"Curiosity in Conflict"

Sunday, November 15, 10:50 am, 2026

First Unitarian Universalist Society San Francisco



Order of Service
Sunday, November 15, 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 *Aria [Suite No. 3]* BWV 508 — Johann Sebastian Bach
O Gott, du frommer Gott, Op. 122 — Johanness Brahms
Reiko Oda Lane, organist

Words of Welcome and Call to Worship — Rev. Laura Shennum, Minister of Congregational Life

*Sung Chalice Lighting *There's a Light* — Ron Parks and Julie Fair Keefer
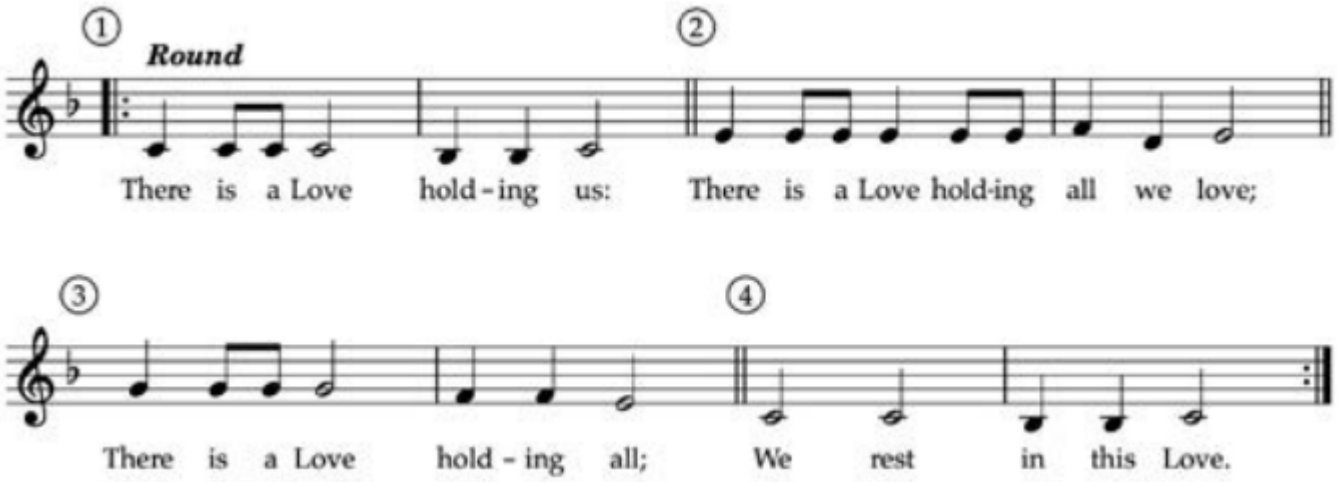
There's a light in this place,
and it shines in ev'ry face.
It's the fire of truth and grace for all.
May the hope we find here,
as the faithful gather near,
be the word that conquers fear with joy.

Here we belong,
ev'ry voice joins in song.
Many as one, clear and strong.
Welcome, faith family,
cherish our diversity.
May our worship set us free to love.

Unison Chalice Lighting — Sam King, Worship Associate

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 — *There is a Love Holding Us* — Rebecca Ann Parker



Greeting One Another

Time for All Ages — *Kassa, the Strong One: A Tale from the Mende People of South Africa* — Rev. Laura Shennum

