

WELCOME TO MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION



What If I Only Had 30 Days to Love?

Worship Leader: Various UUA Leaders

Worship Host: Graham Bell

Worship Associate: Revs. Greg Ward & Barbara Meyers

Music: J.Q. Henry

Sunday, February 20, 2022 10:00 AM

Service theme for the month: Widening the Circle

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, February 20, 2022 10-11:15 a.m.

Centering Thought

Life is not meant to be easy. It is a challenge with some days tougher than others. With every challenge, there is the opportunity to grow stronger. We continuously improve what we are capable of achieving. Turn each challenge into a lesson that makes you stronger & stronger. Do something every day that scares you. Challenge yourself every day.

Dr. Anil Kumar Sinha

All truths begin as blasphemy. The time to challenge our most sacred beliefs is at hand. If we don't challenge our beliefs soon, our beliefs are going to challenge us.

Neale Donald Walsh

Death is a challenge. It tells us not to waste time... It tells us to tell each other right now that we love each other.

Leo F. Buscaglia

If you fail one day of a challenge DON'T use that as an excuse to give up on the entire challenge.

Sonya Parker

The greatest challenge in life is to discover yourself. The second greatest challenge is to be happy with what you deserve and what you have.

Dr. Anil Kumar Sinha

Prelude

Bell

Rev. Greg Ward

Call To Worship

Susan Frederick Gray, UUA President

Welcome

Melissa Holmes

Welcome Song

#1040 Hush
African American Spiritual

Rev. J. Q. Henry

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

Small is Good, Small is All

Lauren Wyeth

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%.

Joys and Concerns Invitation		Rev. Barbara Meyers
Song of Reflection	Thanks Be for These Words, Richard and Joyce Gilbert; Music: Trad. Hungarian Tune	Jess Huetteman
Shared Joys & Concerns		Rev. Barbara Meyers
Prayer		Rev. Byron Tyler Coles
Anthem	#95 There is More Love Somewhere African American Spiritual	Rev. J. Q. Henry
Message	What If I only Had 30 Days to Love?	Rev. Ali K.C. Bell Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael
Closing Hymn	#1040 Come and Go to that Land	Rev. J. Q. Henry
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.	Rev. Greg Ward
Benediction		E.N. Hill

Next Week's Service: February 27 – "Is Pluto a Planet? The Blessings and Perils of Labeling"

Paul K. Davis will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Mark Rahman. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. Jo Ann Schriener will provide our music.

We generally feel that labeling and categorization of people is bad, but I have learned that sometimes it is valuable. In a recent sermon Joshua Schwartz explained that the autism label helped in self-understanding, and after that service, in break-out room discussion, participants noted how accepting and receiving labels of lesbian and of dyslexic had relieved perplexity and stress. Nevertheless, labeling can also be very damaging, with racial labeling coming immediately to mind.

In this message I will take the question of whether the astronomical object Pluto should be labelled a planet or a dwarf planet and explore both the blessings and the perils of labeling and develop some tentative criteria for useful versus damaging labeling. I will apply some of these criteria to labeling of people and will include some of my own pet peeves of misleading terminology.

In widening the circle of knowledge of how to use labeling as a blessing, we can widen the circle of our understanding of others and widen the circle of loving community.

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. We encourage people to wear N95 (or equivalent) or surgical masks which are more effective than cloth masks. We have such masks available in Cole Hall on Sunday mornings. We encourage people to only come inside Cole Hall if fully vaccinated and boosted. Because 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.

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, or call 510-796-5722.

Today's Service is a Gift from Side with Love for their 30 Days of Love Campaign Participating in the service are:

The Rev. Greg Ward is the settled minister at Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation.

The Rev. Susan Frederick Gray (she/her) is the President of the Unitarian Universalist Association. During her tenure, she has been most proud of the Association's ongoing response to the pandemic, the centering of antiracist work, and the national impact of UU the Vote.

The Rev. J.Q. Henry (he/him) is an ordained Church of God In Christ minister, movement organizer, and leading scholar in Black Church Studies and hymnody of the Christian Church. He is a graduate of Morehouse College, Princeton Theological Seminary, and Emory University.

The Rev. Ashley Horan (she/her) serves as the Organizing Strategy Director at the UUA, where she leads the team that holds all the outward-facing justice work of our Association under the banner of Side With Love. She lives in Minneapolis with her partner, the Rev. Karen Hutt, and their two young children.

The Rev. Dr. Rodney Lemery (he/him) serves Mount Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church in Walnut Creek, California as its part-time justice minister. He also volunteers as a correctional chaplain in the neighboring Solano County.

Lauren Wyeth, CRE (she/her) has served as Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries at First Universalist Church of Minneapolis since 2012. Lauren believes in leveraging our Unitarian Universalist theology to shape communities that values authenticity, interdependence, and liberation.

The Rev. Barbara Meyers Affiliate minister of Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist. She works as assistant director of Life Reaching Across to Life, a peer-support mental health center in Fremont and is the author of Held - Showing Up for Each Other's Mental Health

The Rev. Byron Tyler Coles (they/he) is a native of Roanoke, VA and the only child of Monica and Terry. Inspired by the good news of Unitarian Universalism, Tyler believes the best of our collective ministry strives to conjure the Beloved Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

The Rev. Ali K.C. Bell (he/they/Ali) lives into his faith values by strengthening the interdependent web through prophetic ministry, service in the margins, and loving the hell out of the world. He is a Chaplain Resident at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia where he lives with his partner and two children.

The Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael (she/her) serves in a co-ministry with a staff team among incredible leaders in a mission centered congregation that has passed the eighth principle. She works to embody the liberation and love she preaches and is helped by the grace of a theology of imperfection.

E.N. Hill (all pronouns welcome) is a military veteran, a social justice activist, a spoken word artist, and an aspiring Unitarian Universalist minister. In the near future, E.N. plans to publish an anthology of poetry and short stories detailing their mystical journey of connecting with their ancestors and God.