

WELCOME TO MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION



A God Who Laughs

Worship Leader: Rev. Greg Ward
Worship Associate: Calista Ames

Worship Host: Steve Wallcave
Music: Jay and Jessica Steele

Sunday, January 9, 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. 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 9, 2022 10-11:15 a.m.

Centering Thought

"A good laugh is a sign of love. It may be said to give us a glimpse of, or a first lesson in, the love that God bears for every one of us." — Karl Rahner

"So be joyful. Use your sense of humor. And laugh with the God who smiles when seeing you, rejoices over your very existence, and takes delight in you, all the days of your life." — James Martin

Prelude

Bell Rev. Greg Ward

Call To Worship Calista Ames

Welcome DeAnna Alm

Welcome Song 16 'Tis a Gift to Be Simple Jay and Jessica Steele
Traditional Shaker Tune

Unison Chalice Lighting Calista Ames

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.

New Member Ingathering Celebration (words on last 2 pages of OOS) Membership Committee

Share the Plate - Practice of Generosity (Offering) - Guest at Your Table Valerie Stewart

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

- This month's Share the Plate goes to the Guest at Your Table Program of the UU Service Committee
- Make your check out to Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation with GAYT in the memo line
- Mail to P.O. Box 545 Fremont, CA 94537-0545
- Or you could use bill pay with your bank
- Or drop an envelope with check in the Mission Peak UU mail slot on the office door
- Or 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%).

Joys and Concerns Invitation Rev. Greg Ward

Song of Reflection The Bare Necessities Jessica and Jay Steele
Terry Gilkyson

Shared Joys & Concerns Rev. Greg Ward

Reading	Flight of Wonder Adapted from poet Heather McHugh	Rev. Greg Ward
Anthem	Happiness Clark Gesner	Jessica and Jay Steele
Message	A God Who Laughs	Rev. Greg Ward
Closing Hymn	146 Soon the Day Will Arrive <i>Words, Ehud Manor; Composer, Nurit Hirsch</i>	Jessica and Jay Steele
Extinguishing the Chalice	#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.	Calista Ames
Benediction		Rev. Greg Ward

Next Week's Service: January 16 – "A Shared Vision of Social Justice"

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service. Worship Host will be Graham Bell. Peak Rocks will provide our music.

In this service commemorating the liberational work of Dr. Martin Luther King, we will explore the vision of Beloved Community - originally espoused by James Royce in the 1930s but which became the cornerstone of the non-violent civil rights movement of the 50s and 60s. Unitarian Universalists responded to King's call to go to Selma and we invited him to preach for our denomination the following year. But our time with King has only served to emphasize the question of whether - and how - to make his 'Dream' come true in our lifetime.

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

Announcements:

This morning, after our service, we will be moving into a Congregational Conversation sponsored by our CaYRE team. There will be important news and important reflection around our shared vision of who we are as a community and what we are called to do going forward.

We have been informed that someone who attended the January 2nd service in person tested positive for Covid-19 a few days later. If you attended the January 2nd service in person also, we encourage you to get tested for Covid-19, ESPECIALLY if you are experiencing symptoms of a head cold, having a fever, or are feeling ill in any way. Even if you are not feeling ill, taking a test could help prevent any further spread by informing you of an asymptomatic infection.

Updated Safety Policy for Hybrid Services in Cole Hall

Because of the large surge from Omicron, attending in-person services at Cole Hall is an inherently risky activity, both for the attendees and for the people they have contact with throughout the week. If you are OK with that risk we welcome you. We are blessed to be able to offer an excellent virtual worship experience, and encourage anyone concerned about COVID-19 risk to take advantage of that.

(continued on next page)

We provide three ways to attend the service — via Zoom, sitting inside Cole Hall, or sitting on the patio outside Cole Hall. Our worship leaders will either be inside Cole Hall or use Zoom to connect to the service in Cole Hall

Attendees should be masked inside and outside of Cole Hall during the service. **We encourage people to wear N95 (or equivalent) or surgical masks which are more effective than cloth masks. We encourage people to only come inside Cole Hall if recently vaccinated or boosted.** Because it is apparent that vaccinated people can still spread the disease to others, we strongly encourage those in contact with unvaccinated or immunocompromised people to attend services outside or via Zoom.

