

## Order of Service

December 3, 2023

*We welcome in the delight of mystery, the awe of unfolding adventures,  
the expansiveness of what it means to behold mystery as a gift to the imagination. ~Rebekah Savage*

### Sounding the Bowl

#### Prelude

*It's Beginning to Look a lot like Christmas, Meredith Willson*

#### Welcome, Opportunities, & Today in Religious Education

#### Greeting One Another

#### Kindling the Flame of Community

*We light this chalice for the warmth of welcome, the light of hope, and the fire of service.*

#### Opening Words

*Rev. Gretchen Haley*

#### Opening Hymn

*#389, Gathered Here*

#### Lighting the Advent Candle

*Rev. Lyn Cox*

#### Time for All Ages

*"I Wonder" by Annaka Harris*

#### Singing the Children to their Classes

*Reeb's Children Benediction*

#### New Member Recognition

#### Receiving the Offering

*½ Plate Recipient: [MCEAP](#) (Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program)  
[Donate online](#), Text "Fund" to 844-909-2617, or use the Vanco Mobile App*

#### Offertory

*I Wonder as I Wander, John Jacob Niles*

#### Sharing Our Joys & Sorrows

*submit your joy or sorrow to be read aloud [here](#)*

#### Candles of Hope and Remembrance

#### Meditation

*Rev. Dr. Rebekah A. Savage*

#### Meditation Music - UUC Choir

*Be Still, Look Up and Listen, Mark Patterson*

#### Reading

*That Which Holds All, Rev. Nancy Schaeffer*

#### Sermon

*Transcending Mystery*

#### Musical Reflection

*Wise One, John Coltrane*

#### Benediction

*Kent Nerburn*

#### Closing Hymn

*#1057, Go Lifted Up*

Minister: Rev. Pam Philips; Worship Associate: Victoria Taylor

Director of Lifespan Faith Development: Rachel Craine; RE announcement: Mindy Quigley

Piano: Jared Gibbs; Choir Director: Ella Kromin; Songleader: Jane Mahone; Chalice Lighter: Osiris King

A/V Tech: Lucas Machi; Flowers: Gloria Heath; Snacks: Grounds Ministry

Sanctuary Greeters: Carol Kern, Ashley Dugan, Josh Dugan, Lisa Evanylo, Cynthia Luke, Jon Thomas

Zoom Greeters: Akiko Nakata, Gail Dutchess, Suzi Hiatt

## **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**

- Sunday Circle: Costa Rica with Carol & Jim Kern, Sunday at 8:30 a.m. (Library and [Zoom](#))
- Men's Breakfast, Monday at 7:00 am & Women's Breakfast, Monday at 7:30 am (UUC)
- 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)
- Choir Rehearsal, Wednesday at 7:00 pm (sanctuary)
- Women's Lunch, **Friday at 11:30, special buffet at Preston's at Inn at Virginia Tech** (contact [Cynthia Luke](#) by **Wednesday at 5:00 to reserve a seat**)
- Parent Covenant Group, Saturday at 5:00 pm (contact Rachel Craine)
- Second Sunday Potluck and Grounds Work Day, next Sunday after the service