*Unison Covenant

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.
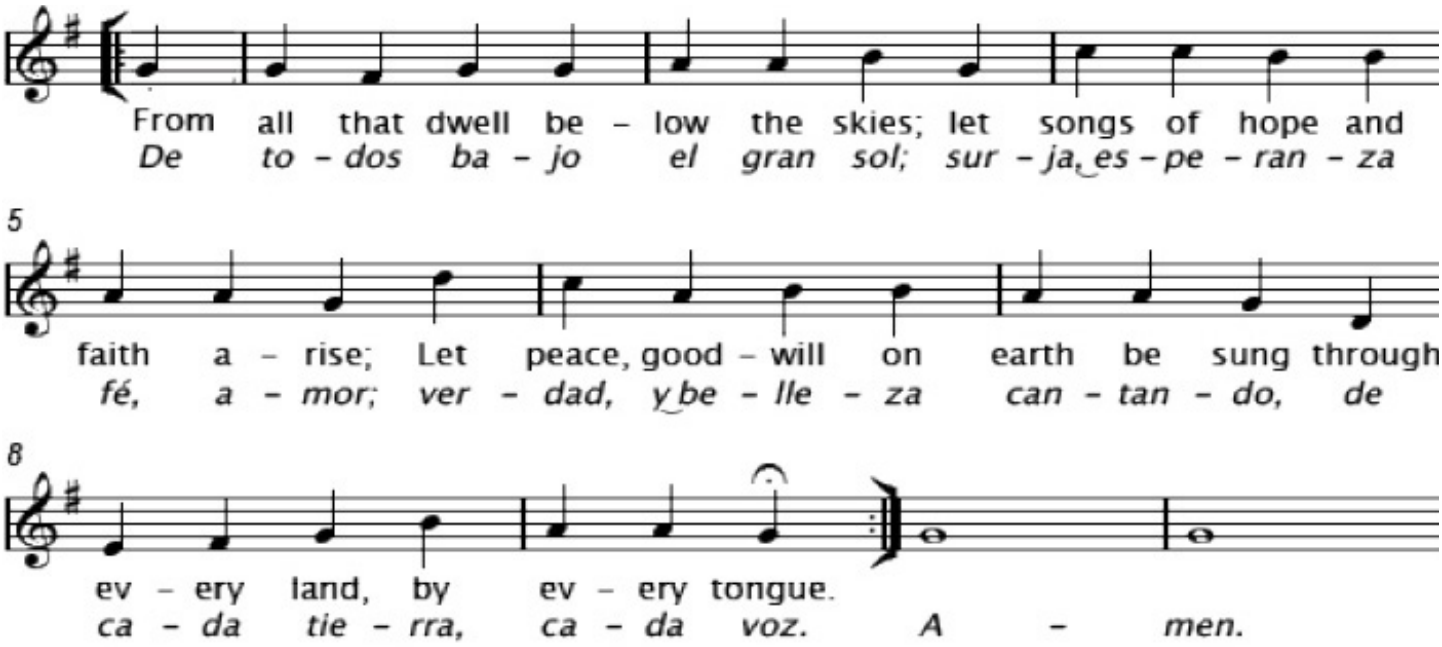
As love is our spirit, we commit to respect, accept, listen to and support each other.

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.

*Doxology TALLIS' CANON



Reading "Root of All Conflict" by Poeticlotusmachine Mari Magaloni-Ramos & Athena Papadakos

Offering

Today's offering will go to **Community Works**. Community Works has over 25 years of experience implementing restorative justice programs in the San Francisco Bay Area. They are a leader in restorative-based program design and community solutions to incarceration. They honor as expertise the lived experience of survivors, incarcerated people, and their communities. Their services are designed to meet the needs of people at any stage of justice system involvement. They reduce the number of people coming into contact with justice systems and improve outcomes for those who do. They ensure that the people living within and in spite of these systems are the ones who will ultimately change them. To learn more, visit https://communityworkswest.org/. To make a donation on Vanco (bit.ly/uusfpayments), using the Donate Button on our website, 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, **11-15-26**.

Offertory Music *How lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place* from *German Requiem* Johannes Brahms
UUSF Choir, Mark Sumner, director; Wm. García Ganz, pianist

Meditation

In Words…

In Silence…

During this time if you have lost someone close to you in the past year, we invite you, if you wish, to stand if you wish and/or place your hand on your heart, in silent witness to that loss.

In Music…

Lass dich nur nichts nicht dauren, Opus 30 Brahms

UUSF Choir, Mark Sumner, director; Reiko Oda Lane, organist

Reading *We Need One Another* Mari Magaloni-Ramos & Athena Papadakos

Sermon "Curiosity in Conflict" Rev. Laura Shennum

*Hymn 6 *Just As Long As I Have Breath* NICHT SO TRAURIG

(CLICK HERE OR TURN TO PAGE 6 TO VIEW HYMN)

Invitations Barb Wismer, Trustee

Extinguishing of the Chalice *Take the Fire* Ron Parks and Julie Fair Keefer

Take the fire from this place, let it shine on ev'ry face.Lift the light of truth and grace for all.Ev'ry one plays a part; it's our mission and our art,as we joyously depart to serve.

Peace, blessed be, namaste and amen.Seeking the path once again.Live in love, grow in grace, in each heart is sacred space.With compassion we embrace the world.

*Benediction

Postlude *Te Deum* Mark Antoine Charpentier

Reiko Oda Lane, organist

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*Please rise in body or spirit.

