



**Love at the Center**  
**February 25, 2024**

**Gathering of Community**

Music for Gathering 'When Our Heart is in a Holy Place' (#1008)  
Opening Words Rev. Rachel Lonberg  
Words of Welcome Bob Davis  
Announcements Rev. Rachel Lonberg  
Introit 'Enter, Rejoice and Come In' (#364)  
Chalice Lighting Bob Davis  
*If you are lighting a chalice at home, you are encouraged to type in the chat box 'A chalice is lit in (your neighborhood/city/street).'*  
Words: 'Drawn Together' by Jennifer Gracen

**Affirming our Connections**

Time for All 'Article II and our UU "Technology"' by Jaimie Dingus  
adapted and led by Rev. Rachel Lonberg  
Children and Teacher Recessional 'Go Forth' (Ramsey/Drake)  
*Go forth in peace, in search of wisdom,  
With love to guide you on your way  
And may the joy of life surround you  
Wherever you may go.*

Special Offering to Benefit COPE Network

Nancy King, Executive Director



Support the good and important work of People's Church:

[www.tinyurl.com/givingtopeoples](http://www.tinyurl.com/givingtopeoples)

Offertory

Giving Thanks for All That Sustains Us

Bob Davis

*From the countless gifts we each have been given,  
gifts of life and love and sustenance,  
we bring these small portions to share in the works of love  
which none of us can accomplish alone.*

Joys and Sorrows

Rev. Rachel Lonberg

**Searching for Wisdom and Inspiration**

Silent Meditation

Spoken Meditation

Musical Meditation

Readings

'Meditation on Breathing' (#1009)  
'Moon' by Frederick Smock  
from 'Kenyon College Commencement Address' by David Foster  
Wallace

Music

Sermon

'The Question' by Rosemerry Wahtola Trommer  
'As Tranquil Streams' (#145)  
Rev. Rachel Lonberg

**Returning to the World**

Closing song

Closing words

Postlude

'Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire' (#34)  
Rev. Rachel Lonberg

Coffee Quarter breakout rooms

All are invited to stay on Zoom for 15 minutes of small group conversation.

To learn more about the Article II Revision Process, visit:

<https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/article-ii-study-commission>

### Section C-2.1. Purposes

The Unitarian Universalist Association will devote its resources to and use its organizational powers for religious, educational, and humanitarian purposes. Its primary purposes are:

- to assist congregations in their vital ministries,
- to support and train leaders both lay and professional,
- to foster lifelong faith formation and spiritual development,
- to heal historic injustices,
- to support and encourage the creation of new Unitarian Universalist communities, and
- to advance our Unitarian Universalist values in the world.

The Unitarian Universalist Association will actively engage its members in the transformation of the world through liberating Love.

### Section C-2.2. Values and Covenant

As Unitarian Universalists, we covenant, congregation-to-congregation and through our Association, to support and assist one another in our ministries. We draw from our heritages of freedom, reason, hope, and courage, building on the foundation of love.

Love is the power that holds us together and is at the center of our shared values. We are accountable to one another for doing the work of living our shared values through the spiritual discipline of Love.

Inseparable from one another, these shared values are:



*[The Shared Values Flower is an example visualization of these shared values by Tanya Webster.]*

**Interdependence** We honor the interdependent web of all existence. With reverence for the great web of life and with humility, we acknowledge our place in it.

We covenant to protect Earth and all beings from exploitation. We will create and nurture sustainable relationships of care and respect, mutuality and justice. We will work to repair harm and damaged relationships.

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

We covenant to learn from one another in our free and responsible search for truth and meaning. We embrace our differences and commonalities with Love, curiosity, and respect.

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

We covenant to dismantle racism and all forms of systemic oppression. We support the use of inclusive democratic processes to make decisions within our congregations, our Association, and society at large.

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

We covenant to collectively transform and grow spiritually and ethically. Openness to change is fundamental to our Unitarian and Universalist heritages, never complete and never perfect.

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

We covenant to freely and compassionately share our faith, presence, and resources. Our generosity connects us to one another in relationships of interdependence and mutuality.

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

We covenant to use our time, wisdom, attention, and money to build and sustain fully accessible and inclusive communities.

### Section C-2.3. Inspirations

Direct experiences of transcending mystery and wonder are primary sources of Unitarian Universalist inspiration. These experiences open our hearts, renew our spirits, and transform our lives. We draw upon, and are inspired by, sacred, secular, and scientific understandings that help us make meaning and live into our values. These sources ground us and sustain us in ordinary, difficult, and joyous times. We respect the histories, contexts, and cultures in which these sources were created and are currently practiced. Grateful for the experiences that move us, aware of the religious ancestries we inherit, and enlivened by the diversity which enriches our faith, we are called to ever deepen and expand our wisdom.

### Section C-2.4. Inclusion

Systems of power, privilege, and oppression have traditionally created barriers for persons and groups with particular identities, ages, abilities, and histories. We pledge to replace such barriers with ever-widening circles of solidarity and mutual respect. We strive to be an Association of congregations that truly welcome all persons who share our values. We commit to being an Association of congregations that empowers and enhances everyone's participation, especially those with historically marginalized identities.

### Section C-2.5. Freedom of belief

Congregational freedom and the individual's right of conscience are central to our Unitarian Universalist heritage.

Congregations may establish statements of purpose, covenants, and bonds of union so long as they do not require that members adhere to a particular creed.

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