Where to get Masks:

Cloth masks offer significantly less protection than surgical, N95, and KN95 masks. Now that these masks are widely available, the Covid-19 response team strongly recommends acquiring and using masks with higher levels of protection. Below are two sources of quality masks:

<https://bonafidemasks.com/powecom-kn95/> - KN95 has ear loops, from US distributor

<https://shop.projectn95.org/> - Many different choices of N95 and KN95 masks

Contact Steve Wallcave with any questions about our [Covid-19 safety policies](#).

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, or call 510-796-5722.

MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT

Honoring who we have been, embracing who we feel called to be, we come together as an inclusive and diverse community, growing in love and truth, courageously collaborating to liberate one another from hurt and hate and to create hope and justice.

Toward that aim, we proclaim these as our aspirations:

- We aspire to the highest levels of trust. To be trustworthy, we will show up, do what we say we will do and communicate with kindness. To practice trust, we will focus on the best within people.
- We aspire to accept responsibility for the impact of our words and actions rather than seek absolution through our intent.
- We aspire to be a community where resources, opportunities and responsibilities are shared among all members.
- We aspire to be honest. We frame issues for accuracy and understanding rather than distort them for persuasive advantage.
- We aspire to be always cultivating an anti-racist, anti-oppressive community. We work for collective liberation, always striving to dismantle white supremacy
- We aspire to aid in the success of our leaders by staying informed, participating in the democratic process, and taking our place in leadership as we are able. We honor collective decisions even when we do not agree.
- We aspire to a fully shared ministry. To this end we delegate responsibility with clear requests. We will honor the creativity and autonomy of the person who has taken on a responsibility by allowing them the latitude to meet the objectives their own way.
- We aspire to build a community which values celebration and fun.

Our covenant is not a contract. It is a declaration of aspirations, not ultimatums. It is a living document, which will evolve as we do. We all will fall short sometimes. When we do, we will recognize our own responsibility for repair and respond resourcefully with love for others and ourselves.

MPUUC Ingathering Ceremony

January 9, 2022

MINISTER: Out of hope and a need to be part of something larger than themselves, people seek community. They seek to make the most of themselves and contribute to the world around them. We come with a promise and in hopes of being part of a promise: to find and foster love, open minds and turn love into justice. Through volunteer association, such people grow UU communities and grow hope in the world.

We are blessed to have three such people with us today.

MEMBERSHIP REP: It is my honor to introduce you to these new members who wish to join us today.

Suzette Takei

Celeste King

David Gibbons

ALL: All of us have come here out of good will, and also need. We covenant together to support each other in times of joy and sorrow; encourage spiritual exploration and personal growth; helping to teach, willing to learn, showing up for each other and finding our way together.

MEMBERSHIP REP: On behalf of the members of the Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation, we welcome you into our religious community.

NEW MEMBERS: We join you in this community of love and service. We bring our talent and enthusiasm as well as our needs and questions. We ask that you reach out to us in our efforts to become full participants in the life of this faithful congregation.

ALL MEMBERS: We are honored that you have chosen to join us. We make room for you at the table and welcome your ideas and contributions.

MINISTER: In our Order of Service are the words of our Covenant. These words express the Beloved Community as best we know how to describe it. It is important for each new Ingathering Service to re-open the covenant and remake it together. With our new members, our promises are made anew. With them, we become more than we were and stronger than we have been.

BOARD REP: Do you, as new members, pledge yourselves to live out, as best you're able, the high ideals and promise of this covenant? If so, please say, 'we do.'

NEW MEMBERS: We do.

BOARD REP: (To ALL Members): And do you, as the community who welcomes them, pledge yourselves to broaden your care and extend this covenant wider still such that, by including these new members, we all become more than we were before? If so, please say, 'we do.'

MEMBERS: We do.

ALL: As members of Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation, we commit to love and learn alongside one another. We will speak honestly, act compassionately and live with integrity. We will support Mission Peak, with our gifts and talents, our energy and vision. We join together joyfully and courageously to discover and share the blessings of this Beloved Community.