

ORDER OF SERVICE

January 5, 2025

Unless we are led to some kind of contemplative practices that continually reveal our dualistic, argumentative, and biased ways of thinking, we won't move into a new stage of life. What we really need is a sustained practice that rewires and transforms our hearts and minds.

—Richard Rohr

Gathering Music

Call to Celebration “Welcome New Day” Kathleen McTigue

Opening Hymn* “May Nothing Evil Cross This Door” No. 1 [STLT]

Chalice Lighting

Covenant Affirmation

Love is the doctrine of this church,
The quest for truth its sacrament,
And service its prayer.
To dwell together in peace,
To seek knowledge in freedom,
To serve human need,
To the end that all souls shall
 grow into harmony with the divine —
Thus do we covenant
 with each other and with God.

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Welcome and Invitation to Engagement

The Congregation's Joys, Sorrows, and New Year's Hopes

Prayer

Musical Response Filled With Loving Kindness No. 1031 [STJ]

Offertory *Winter Scene*, Op. 114, No. 2 Jean Sibelius

Our 50/50 split for this month will benefit **The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC)**, a nonprofit, nonsectarian organization with a mission to advance human rights and social justice around the world. UUSC partners with an international community of grassroots advocates who confront unjust power structures and mobilizes to challenge oppressive policies. Their work is grounded in the belief that all people have inherent power and dignity. Find out more by visiting uus.org.

We share our Sunday morning offering each month with an organization that is dedicated to alleviating human suffering or oppression. The collection will benefit both the church and organization:

- *all loose cash in the collection plates will be split on a 50/50 basis between the church and the organization*
- *checks payable to the church will go only to the church—and toward your pledge—unless otherwise designated (e.g. writing “50/50” on the memo line)*
- *all checks payable to the organization will go to the organization*

Candles of Hope and Healing

Sermon “The Beautiful Ambiguities”
Rev. Dr. Victoria Weinstein

Reading from “Nothing Personal” James Baldwin

*Closing Hymn “The Wind of Change Forever Blown”
No. 183 [STLT]

Benediction from “The Gift of The Ordinary”
Charles Stephen, Jr.

Postlude *Wintertime*, Op. 68, No. 39 Robert Schumann

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

TODAY’S WORSHIP TEAM

Rev. Dr. Victoria Weinstein, Worship Leader

Kenneth Griffith II, Director of Music

David Collins, Keyboard

Ruth Griffin, Worship Associate

Michael Martel and Mathew Jensen, Ushers

Please join us for Fellowship Hour in the Parish Hall (to your right as you exit the Sanctuary) after the service.

Organic fair trade food items from Equal Exchange will be available for purchase during Fellowship Hour.

JOIN US!

(Visit uucgl.org for more information and additional announcements.)

Sunday Evening Meditations

Sunday, January 5 | 5:15-6pm | Sanctuary

Meal Making for My Brother’s Table

Tuesday, January 7 | 1-2:30pm | Parish Hall

Join us to help those in need. We will be making lunches for My Brother’s Table in Lynn. All are welcome to help!

Social Justice Ministry Team Meeting

Wednesday, January 8 | 7-8:30pm | Fellowship Room

If you are passionate about social justice we invite you to join us!

Potluck & Game Night

Saturday, January 11 | 5-8pm | Parish Hall

Connecting Conversations: Dollars and Sense

Sunday, January 12 | 11:30am | Fellowship Room

Discerning our mission, priorities and vision together. This will be our first conversation with board leaders.

“Drumagic” Community Drum Circle

Sunday, January 12 | 1:30-3:30pm | Sanctuary

Our drum circle is open to hand drummers over the age of 16. Never drummed before? No Problem. Beginners (with drums) are always welcome. We will show you the way! Come out and plan to have an afternoon of spiritual awakening, fun, and meeting wonderful people.
Read more at uucgl.org

Wisdom Circle

Tuesday, January 14 | 12pm

Dialogue Group

Tuesday, January 14 | 5-6pm | Zoom

“Dialogue” is a way of practicing deep listening that enables us to share personal experiences and thoughts in a way that collectively builds a more expansive understanding of ourselves and the world around us. All are welcome. Read more at uucgl.org

Saturday Craft Circle

Saturday, January 18 | 10am-2pm | Skylight Room

Tai Chi & Qigong Classes

Tuesday, January 21 | 9am, 10am, 11am | Parish Hall