Participants

Worship Leaders

Rev. Laura Shennum, Minister of Congregational Life
Sam King, Worship Associate
Mari Magaloni-Ramos, Worship Associate
Athena Papadakos, Worship Participant
Barb Wismer, Trustee
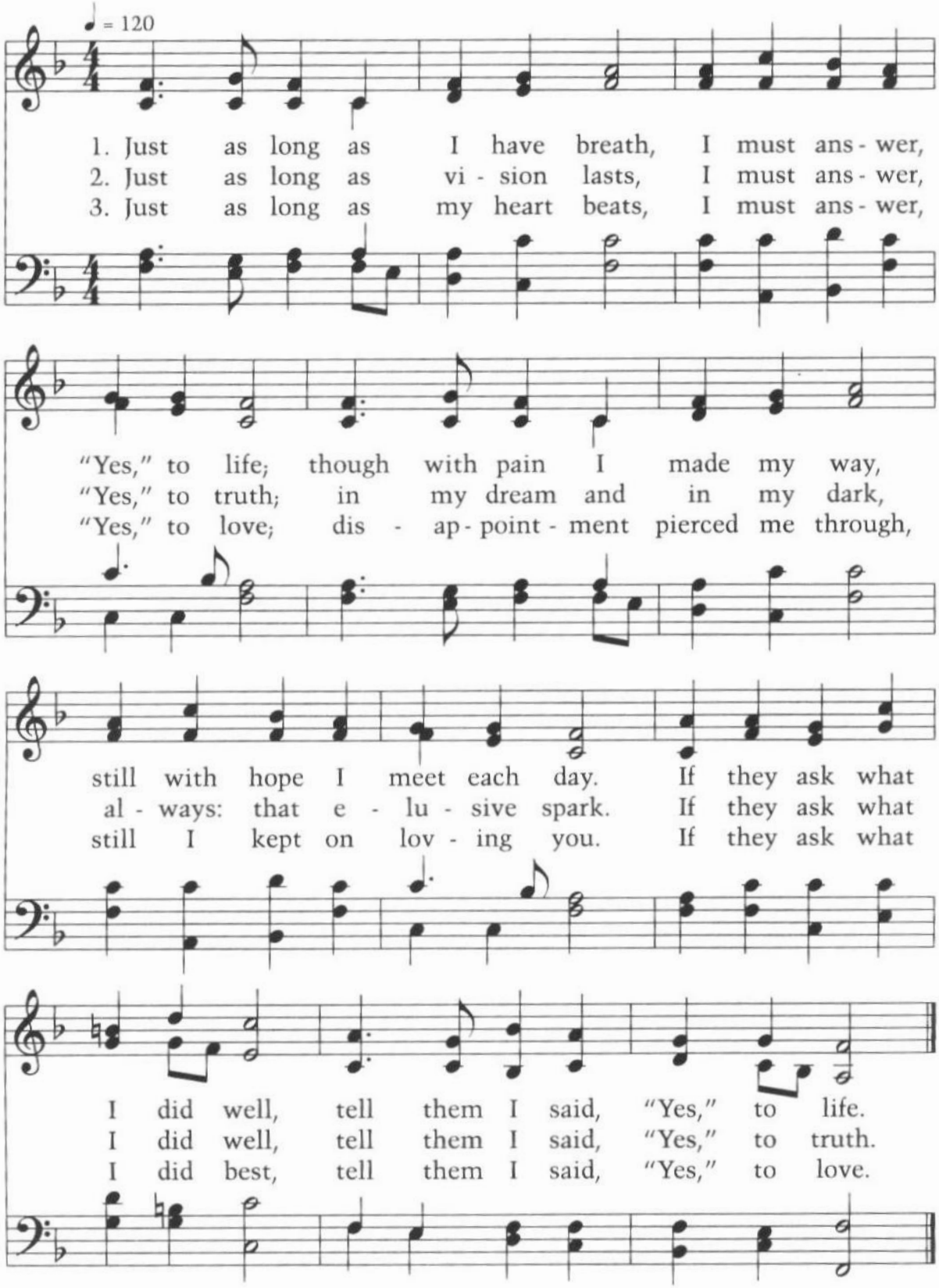
Sunday Support

Eric Shackelford; Shulee Ong; Alicia Cover, Camera Operators
Jonathan Silk, Communications Director
Kelvin Jones; Jose Matias Pineda, William Carra, Sextons
Carrie Steere-Salazar, Flowers
Linda Messner, Head Usher

Musicians

Reiko Oda Lane, organist
UUSF Choir
Mark Sumner, Music Director
Wm. García Ganz, pianist

6 Just as Long as I Have Breath



℗ Words: Alicia S. Carpenter, 1930– , © 1981 Alicia S. Carpenter
Music: Johann G. Ebeling, 1637–1676,
℗ harmony rev. by John Edwin Giles, 1949– ,
© 1992 Unitarian Universalist Association

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TODAY'S EVENTS

Join Hallie McConlogue on **Sunday Forum, November 15 at 9:30 am** in the TSK Room or via Zoom for a discussion on preventing AI from threatening humanity's existence. Drawing from her extensive experience in Silicon Valley and a personal connection to AI's history, McConlogue will explain the urgent need to halt advanced AI development and unite people globally against this existential risk. A light breakfast will be served at 9:00 am before the event. More info at https://www.uusf.org/forum.

