

Order of Service

[May 17, 2026](#)

"Sometimes questions are more important than answers." ~ Nancy Willard

Prelude

Vienna by Billy Joel

Welcome & 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. Shari Woodbury

Opening Hymn

#361, Blue Boat Home

Time for All Ages

Harold and the Purple Crayon, Crockett Johnson

Singing the Children to their Classes

Reeb's Children Benediction

Receiving the Offering

*½ Plate Recipient: [Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry](#)
[Donate online](#), Text "Fund" to 844-909-2617, or use the Vanco Mobile App*

Offertory

Nocturne #2 in E-flat Major, Chopin

Accepting the Offering

Sharing Our Joys & Sorrows

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

Candles of Hope and Remembrance

Meditation

Body and Breath, Rev. Mary Gear

Meditation Hymn

#1013, Where Do We Come From

Reflections and Questions about Curiosity

Lucas Machi and Niko Rensberger

The Bridging Seniors

*Ryan Bagchi introducing Jasper Hester
Maeve Rensberger introducing Lillian Hall*

The Bridging Ceremony

Closing Song *(please rise and connect elbows)*

Riptide by VanceJoy

Benediction and Extinguishing Chalice

May You be Changed, Emily Richards

Postlude

Moonlight on the River by Mac Demarco

Minister: Rev. Pam Philips; Director of Lifespan Faith Development: Rachel Craine

Members of YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists) and UUYA (UU Young Adults)

Music Director: Jared Gibbs; Songleader: Jennifer Thomas; Flowers: Amanda Morgan; A/V Team

Sanctuary Greeters: Beth McClellan, Jon Thomas, Crosby Houston, Robin Cooley, Lisa Evanylo

Zoom Greeters: KC Arceneaux, Akiko Nakata, Bruce Turner

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

- 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 (Sanctuary)
- 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 (Library and [Zoom](#))
- Yoga, Wednesday at 5:30 pm (UUC)
- Writers' Group, Thursday at 7:00 pm (Zoom)
- Women's Lunch, Friday at noon (contact Elizabeth Dell)
- Informational Meeting, NEXT Sunday after the service