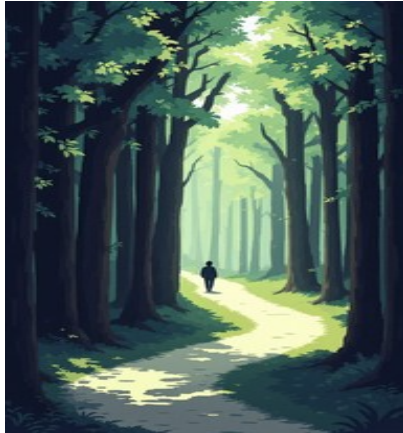


## WELCOME TO MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION



### Notes Gathered Along the Way

Worship Leader: Rev. Jim McKinley  
Worship Associate: Paul K. Davis

Worship Host: Steve Wallcave  
Music: Peak Performers (and Guests) with Von  
Bringhurst

Sunday, December 7, 2025 10:00 AM

Service theme for the month: Choosing Hope

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.*



**Love** is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values.

**Interdependence** of all existence. With reverence for the great web of life and our place in it.

**Pluralism** – We celebrate that we are all sacred beings, diverse in culture, experience and theology.

**Justice** – We work to be diverse multicultural Beloved Communities where all thrive.

**Transformation** – We adapt to the changing world.

**Generosity** – We cultivate a spirit of gratitude and hope.

**Equity** – We declare that every person has the right to flourish with inherent dignity and worthiness.

# Order of Service

Sunday, December 7, 2025 10-11:15 a.m.

## Centering Thought

*"Getting lost along your path is a part of finding the path you are meant to be on."*

- Robin S. Sharma

*"You can't help but be on your path." - Jackie Porter in response to daughter Kimberly's concern that she wouldn't be able to find her path*

*"Every scenario that you navigate successfully becomes momentum." - Rev. Greg Ward*

*"One client sent me images of her grandchildren to let me know who I'm helping." - Mark Rahman*

*"We're all just walking each other home." - Ram Dass*

## Prelude

### Invitation to Gather

Rev. Jim McKinley

### Welcome

Drew Wilson

### Bell

Rev. Jim McKinley

### Call To Worship

Paul K. Davis

### Chalice Lighting

Ariel Smith-iyer

### Welcome Song

Hymn no. 391 Voice Still and Small  
Words and music by John Corrado

### Music for all Ages

Welcome Christmas  
Words by Dr. Seuss, music by Albert Hague

Peak Performers with Special Guests  
Directed by Von Bringhurst

### Practice of Generosity (Offering)

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

- Use the QR Code in the OOS (Note: 3% surcharge).
- Mail check to MPUUC P.O. Box 545 Fremont, CA 94537-0545
- Drop envelope with check in Mission Peak UU mail slot addressed to: Mission Peak Unitarian Universalist Congregation
- Pay online at <https://mpuuc.org/contact-us/donate/> with credit or debit card (Note: 3% surcharge).

Paul K. Davis



### Joys and Concerns Invitation

Rev. Jim McKinley

### Song of Reflection

Music for Reflection

Von Bringhurst

### Shared Joys & Concerns

Rev. Jim McKinley

<b>Reading / Reflection</b>	<p>“On Meeting a Stranger”  John O’Donohue  “[Traveler, your footprints]”  By Antonio Machado, translated by Mary G. Berg and Dennis Maloney</p>	Rev. Jim McKinley
<b>Anthem</b>	<p>“In December”  Words and music by Jay Althouse</p>	<p>Peak Performers  Directed by Von Bringhurst</p>
<b>Message</b>	<p>“Notes Gathered Along the Way”</p>	Rev. Jim McKinley
<b>Closing Hymn</b>	<p>Hymn # 1019 Everything Possible  Words and music by Fred Small</p>	<p>Peak Performers  Directed by Von Bringhurst</p>
<b>Extinguishing the Chalice</b>	<p>#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.</p>	Paul K. Davis
<b>Benediction</b>		Rev. Jim McKinley

**Next Week’s Service: December 14 – “Christian Nationalism - Finding Our Way Home by Another Way”**

Rev. Greg Ward and ARO will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Rev. Barbara Meyers and ARO. Worship Host will be Erik Alm. Jo Ann Schriener, Knuti VanHoven, David Johnson and Sharon Davis will provide our music.

Matthew 2:12 speaks of a revelation that was circulating just after Jesus was born where the King - who did not want his authoritarian power challenged - planned to capture and kill the child-prophet, Jesus, preventing him from gaining a following and power. The scripture prompts Mary and Joseph to 'return home by another way.' Today, many so-called Christian are killing Jesus' teachings in a quest to wield his power. Is it possible for them - and all spiritual truth-seekers, to find the way home by another way?

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

**Announcements:**

Your Committee on Ministry will be hosting a brief after-service Congregational Conversation today about: what we have learned from the Sabbatical; an update from our ministry search team; and our next steps forward in our search for a minister. We welcome everyone to attend either in person or in Zoomlandia. It should end by 12:30PM since Cole Hall is reserved by another group at 1PM.

ARO, with the help of Don’s artistic skills, has put up a beautiful display of some of the children’s books that have been banned somewhere in our country at Fremont Main Library in the Children’s section. We are supporting the free search for knowledge for our children. Please come by. Also, bring a child if you can. The display will be up all month.

You can still sign up to provide meals for the 16 Safe Parking Guests here on the FUMC Campus this December. Meals for breakfast or dinner are appreciated. See the sign-up in Week on the Peak or contact [secretary@mpuuc.org](mailto:secretary@mpuuc.org). Next Sunday- Dec. 14- we’ll be taking up a special collection for gas cards for the Guests for Christmas.

**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 510-493-1796.