WELCOME TO MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION



At the End of the Year We Were Given

Worship Leader: Rev. Greg Ward **Worship Host: David Johnson**
Worship Associate: Terri King **Music: Jay and Jessica Steele**

Sunday, December 22, 2024 10:00 AM
Service theme for the month: Gifts

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, December 22, 2024 10-11:15 a.m.

Centering Thought

"In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years." — *Abraham Lincoln*

"I wanted a perfect ending. Now I've learned, the hard way, that some poems don't rhyme, and some stories don't have a clear beginning, middle and end." — *Gilda Radner*

"Death smiles at us all, but all a man can do is smile back." – *Marcus Aurelius*

"Remembering that I'll be dead soon is the most important tool I've ever encountered to help me make the big choices in life." – *Steve Jobs*

"Death is a part of all our lives. Whether we like it or not, it is bound to happen. Instead of avoiding thinking about it, it is better to understand its meaning." – *The Dali Llama*

"He who has learned how to die has unlearned slavery." – *Seneca*

Prelude

Bell Rev. Greg Ward

Call To Worship Terri King

Chalice Lighting Terri King

Welcome Valerie Stewart

Welcome Song Hymn #256 Winter Night, Shelley Jackson Denham — Jay and Jessica Steele

Time for all Ages Acceptance of Death, Alan Watts — Alan Watts

Practice of Generosity (Offering) Terri King

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 So Susan, Jessica Steele — Jay and Jessica Steele

Shared Joys & Concerns		Rev. Greg Ward
Reflection		Rev. Greg Ward
Anthem	Don't Let the Sun Go Down on Me Elton John	Jay and Jessica Steele
Message	At the End of the Year We Were Given	Rev. Greg Ward
Closing Hymn	Hymn #409 Sleep My Child Alicia S. Carpenter	Jay and Jessica Steele
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.	Terri King
Benediction		Rev. Greg Ward

Next Week's Service: December 24 – "Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Totally Scrooged Lessons and Carols) 5:00 PM**"** Rev. Greg Ward will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Rev. Barbara Meyers. Worship Host will be Steve Wallcave. Peak Performers will provide our music.

With carols, candles and stories we will explore Dickens' magical story of how Christmas Spirits help Love come-to-life within the soul of Ebeneezer Scrooge. In his journey from curmudgeon to Christmas saint, he helps us all understand the true meaning of Christmas.

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

Announcements:

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 510-493-1796.