



Unitarian Universalist Community of Charlotte

Sunday, February 25, 2024

Gods and Monsters

Service Leaders:

Rev. Lisa Bovee-Kemper, Interim Minister

Tannah Murphy, Lay Service Leader

John Herrick, Director of Music

Looking out over all the many pieces, the Source of All Creation noticed how they glittered so beautifully now that they each had facets of their own. Large and small, many-sided and simple, each piece had its own character. Along their Jagged edges, and uninhibited by the present pressure of existing as one solid piece, some were still growing, finding their own special shapes. Yes! This was right! This was good!

From Sparks of Wonder, Brooks & Hewitt

Order of Service

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Lisa Bovee-Kemper, Interim Minister

Opening Music

The Legend of Ashitaka

by Joe Hisaishi
arr. by Torby Brand
John Herrick, piano

Call to Worship

Opening Song

The Morning Hangs a Signal [Gray 40]

words by William Channing Gannet
music by William Lloyd

*The morning hangs a signal
upon the mountain crest,
while all the sleeping valleys
in silent darkness rest.
From peak to peak it flashes,
it laughs along the sky,
till glory of the sunlight
on all the land shall lie.*

*Above the generations
the lonely prophets rise,
while truth flares as the daystar
within their glowing eyes;
and other eyes, beholding,
are kindled from that flame;
and dawn becomes the morning,
when prophets love proclaim.*

*The soul has lifted moments,
above the drift of days,
when life's great meaning breaketh
in sunrise on our ways.
Behold the radiant token
of faith above all fear;
night shall release its splendor
that morning shall appear.*

Chalice Lighting

Chorus

Come, Come Whoever You Are [Gray 188]
words by Rumi
music by Lynn Ungar

*Come, come, whoever you are,
wanderer, worshiper, lover of leaving.
Ours is no caravan of despair.
Come, yet again come.*

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Story

from *Sparks of Wonder*
by Becky Brooks and Erika Hewitt

Musical Interlude

Kuriose Geschichte (A Curious Story)
from *Scenes from Childhood*
by Robert Schumann

Reading

I am Phoenix (a poem for two voices)
by Paul Fleischman
Tennah Murphy, Lay Service Leader

Congregational Song

Lady of the Seasons' Laughter [Gray 51]
words by Kendyl L.R. Gibbons
music by David Hurd

*Lady of the seasons' laughter,
in the summer's warmth be near;
when the winter follows after,
teach our spirits not to fear.
Hold us in your steady mercy,
Lady of the turning year.*

*Sister of the evening starlight,
in the falling shadows stay
here among us till the far light
of tomorrow's dawning ray.
Hold us in your steady mercy,
Lady of the turning day.*

*Mother of the generations,
in whose love all life is worth
everlasting celebrations,
bring our labors safe to birth.
Hold us in your steady mercy,
Lady of the turning earth.*

*Goddess of all times' progression,
stand with us when we engage
hands and hearts to end oppression,
writing history's fairer page.
Hold us in your steady mercy,
Lady of the turning age.*

Sermon

Gods and Monsters

Musical Offering

Kore Evohe

chant by Sabina C. Becker
choral setting by John Schrag
arr. by John M. Kelleher
Adult Choir
Scott Whitesell, collaborative pianist

Reflection

Offering Words

Offering Music

Stories

by Briano King

Concerns of the Congregation

Candle of Memory and Hope

Meditation

Closing Song

Let Freedom Span Both East and West

[Gray 148]

words by Jacob Trapp
African American Spiritual

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

*Let freedom span both east and west,
and love both south and north,
in universal fellowship
throughout the whole wide earth.*

*In beauty, wonder, everywhere,
let us communion find;
compassion be the golden cord
close-binding humankind.*

*Beyond all barriers of race,
of color, caste, or creed,
let us make friendship, human worth,
our common faith and deed.*

*Then east and west will meet and share,
and south shall build with north,
one human commonwealth of good
throughout the whole wide earth.*

Closing Words and Extinguishing the Chalice

Closing Music *Escapades of pan*

by David Lanz

Announcements, Events, and Programming

- Lisa Hagen will present her credo following the service today, at 11:30 a.m. in person in the Bernstein Room and via Zoom.
- Are you following along for our Sunday Schedule online? Easily access information about and links to our Sunday programming for children, youth, and adults, including classes, our Sunday service, and social opportunities in *Currents*.
- For the ongoing opportunities to discuss the changes to the UUA bylaws, known as “Article II,” we will have our next session on **March 3 at 11:30 in the Sanctuary**. We hope many of you will join us! This session will be centered around the proposed values and how they fit together.
- How to Have **Difficult Conversations** class is coming in March. Come to the **Bernstein Room from 11:30 to 2:30 on March 10** to learn how to make difficult conversations more effective and less painful.
- **Think Again: The Power of Knowing What You Don’t Know**. March 11, March 25 and April 15 on Zoom, join Kelly Greene and Dave Warren for a discussion of the critical art of rethinking: learning to question your opinions and open other people’s minds, which can position you for excellence at work and wisdom in life.
- The Board of Trustees (BOT) is proposing several amendments to our Bylaws, with a particular focus on sections related to voting. The BOT will hold a special congregational meeting for this vote on Sunday, March 24, following the service.
- We're looking for volunteers to work Safety Patrol on Sundays. Interested? Training will be provided.



Read our Currents
Newsletter

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

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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

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