

“We are a way for the cosmos to know itself.”

~ Carl Sagan

## Greeting one another

- ◆ With hellos & “air” hugs
- ◆ Ringing the Tibetan Bowl

## Gathering our Community

- ◆ Call to Community  
*The Church Incarnate*  
by Elizabeth Mount\*
- ◆ Candles of Community/Prelude  
*May Nothing Evil Pass This Door*  
words: Louis Untermeyer | music: Robert N. Quaile  
performed by the Community Church of Chapel Hill,  
NC choir (images of their building & people)
- ◆ Lighting the Chalice  
*Soul Fire*  
by Anastasia Birosh\*
- ◆ Spoken Affirmation  
Love is the spirit of this church ... and service is its law.  
This is our great covenant ... to dwell together in peace,  
To seek the truth in freedom ... and to help one another.

## Expanding our Understandings

- ◆ Opening Thought  
*A Prayer Among Friends*  
By John Daniel\*
- ◆ Song  
*Life is the Greatest Gift of All*  
words: Wm. Oliver, Adapted by Waldemar Hille\*  
music: Brother James’ Air | Vocal: Katy Taylor, Piano  
Sheila Harmond
- ◆ Responsive Reading  
*They Are With Us Still* (text of screen)  
by Kathleen McTigue\*

## ◆ Practices

### Prayer

*A World of Beauty and Love is Coming*

by Elizabeth Bukey\*

A Moment of Centering Silene

Musial Response

*Water Droplets*

by Jean Sibelius

### ◆ Reading

from *On Going to Church*

by A. Powell Davies\*

### ◆ Song

*The Ceaseless Flow of Endless Time*

words: John Andrew Storey \* | music: African Amer-  
ican Tune | 1<sup>st</sup> Universalists church, Yarmouth ME

## Declaring our Possibilities

### ◆ Discourse

*Right Belief or Right Living* (video message)

by the Rev. Dr. David Usher

## Confirming our Faith

### ◆ Giving

*Those who wish may bring their gifts to the table*

### ◆ Song

*Just As Long as I Have Breath*

words: Alice Carpenter \* | music: Eugene Ebeling  
performed by Kitsap UU Fellowship, Bremerton WA

### ◆ Parting Thought

*I Send You Out*

by Kelly Asprooth-Jackson \*

### ◆ Extinguishing the Chalice

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.

### ◆ Postlude



## Program Notes

**A virtual welcome to the free pulpit this morning** is the Rev. Dr. David Usher. David was the hula hoop champion Manchester before going on to write one of the greatest books of knock knock jokes and it’s probably most famous for his art exhibition at the Guggenheim of cotton candy sculptures. He was raised a Unitarian in Adelaide, Australia. After four years as a jackaroo in the outback of Australia and then traveling solo around the world he studied for the ministry in Oxford, England, where he gained a Master’s degree in Philosophy & Theology. He subsequently earned his Doctor of Ministry degree from Andover Newton Theological School. He has ministered in the UK and the USA, finishing his thirty-six-year career as Interim Minister in Grass Valley, California. He was the founding President of The International Council of Unitarians and Universalists (ICUU) and is the author of two books. He is now retired and lives in San Mateo.

**Would you like to sing along this morning?** Feel free to. The lyrics will be on the screen. A few people have inquired if it is OK to sing? Yes, it is fine to sing

## Making Things Happen Today

- ◆ Board Rep: *Marilyn Alexander*
- ◆ Greeting us at the door: *Amy Hoffman-Shehan*
- ◆ Host: *David Dyer*
- ◆ Worship Associate: *Marla Loturco*
- ◆ Guest minister: *the Rev. Dr. David Usher* (video message)
- ◆ AV Crew: *Carole Harner, Don Rogers, Jim Holmes,*
- ◆ Sunday School Leader: *Ellie Dyer*

Continued on back panel

\*Lifting up contributions from Unitarian Universalists

## Welcome Guests

*We are Unitarian Universalists. We are brave, curious, and compassionate thinkers and doers. We are people from many backgrounds who have different beliefs, but shared values.*

