

# WELCOME TO MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION



## Starving Autist Neuro-Queerity / Gender-Vaguerity / Privilege

Worship Leader: joshua schwartz, MSW  
Worship Associate: Rev. Greg Ward

Worship Host: Steve Wallcave  
Music: Peak Performers

Sunday, January 2, 2022 10:00 AM  
Service theme for the month: Living With Intention

We are very glad that you are with us today and hope you feel our welcome. If you would like to learn more about us and receive our weekly email newsletter, please send an email to [welcome@mpuuc.org](mailto:welcome@mpuuc.org). We request your name, email, phone number and address. We'd be happy to answer any questions.

### **Our Mission Statement:**

*The foundation of Mission Peak is love. We are a spiritual community of open minds, nurturing growth and healing in ourselves and all people. Together we strive to live compassionately and courageously as we work for a nonviolent, just and sustainable world.*

### **We, the Member Congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, Covenant to Affirm and Promote:**

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of the conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

# Order of Service

Sunday, January 2, 2022 10-11:15 a.m.

## Centering Thoughts

*"I don't want to be a genius or a freak or something on display. I wish for empathy and compassion from those around me, and I appreciate sincerity, clarity, and logic in other people. I believe most people—autistic or not—share this wish. And now, with my newfound insight, I'm on the way to achieving that goal. I hope you'll keep those thoughts in mind the next time you meet someone who looks or acts a little strange."*

- **John Elder Robison** – Author, *'Look Me In The Eye: My Life with Asperger's'*

*"Autism can't define me, I define autism."*

- **Dr. Kerry Magro** – National Speaker

*"We need kindness in this world, we need peace in this world, and we need forgiveness in this world"*

- **Mike DiMauro** – UberEats Driver

*"My activism is not about ending Autism, it is about ending cruelty – with a focus on the horrendous cruelty of bullying"*

- **Jim Hogan** – Principal Innovation Strategist – Google, Autism Spectrum Award Winner 2020

*"There are enough people in the world who are going to write you off. You don't need to do that to yourself."*

- **Susan Boyle** – Famous Singer – *'I Dreamed a Dream', 'Wild Horses'*

*If you've met one individual with autism, you've met one individual with autism.*

- **Dr. Stephen Shore** – Special Education Professor, Adelphi University

## Prelude

Bell joshua schwartz

Call To Worship Rev. Greg Ward

Welcome Annette Breingan

Welcome Song Peak Performers  
# 398 To See the World  
William Blake, Words; Edvard Grieg arr. of trad. Norway tune

Unison Chalice Lighting Rev. Greg Ward

We light this chalice...To remind ourselves to treat all people kindly,  
because we are all one family;  
To take good care of the Earth, because it is our home;  
To live lives full of goodness and love,  
because that is how we will become the best people we can be.

Time for all Ages Reflections on What to Tell Children About Autism joshua schwartz

Guest at Your Table Partner Christian Guzman Merlo

Practice of Generosity (Offering) Rev. Greg Ward

Please donate generously if you are able, in one of these ways:

- Mail check to Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
P.O. Box 545 Fremont, CA 94537-0545

(If you use Bill Pay with your bank, you could use them to mail the check)

- Drop envelope with check or cash in Mission Peak UU mail slot addressed to:  
Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
We will be collecting this once per week.
- Pay on line at <https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/> with credit or debit card  
Note we use PayPal for this and they charge us around 3%.

<b>Joys and Concerns Invitation</b>		Rev. Greg Ward
<b>Song of Reflection</b>	How Could Anyone Ever Tell You Libby Roderick	Libby Roderick
<b>Shared Joys &amp; Concerns</b>		Rev. Greg Ward
<b>Reflection / Reading</b>		joshua schwartz
<b>Anthem</b>	Lonesome Kina Grannis	Kina Grannis
<b>Message</b>	Starving Autist: Neuro-Queerity / Gender Vaguerly / Privilege	joshua schwartz
<b>Going Deeper</b>		
<b>Closing Hymn</b>	# 1019 Everything Possible Fred Small	Peak Performers
<b>Extinguishing the Chalice</b>	#456 We extinguish this flame but not the light of truth, the warmth of community, or the fire of commitment. These we carry in our hearts until we are together again.	Rev. Greg Ward
<b>Benediction</b>		joshua schwartz

**Next Week's Service: January 9 – "A God Who Laughs"**

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Calista Ames. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. Jay and Jessica Steele will provide our music.

Becoming an adult is serious business. So serious, in fact, that many of us lose our sense of humor - or, exchange it for something we think will be more useful - along the way. Has this been the case for you? Did you, one day, set aside your mirth, your imagination or whimsy, only to come back and find it missing? How about playfulness? Are you operating from less than you were originally given? And where will you discover and coax back such essential tools now that you recognize their value?" After the service we will explore the history - and the future - of our children and youth programming.

Go to <https://mpuuc.org/zoom/> for order of service and how to connect for all services

## **Announcements:**

### **Safety for those attending service in Cole Hall**

Attendees should be masked inside and outside of Cole Hall during the service. Because it is becoming apparent that vaccinated people can still spread the disease to others, we strongly encourage those in contact with children, and unvaccinated or immunocompromised adults to attend services outside or via Zoom. We allow worship leaders, associates, and other service participants to be unmasked while speaking if they voluntarily disclose they are vaccinated and are 10ft apart from others who are not fully vaccinated.

The board Safety Policy on how we allow services in Cole Hall is in the “[About->Congregational Documents](#)” section of the mpuuc.org web site. If you wonder how we are trying to keep us all safe as we gather together again, please read it. We expect to continue to monitor what is safe and make changes as needed.

We also have other board policies related to Covid-19 in section 18 of the board policies document, which is also in the “[About->Congregational Documents](#)” section of the website. The [outdoor event guidelines in section 18.2](#) will control how we would be able to have food or drinks outside after the service, or for special events. Contact Steve Wallcave with any questions about either safety policy.

**In search of mental health family support or peer support resources in the larger Tri-City area?** Contact Rev. Barbara Meyers, a mental health educator and peer support provider. There are some activities that are available during the pandemic. Email [com\\_minister@mpuuc.org](mailto:com_minister@mpuuc.org), or call 510-796-5722.