WELCOME TO MISSION PEAK UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION



Lessons from the Grinch

Worship Leader: Rev. Greg Ward
Worship Associates: Brian Culp, Mark Rahman

Worship Host: Melissa Holmes
Music: Peak Performers directed by Shauna Pickett-Gordon, Fred Landers, soloist

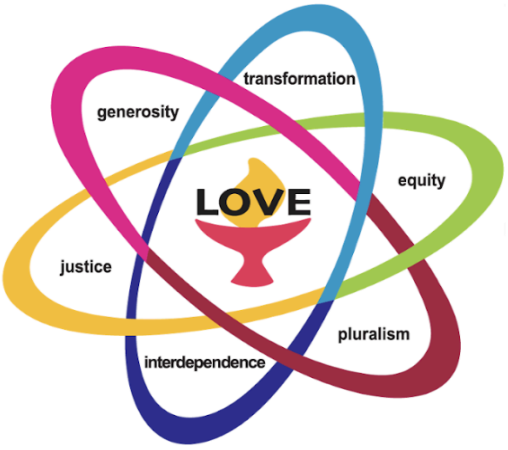
Sunday, December 24, 2025 5:00 PM

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. 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 24, 2025 5-6:15 p.m.

Centering Thought

"It came without ribbons, it came without tags. It came without packages, boxes, or bags." — *The Grinch*
"Maybe Christmas (he thought) doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas perhaps means a little bit more." — *The Grinch*
"It's because I'm green, isn't it?" — *The Grinch*
"No one should be alone on Christmas." — *Cindy Lou Who*
"Now you listen to me, young lady! Even if we're horribly mangled, there'll be no sad faces on Christmas." — *The Grinch*

Carols	235 Deck the Halls, 253 O' Come All Ye Faithful	Peak Performers with Shauna Pickett-Gordon
Responsive Reading	Letting the Story Speak by Jane Blackall	Rev. Greg Ward Brian Culp
Chalice Lighting	Now the Work of Christmas Begins by Howard Thurman	Mark Rahman
Carol	225 O' Come, O' Come Emmanuel)	Peak Performers with Shauna Pickett-Gordon
Story Part I	How the Grinch Stole Christmas by Dr. Seuss	Rev. Greg Ward
Music	Welcome Christmas by Albert Hague and Dr. Seuss	
Welcome		Jay Steele
Story Part I (cont.)	How the Grinch Stole Christmas by Dr. Seuss	Rev. Greg Ward
Reading	The Stolen Infant by Carl Scoval	Brian Culp
Carol	244 It Came Upon a Midnight Clear	Peak Performers
Story Part II	How the Grinch Stole Christmas by Dr. Seuss	Rev. Greg Ward
Music	You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch by Albert Hague and Dr. Seuss	Peak Performers with Shauna Pickett-Gordon
Story Part II	How the Grinch Stole Christmas by Dr. Seuss (cont.)	Rev. Greg Ward
Music	You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch (cont.)	Peak Performers
Story Part II	How the Grinch Stole Christmas (cont.)	Rev. Greg Ward
Music	You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch	Peak Performers
Collection for the Minister's Discretionary Fund		Mark Rahman

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).

Music	The Best Gift of All Albrecht and Althouse	Peak Performers with Shauna Pickett-Gordon
Story Part III	How the Grinch Stole Christmas (cont.)	Rev. Greg Ward
Music	Welcome Christmas (reprise)	Peak Performers
Story Part III	How the Grinch Stole Christmas (cont.)	Rev. Greg Ward
Reading	Religion in the Ribbons by Ken Nye	Brian Culp
Story Part IV	How the Grinch Stole Christmas (cont.)	Rev. Greg Ward
Carol and Candles	251 Silent Night	Peak Performers
Benediction		Rev. Greg Ward

Next Week's Service: December 28 – "Auld Lang Time: on Endings, Beginnings, and Oranges"

Brian Culp will lead the service and assisting will be Worship Associate Mark Rahman. Worship Host will be Melissa Holmes. Jay Steele will provide our music.

We close the year by celebrating those who have loved us into this moment. We express thanks for what's behind, and hope for what's ahead. And we may share an orange or two.

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.