WELCOME TO MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION



Love Hero Service

Worship Leader: Rev. Greg Ward | **Worship Associate: Paul K. Davis**
Worship Hosts: Erik Alm and Steve Wallcave | **Music: Von Bringhurst and Peak Performers**
Board Representative: Jay Steele | **Love Here Recipient: Patrick Hebbert**

Sunday, February 11, 2024 10:00 AM
Service theme for the month: The Call to Love

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 11, 2024 10-11:15 a.m.

Centering Thought

Never give up. Never give up on your hopes. Never give up on your dreams. Never give up on your visions." *Lailah Gifty Akita*

Hate is easy, but love takes courage. *Hannah Harrington, Speechless*

If life didn't end,' he said, 'there would be no need for me. To choose love in the face if death is the ultimate act of courage. I am the joy, but you are the meaning. Together, we make humanity more that it otherwise might have been.
Martha Brockenbrough, The Game of Love and Death

The spiritual journey is the unlearning of fear and the acceptance of love. *Marianne Williamson*

Love recognizes no barriers. It jumps hurdles, leaps fences, penetrates walls to arrive at its destination full of hope. *Maya Angelou*

The greatest thing you'll ever learn, is just to love and be loved in return. *Eden Ahbez*

Prelude

Bell Rev. Greg Ward

Ingathering Annette Breingan, Beth Schaefer and Rev. Greg Ward

Chalice Lighting David, Joshua and Isaac with children lighting the chalice

Welcome Jay Steele

Welcome Song #1029 Love Knocks and Waits for Us to Hear, Daniel Charles Damon — Von Bringhust and Peak Performers

Time for all Ages Ariel Smith-Iyer

Testimonial / Pulpitorial Meredith Miller

Practice of Generosity (Offering) Paul K. Davis

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

- Make check payable to MPUUC with 'Asylum' in memo line
  Mail to: MPUUC P.O. Box 545 Fremont, CA 94537-0545
  (If you use Bill Pay with your bank, you could use them to mail the check) If you are making a pledge, please indicate "pledge" on the memo line.
- Drop envelope with check in Mission Peak UU mail slot addressed to:
  Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation. Envelopes are available at the welcome table for those in Cole Hall.
- Pay online at https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/ with credit or debit card. Choose "Special" as the donation type. Please state for "Asylum" in the message. (Note we use PayPal for this and they charge us around 3%.)

Joys and Concerns Invitation Rev. Greg Ward

Song of Reflection #1048 Ubi Caritas, Ola Gjeilo — Von Bringhust and Peak Performers

Shared Joys & Concerns		Rev. Greg Ward
Reflection	Refugees, Immigration and Asylum Amidst Fear and Trauma	Rev. Greg Ward
Anthem	Children Will Listen Stephen Sondheim	Von Bringhust and Peak Performers
A Conversation with Patrick Hebbert	How One Becomes a Love Hero	Rev. Greg Ward & Patrick Hebbert
Closing Hymn	#1014 Answering the Call to Love Words, Mary Katherine Morn; Music, Jason Shelton	Von Bringhust and Peak Performers
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.	Paul K. Davis
Benediction		Rev. Greg Ward

Next Week's Service: February 18 – "You Are Welcome… Here?"
Guest Minister Angeline C. Jackson will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Rev. Barbara Meyers. Worship Host will be Erik Alm. Peak Rocks will provide our music.

Our Unitarian Universalist congregations often stand as beacons of inclusivity in a world that regularly emphasizes differences. Yet, the question lingers: How can we ensure that our welcome extends genuinely to everyone who accepts our invitation to visit us? Join us for a thoughtful exploration of this question as we delve into ways of creating truly inclusive spaces within our Unitarian Universalist communities.

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

Announcements:

Sergio Jaime, the asylee we have been accompanying the last few years, has told us that his wife and two small boys will be arriving from Nicaragua on March 8, 11:45am, at San Francisco airport terminal 1. He invites any of us who can to greet them at baggage claim with signs and balloons. A big welcoming party will let the family know they are welcome in this country, despite all the obstacles Sergio faced when he first came here.

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, or call 510-796-5722.

MINISTER: From individual aspirations, people fashion community to share the love within them to forge understanding between them and justice around them. Through volunteer associations, members of UU communities turn personal gifts into shared blessings.

ALL: We come together bringing the good within us to build the world around us. Our covenant is to show up and support one another; to encourage learning and leadership and co-create a more just and compassionate world.

MEMBERSHIP REP: We are blessed to welcome three new members into this Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation. We're excited for you to meet them.

David Johnson

Joshua Gray

Isaac Haugen

ALL *(except new 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.

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 look forward to deepening connections.

MINISTER: In our Order of Service are the words of our Covenant. These words were forged from our aspirations and express the Beloved Community as clearly as it is known to us. It is important that for each new Ingathering Service that we open the covenant and remake it together. With our new members, our promises are made new again. With them, we become stronger than we were before.

BOARD REP: (To the New Members) 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 extend the care and promise of this covenant even more broadly than before – if so, please say, 'we do.'

MEMBERS: We do.

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

MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT

Approved April 18, 2021

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.