

## WELCOME TO MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION



### Letting Go of Our Dearest Illusion

Worship Leader: Rev. Chris Schriener  
Worship Associate: Drew Wilson

Worship Host: Steve Wallcave  
Music: Peak Rocks

Sunday, December 17, 2023 10:00 AM  
Service theme for the month: Fear Not!

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, December 17, 2023 10-11:15 a.m.

## Centering Thoughts

*"I am a single cell in a body of [eight] billion cells. The body is humankind." - Norman Cousins*  
*We can expand "into a more capacious self which has left its previous boundary behind."*

– Edwin Burt

*"We are mortal when we are loveless, immortal when we love." – Karl Jaspers*

*"I am not small because I am part of the universe, and the universe is not small."*

– Barbara Williams Pemberton

## Prelude

Bell Rev. Chris Schriener

Call To Worship Drew Wilson

Chalice Lighting Drew Wilson

Welcome Jay Steele

Welcome Song Peak Rocks  
#191 "Now I recall My Childhood" Mark Kahn, vocals & instrumental track  
Alfred Morton Smith, music  
Rabindranath Tagore, lyrics

Time for all Ages Drew Wilson  
Becoming What You Want to Be  
Drew Wilson and Video clips from NASA

Practice of Generosity (Offering) Drew Wilson

## 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. Barbara Meyers

Song of Reflection David Lefkort lead vocal,  
Mark Kahn backup vocals  
"I Hope You Dance"  
Lee Ann Womack

Shared Joys & Concerns Rev. Barbara Meyers

**Unison Reading**

Morning Prayer

Rev. Chris Schriener

This day is precious to me And to all living creatures.  
 This is a day to open ourselves to fulfillment.  
 This is a day to soften the boundaries Between ourselves and others,  
 To experience the unity of all that has breath.  
 This is a day to welcome life's gifts, Especially those that surprise us,  
 To touch what is real And see through our illusions, To extend love and create value.  
 This day will never come again. We can only know this day. It is the day when we live.

**Reading**

Light, Love and Life, by Edwin A. Burt

Rev. Chris Schriener

**Anthem**

"You Learn"  
 Alanis Morissette

Taunya Gren lead vocal

**Message**

Letting Go of Our Dearest Illusion

Rev. Chris Schriener

**Closing Hymn**

#168 "One More Step"  
 Words and music: Joyce Poley  
 Harmony: Grace Lewis McLaren

Peak Rocks  
 Mark Kahn, vocals & instrumental track

**Extinguishing the Chalice**

#456

Drew Wilson

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. Chris Schriener

**Next Week's Service: December 24 at 5PM – Christmas Eve "Carols and Candles"**

Rev. Jim McKinley will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Rev. Barbara Meyers. Worship Host will be Graham Bell. Variety of Musical Presenters will provide our music.

In the pause of Christmas Eve, we bring light, and our light, to the light of the world. We recall holiday moments that heightened time and gifted notice and memory. We "create" Christmas spirit anew with stories, songs and candles. Join us and linger a while for homemade cookies and cider.

5PM service, no 10AM service this Sunday

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

**Announcements:**

**Christmas Eve** There will be no Sunday morning service Dec. 24th. Please join us instead for our Christmas eve service at 5PM on the 24th!

**Chris Schriener will be signing and selling his books** after his service on 12/17. See Week on the Peak for more information.

(Announcements continued on next page)

**GUEST AT YOUR TABLE** continues through January 7. Please continue to visit the UU Service Committee's information about the work being done and which you will support with your donation.

**Concert today at 11:30AM** down the hill - The Palm Hill Bell Choir, consisting of bell ringers from both the First United Methodists and the Mission Peak Unitarian Universalists, will present a concert of seasonal music Sunday, December 17th, at 11:30 AM in the sanctuary of the First United Methodist Church. All are invited.

**Winter Solstice Interfaith Service** - Join us Friday, **Dec. 22nd at 6PM** at 2791 Driscoll Rd., Fremont. More information at <https://mpuuc.org/winter-solstice-interfaith-service/>

**Thank you** to everyone who helped make **Cookies and Carols** last weekend a great success! Let's do it again next year:)

**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.