will be a screening of the PBS documentary "Inside the Iranian Uprising" from **6:00 to 9:00 pm** in the TSK Room.

Our community will once again be hosting the **Interfaith Winter Shelter** in the King Rooms from **February 17 to March 9, 2026**. During this period we will be providing a warm, safe, dry, welcoming place for 60+ neighbors to sleep, as well as delicious home-cooked dinners and breakfasts. Please join our members to volunteer to cook and serve breakfast or dinner. The biggest need is for breakfast volunteers. It's early (5-7 am), but so rewarding!

Sign up here: <https://t.ly/WinterShelter2026> or reach out to **Hanna Hart** at hanna@harts.net with any questions.

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.

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

This Sunday (January 18):

- Preschool/Nursery will be in Classroom A from 10:45am to 12:15pm.
- Grades K-5 will start in the Sanctuary at 11am, exit during the Doxology, and then have class in Kincaid until 12:15pm.
- Grades 6-12 will not have class, and are instead encouraged to volunteer in the congregation or attend worship.