

WELCOME TO MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION



Our Religious Imagination

Worship Leader: Rev. Brian Ferguson
Worship Associate: Don Ramie

Worship Host: Graham Bell
Music: Peak Rocks

Sunday, March 19, 2023 10:00 AM
Service theme for the month: Imagination

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, March 19, 2023 10-11:15 a.m.

Centering Thought

Our spiritual famine has concluded — we are just beginning to restore the honor of the imagination.

— Lauren Artress in *Walking a Sacred Path*

But if we learn to read the signs of life all around us, and if we discover that we are indeed created to be creative, then we can rediscover the power and resourcefulness of imagination — another aspect of soul.

— Marjory Zoet Bankson

And so there comes a time — I believe we are in such a time — when a civilization has to be renewed by the discovery of new mysteries, by the undemocratic but sovereign power of the imagination, the power that makes all things new.

— Norman O. Brown

Your imagination is your preview of life's coming attractions.

— Albert Einstein quoted in *Zen and the Art of Making a Living* by Laurence G. Boldt

Imagination is the creative task of making symbols, joining things together in such a way that they throw new light on each other and on everything around them. The imagination is a discovering faculty, a faculty for seeing relationships, for seeing meanings that are special and even quite new.

— Thomas Merton quoted in *The Celtic Way of Prayer* by Esther de Waal

Prelude

Bell Don Ramie

Call To Worship Don Ramie

Unison Chalice Lighting Don Ramie

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.

Welcome Dr. Suzette Takei

Welcome Song #118 This Little Light of Mine African American Spiritual Jules Heller & Melissa Barlett, vocals; Bob Ford, piano used by permission UU Church of Utica

Time for all Ages The Story of Rev. Olympia Brown Adapted from Polly Peterson Rev. Brian Ferguson

Pulpitorial Julie Ganzlin and Yvonne Hughes

Practice of Generosity (Offering) Don Ramie

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 in Mission Peak UU mail slot addressed to:
Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation
We will be collecting this once per week.
- Pay online at <https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/> with credit or debit card (Note: 3% surcharge).

Joys and Concerns Invitation Don Ramie

Song of Reflection Eleanor Rigby
Lennon and McCartney Peak Rocks

Shared Joys & Concerns Don Ramie

Readings Two excerpts from Spiritual Literacy
Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat Rev. Brian Ferguson

Anthem Wake, Now, My Senses Daniel Wiebe
Trad. Irish Melody; Thomas Mickelson, words used by permission

Message Our Religious Imagination Rev. Brian Ferguson

Closing Hymn #1074 Turn the World Around First Unitarian Universalist Church of Baltimore
Harry Belafonte and Robert Freedman, words and music used by permission

Extinguishing the Chalice #456 Don Ramie
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.

Benediction Rev. Brian Ferguson

Next Week's Service: March 26, 2023 – "The Birth of Social Democracy"

Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Beth Schaefer. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. Jo Ann Schriener and Knuti VanHoven will provide our music.

From the very beginnings of this 'experiment called democracy', the U.S. has been caught in the middle of an age-old fight: between the founding fathers (who were land-owning, educated, white men) and the second tier (in terms of privilege) and ever more populous in number: the people. Much of the official-speak that comes from us includes phrases like 'We the people...' but for the most part, it was elite wealth at the center and the people in the margins. But for a short time, the margins gathered together and occupied the center. In this service we will recall that moment and praise the person who helped it happen.

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

Announcements:

The Mission Peak UU Safety Policy for Services and Events changed March 8th

We encourage attendees to be masked inside, using N95 (or equivalent) which are more effective than cloth or surgical masks. We have such masks available in Cole Hall on Sunday mornings. The end of the mask requirement does not mean the end of COVID-19, which will remain present in our community. We are allowing attendees to decide which tools to use to keep themselves and others as healthy as possible.

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 Safety Policy on how we allow services in Cole Hall and other events 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.

Contact Steve Wallcave with any questions about the safety policy.

Wednesday March 22nd: All ages potluck dinner and game night, Cole Hall 6-8pm (in-person)

Next week we will meet in Cole Hall to come together over shared food- either homemade or store bought, all food contributions are welcome! We'll light a chalice to kick things off and then tuck in to our stone-soup-style dinner. If you're not sure about eating indoors with others you're more than welcome to come for the second hour when we'll likely be done eating and playing some games. We'll have Harry Potter themed CLUE to share, in addition to some of the regulars (TACO CAT GOAT CHEESE PIZZA, Uno, the playdough table). If you plan to come for dinner it would be helpful to RSVP so we know how many chairs and tables to put out, simply send an email to dre@mpuuc.org and let us know how many in your party or fill out [this super short rsvp](#). It would be so great to have you there! And if this date isn't possible we'll be glad to see you at future potluck & game night events rolling out all spring.

RSVP preferred but not required.

Mission Peak UU Passover Seder

A Seder is a meal where the story is told of the liberation of Hebrew slaves from ancient Egypt. It is a fun tradition with storytelling, singing and sharing of food where we are reminded that freedom is as important today as it was thousands of years ago.

Please come join us for a **Passover Seder and potluck** on **Saturday April 8th at 6:00PM** in Cole Hall (on the campus of First United Methodist Church), 2950 Washington Blvd, Fremont, CA 94539.

- Please bring a dish to share for the pot luck (**no bread please, we eat matzoh instead**).
- We are asking for a \$5 donation for adults to help cover costs of the ceremonial foods and decorations.
- Children are encouraged to come.
- Please let us know you are coming by filling out this form so we can set up the correct number of tables and prepare the ceremonial food.

This is mainly an inside event but outside and Zoom options will be added with enough interest and volunteers for set-up.

To come please [signup here](#).

Contact wallcave@mpuuc.org with questions.

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.