



Unitarian Universalist
Community of Charlotte

Sunday, January 7, 2024

Big Bang Holiday

Service Leaders:

Rev. Lisa Bovee-Kemper, Interim Minister
Paula Gribble, Director of Lifespan Religious Education
John Herrick, Director of Music

May your own light shine like a sky full of sibling stars. You are stardust.

Order of Service

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Lisa Bovee-Kemper, Interim Minister

Opening Music

Also Sprach Zarathustra

(Opening Theme 2001: Space Odyssey)

by Richard Strauss

John Herrick, organ

Call to Worship

Opening Song

A Firemist and a Planet [Grey 343]

words by William Herbert Carruth

New England Folk Melody

*A firemist and a planet,
a crystal and a cell,
a starfish and a saurian,
and caves where ancients dwelt;
the sense of law and beauty,
a face turned from the sod
some call it evolution,
and others call it God.*

*Haze on the far horizon,
the infinite tender sky,
the ripe, rich tints of cornfields,
and wild geese sailing high;
and over high and lowland,
the charm of goldenrod
some people call it autumn,
and others call it God.*

*Like tides on crescent seabeach,
when moon's so new and thin,
into our hearts high yearnings
come welling, surging in,
come from the mystic ocean
whose rim no foot has trod
some people call it longing,
and others call it God.*

*A sentry lone and frozen,
a mother starved for her brood,
and Socrates' dread hemlock,
and Jesus on the rood;
and millions, who, though nameless,
the straight, hard pathway trod
some call it consecration,
and others call it God.*

Chalice Lighting A Fire in the Universe

**by Shawn Trapp
The Greene Family**

Chorus

Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

based on a poem
by Jane Taylor, "The Star"

*Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
how I wonder what you are.
Up above the world so high,
like a diamond in the sky.
Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
how I wonder what you are.*

Story

Born with a Bang

from the book by Jennifer Morgan
Paula Gribble, Director of Lifespan Religious Education

Musical Offering

Yonder Come Day

by Judith Cook Tucker
arr. by Clif Hardin
Adult Choir
John Herrick, Director

Concerns of the Congregation

Offering Words

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Offertory

Starry Night

by Jim Brickman

Concerns of the Congregation

Body and Heart Moment *Celebrating the Light*

Reflection

You want a physicist to speak at your funeral
by Aaron Freeman

Song

Where Do We Come From? [Teal 1003]
by Paul Gaugin and Brian Tate

*Where do we come from?
What are we?
Where are we going?
Where do we come from?
Mystery. Mystery.
Life is a riddle and a mystery.
Where do we come from?
Where are we going?*

Reading

Planets and Promises Poem

by Paula Gribble

Stardust Blessing

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Closing Song

Blue Boat Home [Teal 1064]

words by Peter Mayer

music by Roland Hugh Prichard

*Though below me, I feel no motion
standing on these mountains and plains.
Far away from the rolling ocean
still my dry land heart can say:
I've been sailing all my life now,
never harbor or port have I known.
The wide universe is the ocean I travel
and the earth is my blue boat home.*

*Sun my sail and moon my rudder
as I ply the starry sea,
leaning over the edge in wonder,
casting questions into the deep.
Drifting here with my ship's companions,
all we kindred pilgrim souls,
making our way by the lights of the heavens
in our beautiful blue boat home.*

*I give thanks to the waves up holding me,
hail the great winds urging me on,
greet the infinite sea before me,
sing the sky my sailor's song:
I was born up on the fathoms,
never harbor or port have I known.
The wide universe is the ocean I travel,
and the earth is my blue boat home.*

Closing Words and Extinguishing the Chalice

Closing Music

Across the Universe

by John Lennon and Paul McCartney
arr. by Charles Szczepanek

Announcements, Events, and Programming

- The Intersectional Justice Team will present an education and discussion session entitled “**To Be of Use: How Direct Service Can Foster Solidarity**” on **Monday, January 8, at 7 p.m.**, in the Bernstein Room and via Zoom. Plus, the results of our November Share the Plate campaign. Then, join the Intersectional Justice Team and represent UUCC in the **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Parade on Saturday, January 13!** All ages are welcome.
- **Mark your calendars for Friday Family Fun Nights (aka F3N), an event for the whole family, on the second Friday, January 21, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.** Following this month's F3N, senior youth will remain at the UUCC for a lock-in.
- **Don't miss your chance to show off your chili-making skills at the Chili Cookoff on January 20. Sign up today!** Don't want to cook? No problem! **Starting at 5:30 p.m.** everyone is invited to join us for tastings. Live music and beer/wine as well as other refreshments as sides so we hope to have a big turnout for an evening of spicy celebration!
- Following a holiday break, **the UUCC Minister Search Team is back on task at an accelerating pace. Working with the staff and Board of Trustees,** we are ready to announce the dates for what we expect to be a joyful week as we welcome a new Settled Minister candidate in the spring.
- **For the ongoing opportunities to discuss the changes to the UUA bylaws, known as “Article II”, we will have our next session on January 21 at 11:30 in the Bernstein Room.** We hope many of you will join us! This session will be centered around the other parts of Article II: Purpose, Inspirations, Inclusion and Freedom of Belief.



Read our Currents
Newsletter

We are grateful for your generous financial support of the Unitarian Universalist Community of Charlotte. THANK YOU!

Scan to Give to
the UUC Online



Text a dollar amount to

855-946-4339

to make a contribution
to the UUC.



Venmo

@UUCCharlotte

Welcome visitors! We're glad you found us and hope you will spend some time getting to know us better. If you want to learn more about the UUC, please visit our website and/or email Director of Member Relations Kelly Greene.

We are delighted to be building a truly multigenerational community, and we know this is a new experience for many. Please be considerate of others in the Sanctuary. If your child needs a break but you wish to still hear the service, you are invited to visit our alternative worship space in the Bernstein Room. Additionally, childcare is always available in the nursery during shared worship times. If your child isn't able to be in the service for long, please keep trying as they grow! It is a blessing to have them here

UUC Staff

Rev. Lisa Bovee-Kemper, Minister, lisa@uuccharlotte.org
Kelly Greene, Director of Member Relations, kelly@uuccharlotte.org
Paula Gribble, Director of Lifespan Religious Education,
paula@uuccharlotte.org
John Herrick, Director of Music, john@uuccharlotte.org
Alesia Hutto, Director of Administration, alesia@uuccharlotte.org
Christy Miller, Administrative Assistant christy@uuccharlotte.org
Belinda Parry, Office Administrator, belinda@uuccharlotte.org

Unitarian Universalist Community of Charlotte
(704) 366-8623 www.uuccharlotte.org
234 N. Sharon Amity Rd., Charlotte, NC 28211