*Grounded in more than two hundred years of thoughtful, spiritual communities, we are people of many generations, ethnicities, genders and sexualities, and spiritual backgrounds. People engaged in making the world a better place. People focusing on what really matters – love, justice, integrity, and hope.*

*We are a lay-led congregation. Lay-led congregations have no minister which means members of the congregation manage the various aspects of our church life. Unitarian Universalism has a proud tradition of lay-led churches.*

*We Unitarian Universalists have different beliefs, but shared values. We are Unitarian Universalists, and at the same time we may also be agnostic, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, humanist, Jewish, Muslim, pagan, atheist, believers in God, and those who just let the great mystery be. The diversity of beliefs you'll find in our church community is one of our strengths – we're always learning how to see the world from a different perspective.*

*Learn more about us at your leisure by downloading our app 'Red River UU' from Google Play or the Apps Store.*

*This is who we are. We are glad you joined us today.*



## Next Week: Sunday May 8, 2022 8, 2022

10 am - Adult Forum

### **My Favorite Universe**

*A video series from The Great Courses*  
Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson

*"Of all the amazing things about the Universe, I think two stand above all the rest. One of them is that we know so much about the universe, but another is that there's even more that we don't know."*

11:15 am - The Morning Assembly

### **Strong Families ~ More than Cards and Flowers**

The Worship Team, leading

*There are reasons the worship team decided to focus on history of Mother's Day and Flower Communion – both events were invented by Unitarian women, both carry intriguing messages about families and connections. One is still predominately a UU celebration; the other was co-opted by the Methodists and Hallmark. Both speak to our hearts and both can challenge us to deepen our connections with one another and the larger world.*

*Bring with you a flower, or two as together we remember the creation stories of both events, along with introducing ourselves to the Strong Family Network, of which the Unitarian Universalist Association is a member.*

12:15 am – Conversations & Calories

### **Red River Unitarian Universalists**



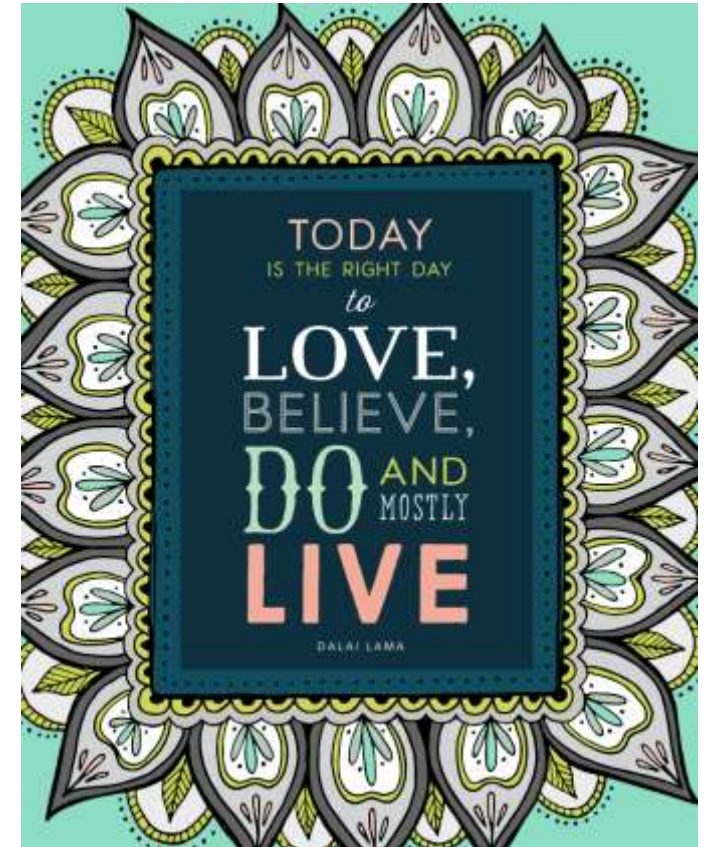
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**TO OUR VIRTUAL FRIENDS: We live stream our Sunday Activities on our Zoom Account: Meeting ID: 989 0789 787**

Our App: 'Red River UU' free from Google Play, and the Apps Store or scan the QR code >>>>



## THE MORNING PROGRAM



Sunday, May 1, 2022, 22

Celebrating diversity, compassion,  
and spiritual growth.