Join us for the 20s & 30s Lunch Hangout on **Sunday, November 15, at 12:30 PM**, meeting at UUSF. This monthly event welcomes those aged 18–39 to enjoy lunch together after the Sunday service, providing a great opportunity to connect with new people and learn about our community. Feel free to attend the service beforehand or just come for lunch; for questions, contact Emma at ewakeling@uusf.org.



A memorial service honoring David Jones will be held on **Sunday, November 15th, at 1 PM**, following the Sunday worship service in the Sanctuary and online. David was a cherished friend whose kindness, humor, and love of music touched many lives, particularly within the church community where he and his husband, Don Williams, were active members for decades. A talented musician, David contributed nearly 30 years to the church choir as a singer, pianist, and bell choir member. Livestream at https://t.ly/20261115DJones

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The UUSF Human Rights Working Group (HRWG) and Immigrant Rights Committee are joining a global call to action against the U.S.-Israeli war on Iran, scheduled for **November 15 at 3 PM on the steps of UUSF.** This initiative, led by OSYAN, a group of women from Iran and Afghanistan, urges worldwide protests in response to recent U.S. military actions, including bombings in Iran. The message emphasizes that opposition to war does not equate to support for the Iranian government, but rather advocates for the rights and safety of the Iranian people. The call highlights the importance of collective action in the face of aggression, especially during critical political moments. Participants are encouraged to unite for peace and justice, reinforcing the need for self-determination for the people of Iran.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Join Rev. Laura Shennum for the Elder Wisdom Group on **Tuesday, November 17, from 12:30 to 2:00 pm** at the TSK Room of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco. This monthly gathering invites senior citizens to engage in meaningful discussions, with a light lunch provided. No registration is needed—just drop in, and for more information, contact Rev. Laura at lshennum@uusf.org.

Join us for a fun trivia night at Teeth Bar SF on **Tuesday, November 17, starting at 7 PM!** We'll gather to eat, chat, and prepare for the trivia competition that kicks off at 7:30 PM. Please register via the Google form so we can secure a large table, and reach out to Emma at ewakeling@uusf.org with any questions.

The UUSF Members, Family, and Friends Group Show is currently showcased in the King Rooms, highlighting a variety of local artistic talent. Community members and art enthusiasts are invited to explore this unique collection and escape the autumn chill. A special event, the King's Gallery Group Art Show, will take place on **Saturday, November 21, from 11am to 1:30pm**, featuring an artist talk and a potluck lunch reception. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet artists and hear insights about their work or related poetry. Guests are encouraged to bring friends and a dish to share; for inquiries, contact info@uusf.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us for UUSF's Holiday Faire on **December 6th at 12:30 PM**, right after services! Enjoy the festive atmosphere as our choir serenades you with holiday carols, followed by a delicious holiday luncheon featuring vegan options. Indulge in delightful treats at our charming tea room, and shop from 16 vendor tables showcasing handmade goods and unique treasures. Don't miss the chance to win fabulous prizes at our Poker Raffle and costume contest, plus fun family activities including arts and crafts for kids. With entertainment and delicious food, there's something for everyone! Mark your calendars and come celebrate the season with us—entry is free, and all are welcome!

Get ready for the Holiday Faire Jumble Sale, kicking off with donations starting this Sunday, November 15! Join us on December 6 after services to uncover unique treasures and support UUSF. Donated items valued at $20 or more can be dropped off at the Holiday Faire table until November 29. Plus, enjoy the convenience of having your finds beautifully gift-wrapped by Lucy Smith! This is a fantastic opportunity to give back while discovering one-of-a-kind gifts. Interested in volunteering? We'd love your help on setup day, December 5, or during the sale on December 6—reach out to us at Holidayfair@UUSF.org for more details!

Calling all bakers! With the Holiday Faire approaching, we are looking for bakers to make cookies to sell for the benefit of Up On Top, the Tenderloin's biggest afterschool program. We provide recipes and instructions. You provide ingredients and love. We will also need volunteers to help package cookies and work at the sale. AND we are collecting used metal cookie tins. You can drop them off in the Up On Top box at church. Please contact Kelli Murray at pulgramsf@comcast.net or Hanna Hart at hanna@harts.net.

Join the Green Team to help make our Sunday social hour more sustainable! The Environmental Justice Working Group is seeking volunteers for tasks like setting out cups, washing up, or taking home laundry, with just an hour of your time needed once or twice a month. If you're interested, please reach out to Amanda Chapman at acsfca@tuta.com.

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

- **PreK/Nursery: Classroom A, 10:45am - 12:15pm**
- **K - 2nd Grades: in Sanctuary 11am - 11:20am, exit during Doxology, then in Thoreau room**
- **3rd - 6th Grades: in Sanctuary 11am - 11:20am, exit during Doxology, then in Kincaid room**
- **7th - 12th Grades: No class. Youth are encouraged to attend service or volunteer in the community.**