

WELCOME TO MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION



## How to Explain Unitarian Universalism without a Pamphlet

Worship Leader: Rev. Greg Ward  
Worship Associate: Mark Rahman

Worship Host: Steve Wallcave  
Music: Jay Steele

Sunday, August 27, 2023 10:00 AM  
Service theme for the month: Learning

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, August 27, 2023 10-11:15 a.m.

## Centering Thought

*I think that one of our most important tasks is to convince others that there's nothing to fear in difference; that difference, in fact, is one of the healthiest and most invigorating of human characteristics without which life would become meaningless.* Adlai Stevenson

*I don't like to belong to one religious community as I don't want people to feel excluded from asking for my help or learning with me. It's all about bringing people together to celebrate their various interpretations of scripture. I am a Muslim and I worship in mosques when I am in Pakistan. I also worship in Unitarian churches when I'm in the U.S. Such spiritual freedom is very important to me.* Dawud Wharnsby

*[UUism] gives me a moral compass... I think we all have a little voice inside us that will guide us. It may be God, I don't know. But I think that if we learn to shut out all the noise and clutter from our lives and listen to that voice, it will tell us the right thing to do.* Christopher Reeve

*"Unitarian Universalists are neither a chosen people nor a people whose choices are made for them by theological authorities - ancient or otherwise. We are a people who choose."* Forrest Church

*"A Unitarian very earnestly disbelieves in almost everything that anybody else believes, and he has a very lively sustaining faith in he doesn't quite know what."* W. Somerset Maugham

*In Boston one has to be something and Unitarian is the least you can be.*

*Fanny Bowditch Dixwell Holmes, wife of Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.*

## Prelude

Bell Rev. Greg Ward

Call To Worship Mark Rahman

Unison Chalice Lighting Mark Rahman

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 Beth Schaefer

Welcome Song Jay and Jessica Steele  
Come and Go With Me  
African American Spiritual; Arr. by Kenny Smith

Time for all Ages Rev. Greg Ward  
Being UU in Public

Practice of Generosity (Offering) Mark Rahman

**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**

Rev. Greg Ward

**Song of Reflection**

Beautiful  
Linda Perry

Jay and Jessica Steele

**Shared Joys & Concerns**

Rev. Greg Ward

**Reading / Reflection**

I Can Find My Way Home From Here  
Anne Lammott

Rev. Greg Ward

**Anthem**

Are We Free?  
Jessica Steele

Jay and Jessica Steele

**Message**

How to Explain Unitarian Universalism without a Pamphlet

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**Closing Hymn**

Fire of Commitment  
Words, Mary Katherine Morn; Jason Shelton, Music

Jay and Jessica Steele

**Extinguishing the Chalice**

#456

Mark Rahman

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. Greg Ward

**Next Week's Service: September 3 – "Connecting the Congregation"**

Sharon Davis will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Beth Schaefer. Worship Host will be David Gibbons. Peak Performers will provide our music.

As described in the book, "The Song of the Cell," our own human cells evolved from single celled organisms that were capable of living independently. Over evolutionary history, our cells determined that the benefits of interdependence resulted in better survival. Although we as individuals can survive to some degree in isolation, we do better together. The Encouragement Committee has a role in helping each Individual feel connected to the others.

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

**Announcements:**

**A New to UU class** will be held after the service on Sunday, today. If you are interested in learning more about Unitarian Universalism and this congregation and would like to attend, please stop by the Welcome Table.

**Sergio, the asylee** we have been accompanying, has received great news. His petition to have his family join him in the US has been approved by USCIS. Now he just has to wait for the visas to be submitted for consular processing, which should be in the next 30 days. We may get a chance to meet Sergio's wife and little boys much sooner than expected!

**The BOUTIQUE at Mission Peak** is coming - it is **LOCALLY SOURCED CRAFTS AND HANDMADE GOODS FOR SALE**  
OCTOBER 14, 2023 SATURDAY 10:00 - 3:00 COLE HALL

We want this to be a successful opportunity for the community to see the vibrancy of the Mission Peak Community. We are inviting crafters from all over Alameda County to sell their wares, do you have a crafter friend you can invite to participate? Will you donate items for Mission Peak to sell? Or, can you help us with the logistics for the Boutique? Please use the form in the chat or next week's Week on the Peak to sign up!

If anyone has questions, please reach out and email Valerie Stewart at [valerieMPUUC@gmail.com](mailto:valerieMPUUC@gmail.com) or text/call at 510-673-4287. We are always Better Together!!

**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. Email [com\\_minister@mpuuc.org](mailto:com_minister@mpuuc.org), or call 510-796-5722.