



Unitarian Universalist
Community of Charlotte

Sunday, March 3, 2024

Practicing Trust, Staying Present

Service Leaders:

Rev. Lisa Bovee-Kemper, Interim Minister

Paula Gribble, Director of Lifespan Religious Education

Ann Doss Helms, Lay Service Leader

John Herrick, Director of Music

I'm serious. I want to see you move. I want to see you root yourself in a community built on moral complexity and to hold one another to the ethic of intellectual honesty.

Nate Walker

Order of Service

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Lisa Bovee-Kemper, Interim Minister

Opening Music

Sanctify Us by Thy Goodness

by J.S. Bach
John Herrick, organ

Call to Worship

Opening Song

Gather the Spirit [Gray 347]

by Jim Scott

*Gather the spirit, harvest the power.
Our sep'rate fires will kindle one flame.
Witness the mystery of this hour.
Our trials in this light appear all the same.*

*Gather in peace, gather in thanks.
Gather in sympathy now and then.
Gather in hope, compassion and strength.
Gather to celebrate once again.*

*Gather the spirit of heart and mind.
Seeds for the sowing are laid in store.
Nurtured in love, and conscience refined,
with body and spirit united once more.*

*Gather in peace, gather in thanks.
Gather in sympathy now and then.
Gather in hope, compassion and strength.
Gather to celebrate once again.*

*Gather the spirit growing in all,
drawn by the moon and fed by the sun.
Winter to spring, and summer to fall,
the chorus of life resounding as one.*

*Gather in peace, gather in thanks.
Gather in sympathy now and then.
Gather in hope, compassion and strength.
Gather to celebrate once again.*

Chalice Lighting

Ann Doss Helms, Lay Service Leader
words by Rebecca Edmiston-Lange

Chorus

Spirit of Life [Gray 123]

by Carolyn McDade

*Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.*

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Music Offering

You've Got a Friend in Me

by Randy Newman
Children's Choir
John Herrick, director

Time for All Ages

The Co in Covenant

Paula Gribble, DLRE

Children's Recessional

by Ian W. Riddell

*Go in love, our hearts go with you
Go in joy, our hopes go too
Learn in love and grow in wisdom
Shine your light in all you do.*

Reading

Personal Spiritual Trainers

by Nate Walker

Congregational Song

Come, Sing a Song with Me [Gray 346]

by Carolyn McDade

*Come, sing a song with me,
come, sing a song with me,
come, sing a song with me,
that I might know your mind.*

*And I'll bring you hope
when hope is hard to find,
and I'll bring a song of love
and a rose in the wintertime.*

*Come, dream a dream with me,
come, dream a dream with me,
come, dream a dream with me,
that I might know your mind.*

*And I'll bring you hope
when hope is hard to find,
and I'll bring a song of love
and a rose in the wintertime.*

*Come, walk in rain with me,
come, walk in rain with me,
come, walk in rain with me,
that I might know your mind.*

*And I'll bring you hope
when hope is hard to find,
and I'll bring a song of love
and a rose in the wintertime.*

*Come, share a rose with me,
come, share a rose with me,
come, share a rose with me,
that I might know your mind.*

*And I'll bring you hope
when hope is hard to find,
and I'll bring a song of love
and a rose in the wintertime.*

Sermon

Practicing Trust, Staying Present

Musical Offering

Sisi ni moja (We Are One)

by Jacob Narverud

Adult Choir

Scott Whitesell, collaborative pianist

Offering Words

Offering Music

The Gift of Love

by Hal H. Hopson
arr. by Marianne Kim

Concerns of the Congregation

Meditation

Closing Song

We Laugh, We Cry, v. 1, 2, 4 [Gray 354]
by Shelley Jackson Denham

*We laugh, we cry, we live, we die;
we dance, we sing our song.
We need to feel there's something here
to which we can belong.
We need to feel the freedom
just to have some time alone.
But most of all we need close friends
we can call our very own.
And we believe in life, and in the strength of love;
and we have found a need to be together.
We have our hearts to give,
we have our thoughts to receive;
and we believe that sharing is an answer.*

*A child is born among us
and we feel a special glow.
We see time's endless journey
as we watch the baby grow.
We thrill to hear imagination freely running wild.
We dedicate our minds and heart
to the spirit of this child.
And we believe in life, and in the strength of love;
and we have found a time to be together.
And with the grace of age,
we share the wonder of youth,
and we believe that growing is an answer.*

*We seek elusive answers
to the questions of this life.
We seek to put an end to all
the waste of human strife.
We search for truth, equality,
and blessed peace of mind.
And then, we come together here,
to make sense of what we find.
And we believe in life, and in the strength of love,
and we have found a joy being together.
And in our search for peace,
maybe we'll finally see:
even to question, truly is an answer.*

Closing Words and Extinguishing the Chalice

Closing Music

Plenty Good Room

African Americal Spiritual
arr. by Lloyd Larson

Announcements, Events, and Programming

- For the ongoing opportunities to discuss the changes to the UUA bylaws, known as “Article II,” we will have our next session today, following the service, 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.
- UUCC Members & Friends – Join us for a Green Potluck Dinner (Vegetarian & Vegan). Thursday, March 7, 7 - 9 p.m. Enjoy good food, camaraderie & conversation. We'll be sharing an overview of last year's activities by GreenFaith and other local climate groups, plus discussing on-going plans and efforts.
- 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.
- Please join us to continue with our new Men's Potluck tradition on Monday, March 18 at 6:30 p.m. in Freeman Hall. As always this will be open to men and masculine-identifying, non-binary, and LGBTQ+ peoples.
- Save the date for Open Door School's biggest scholarship fundraiser, the Silent Auction. It's back in person this year on Saturday, April 20, from 6 – 8 p.m!



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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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

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