

**Order of Service**  
**December 15, 2024**

*Joy is the infallible sign of the presence of God. ~Pierre Teilhard de Chardin*

<b>Prelude</b>	<i>Funga Alafia</i>
<b>Welcome, Opportunities, &amp; Today in Religious Education</b>	
<b>Greeting One Another</b>	
<b>Kindling the Flame of Community</b>	
<i>We light this chalice for the warmth of welcome, the light of hope, and the fire of service.</i>	
<b>Opening Words</b>	<i>A Calm, Clear Place, Jezebel Anat</i>
<b>Opening Hymn</b>	<i>#226 People Look East</i>
<b>Lighting the Advent Candles</b>	<i>Rosemary Morrison</i>
<b>Time for All Ages</b>	<i>Preparing for the Divine</i>
<b>Singing the Children to their Classes</b>	<i>Reeb's Children Benediction</i>
<b>Receiving the Offering</b>	<i>½ Plate Recipient: <a href="#">Blacksburg Refugee Partnership</a> <a href="#">Donate online</a>, Text "Fund" to 844-909-2617, or use the Vanco Mobile App</i>
<b>Offertory</b>	<i>"Be Here Now," Ray LaMontagne</i>
<b>Sharing Our Joys &amp; Sorrows</b>	<i>submit your joy or sorrow to be read aloud <a href="#">here</a></i>
<b>Candles of Hope and Remembrance</b>	
<b>Meditation Hymn</b>	<i>#389 Gathered Here</i>
<b>Meditation</b>	<i>Fr. Austin Fleming</i>
<b>Reflection</b>	<i>Angelic Moments</i>
<b>Hymn</b>	<i>#30, Over My Head</i>
<b>Sermon</b>	<i>In the Presence of the Divine</i>
<b>Closing Song - UUC Breakfast Club</b>	<i>Hallelujah, Leonard Cohen</i>

**Benediction and Extinguishing Chalice**

Minister: Rev. Pam Philips; Worship Associate: Victoria Taylor  
Director of Lifespan Faith Development: Rachel Craine;  
Piano: Jared Gibbs; Songleader: Mary Ann Hansen; Chalice Lighter: McKinley Rountree  
RE Announcement: Carolyn Kogan; Flowers: Polly Stimson; A/V Team; UUC Breakfast Club  
Sanctuary Greeters: Lisa Evanylo, Jim Copenheaver, Fred Piercy, Crosby Houston, Beth McClellan  
Zoom Greeters: Akiko Nakata & KC Arcenau

***Our Mission***

***Inspire*** spiritual and ethical growth.  
***Create*** compassionate community.  
***Transform*** our community and the world through courageous love.

**Land Acknowledgement:***The Tutelo/Monacan people are the traditional custodians of the land on which we work, live, and worship. We recognize their continuing connection to the land, water, and air that we consume. We pay respect to the Tutelo/Monacan Nations, and to their elders past, present, and emerging.*

## **UUC Covenant**

*We covenant to create a place of respect and kindness, and to build a spiritual community based on reason and courageous love.*

*We will listen to one another respectfully, assume good intentions, use the power of our words with care, express gratitude, honor our differences, help one another, and welcome all.*

*We will communicate directly, honestly, and compassionately. When we hurt one another, we will forgive, make amends, and re-connect.*

*While we celebrate the words of our Mission Statement, and of this covenant, we affirm that our mission lives through our actions.*

## **Opportunities this Week**

- Craft Fair, Sunday at 11:15 (Elarth)
- Men's Breakfast, Monday at 7:00 am & Women's Breakfast, Monday at 7:30 am (UUC)
- Date with Death, Monday at 6:30 pm (Elarth)
- Sages, Tuesday at 2:00 pm (Library)
- Inspired Elders, Tuesday 3:00pm - 4:30pm (Room 3)
- Meditation, Tuesday at 5:00 pm ([Zoom](#))
- UUYA's - UU Young Adults, Tuesday at 7:00 pm (Elarth)
- Conversations on our Faith, Wednesday at noon ([Zoom](#))
- Yoga, Wednesday at 5:30 pm (UUC)
- Writers Group, Thursday at 7:00 pm ([Zoom](#))
- Synapse Salon, Thursday at 7:30 pm (Library)
- Women's Lunch, Friday at noon (contact [Cynthia Luke](#))
- Piecemakers, Saturday at 10:00 am (Library)
- Holiday Sampler Concert, Saturday at 7:00 pm (Sanctuary)